

## 1. FREYCINETIA Gaudichaud, Ann. Sci. Nat. (Paris) 3: 509. 1824.

藤露兜树属 teng lu dou shu shu

Scrambling or climbing shrubs, rarely herbs; aerial roots present. Leaves ± densely crowded, linear or lanceolate, basally with membranous, marcescent or caducous sheath margins. Inflorescences terminal or lateral, consisting of pedunculate simple spadices (usually 2–5), arranged in an umbel or short raceme and initially enclosed by several crowded, 3-seriate, green or colored, caducous spathes. Flowers unisexual, rarely bisexual; perianth absent. Stamens densely congested on rachis. Ovaries densely congested on rachis, usually surrounded by minute staminodes, 1-locular; ovules numerous, congested on 2 or more parietal placentae; stigmas 2 or more, separate or confluent. Fruit a berry, with or without a hardened apex. Seeds numerous.

About 175 species: Sri Lanka to SE Asia, Australia, and Pacific islands; one species in China.

**1. Freycinetia formosana** Hemsley, Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1896: 166. 1896.

山露兜 shan lu dou

*Freycinetia batanensis* Martelli.

Lianas, scandent or scrambling. Stems procumbent or prostrate, to 10 m or longer. Branches with aerial roots, 0.5–5 cm wide, glabrous. Leaves elongate, linear-lanceolate, 10–60(–200) × 0.8–4 cm, leathery, base narrowed, margin sharply antrorsely spinulose toward tip and base, sometimes entire in upper part, with scattered spines along midvein abaxially, apex acuminate. Spadices 2–4, racemose, on stout peduncle ca. 5 cm; spathes yellow. Female peduncles 10–15 × 1.4–1.8 cm; spathes to 6 cm. Fruit syncarpous, globose, cylindric, or ovoid, 2.5–11 × 1.5–2 cm, composed of numerous dense drupes; drupes ovoid or irregularly angled with asymmetric edges, 0.5–1 × 0.4–1 cm. Seed cylindric.

Thickets and cliffs near seashores. Taiwan [Japan (Ryukyu Islands), Philippines (Batan Island)].

Stone (Blumea 16: 369. 1968) observed that the Philippine taxon *Freycinetia batanensis* is a “mere” variety, “if not in fact synonym,” of *F. formosana*, and that *F. batanensis* differs from the Philippine

taxon *F. williamsii* Merrill in having a berry non-rostrate instead of rostrate. H. L. Li (Fl. Taiwan 5: 821. 1978) and other workers have recognized both *F. formosana* and *F. williamsii* as occurring in Taiwan, with *F. batanensis* included in the synonymy of *F. williamsii*, whereas we follow Stone in considering *F. batanensis* to be a synonym of *F. formosana*. According to Fl. Taiwan (loc. cit.) and FRPS (8: 13–14. 1992), *F. formosana* has leaves 60–90 × 2–3 cm and globose syncarps, whereas *F. williamsii* is smaller, with leaves 10–20 × 0.8–1.2 cm and with ovoid syncarps.

