

6. LINNAEA Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 631. 1753.

北极花属 bei ji hua shu

Linneusia Rafinesque; *Obolaria* Kuntze (1891), not Linnaeus (1753).

Subshrubs, creeping, evergreen. Branches ascending, slender. Leaves opposite, petiolate, stipulate. Inflorescences of 2 paired and nodding flowers at apices of short lateral branches; peduncles long, slender; ovary with 2 pairs of bracts at base; 2 outer bracts larger and shieldlike, covered with stipitate glandular hairs; 2 inner bracts minute; peduncles, ovaries, and sepals glandular hairy. Sepals 5, deciduous. Corolla funnelform, 5-lobed, slightly bilabiate. Stamens 4, didynamous, inserted in corolla tube; anthers included. Ovary 3-locular, 2 locules with 2 series of sterile ovules, 1 locule with a single fertile ovule; style filiform; stigmas capitate. Fruit a 1-seeded achene.

One species: widely distributed in alpine and cold regions of the N Hemisphere.

1. *Linnaea borealis* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 631. 1753.

北极花 bei ji hua

Linnaea borealis f. *arctica* Witrock.

Subshrubs, creeping, evergreen, 5–10 cm tall. Stem long, slender, sparsely shortly pubescent. Petiole 3–4 mm; leaf blade orbicular to obovate, abaxially glabrous, adaxially sparsely pubescent, margin with 1–3 pairs of rounded teeth. Flowers fragrant, nodding; main peduncles 60–70 mm; inflorescence bracts linear, shortly pubescent; inflorescence peduncles less than 10 mm. Sepals shortly pubescent, narrowly acute, deciduous in fruit. Corolla white to pink, to 10 mm; tube glabrous outside, pubescent inside. Stigmas capitate. Achenes nodding, yellow, orbicular. Fl. and fr. Jul–Aug. $2n = 32$.

Needle-leaved forests, on trunks, mossy rocks; 700–2300 m. Hebei, Heilongjiang, Jilin, ?Liaoning, Nei Mongol, Xinjiang [widely distributed in other parts of N temperate regions].

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