
Aerides no. 12. 1819; 多花脆兰


Herbs, epiphytic or lithophytic, monopodial. Stems simple or branched, stout, leafy. Leaves distichous, conduplicate, leathery, sometimes somewhat fleshy, apex emarginate or bilobed. Inflorescence axillary, racemose, corymbose, or paniculate; floral bracts persistent, inconspicuous, scalelike. Flowers fragrant, not resupinate, small, fleshy. Sepals and petals similar, flat to curved; lateral sepals adnate to spur (when present). Lip saccate or with a short spur, adnate to column, immovable, rigid, variously lobed, fleshy, papillose, tuberculate, sometimes dentate; spur lacking any internal tongue or median septum. Column short, fleshy, glabrous or papillose; stelidia 2, toothlike; foot absent; anther cap ovoid, apiculate; pollinia 4, united in 2 pairs, globose; caudicle linear, thick; viscidium oval, small; stigma transverse, concave; rostellum short, emarginate.

About ten species (possibly fewer): from tropical Himalayan regions to Indochina, and SE Asia, tropical and subtropical Africa, Madagascar, and the islands of the W Indian Ocean; three species in China.

1a. Leaves 3.5–5 cm wide; lip epichile coarsely warty, margin wavy; inflorescence often unbranched; peduncle and rachis 5–8 mm in diam. ................................................................. 1. A. rigida

1b. Leaves less than 2.5 cm wide; lip epichile coarsely warty, margin wavy; inflorescence with short branches; peduncle and rachis ca. 3 mm in diam.

2a. Inflorescence paniculate, 5–14 cm, equaling or exceeding leaves; lateral lobes of lip protruding; column with 2 short, distinct horns ............................................................... 2. A. ochracea

2b. Inflorescence subumbellate, 1–4 cm, shorter than leaves; lateral lobes of lip not protruding; column lacking distinct horns ............................................................... 3. A. papillosa


Aerides rigida Buchanan-Hamilton ex Smith in Rees, Cycl. 39; Aerides no. 12. 1819; Acampe intermedia H. G. Reichenbach; A. longifolia (Lindley) Lindley; A. multiflora (Lindley) Lindley; A. taiwaniana S. S. Ying; Gastrochilus longifolius (Lindley) Kuntze; Saccolabium longifolium (Lindley) J. D. Hooker; Vanda longifolia Lindley; V. multiflora Lindley.

Stems to 1 m, stout, 8–20 mm in diam., unbranched, internodes 2–3 cm, with many distichous leaves. Leaf blade ascending, lorate, 17–40 × 3.5–5 cm, rather fleshy, amplexicaul-sheathing at base, apex obtuse and unequally bilobed. Inflorescence axillary or opposite to leaf, usually from upper part of stem, suberect, 7–30 cm, unbranched or sometimes shortly branched, many flowered; peduncle 5–11 cm, 5–8 mm in diam., with 2 or 3 triangular sheaths; floral bracts broadly triangular, 3–5 mm, fleshy, obtuse. Flowers somewhat fragrant, not opening widely, yellow with purplish brown longitudinal stripes above; pedicel and ovary yellowish green, ca. 1 cm, fleshy. Sepals similar, oblong, 10–12 × 5–6 mm, obtuse. Petals narrowly obovate, 8–9 × 3–4 mm, obtuse; lip thickly fleshy, 3-lobed; lateral lobes subquadrate; mid-lobe suberect, ovate-ligulate, 5–6 mm, margin slightly undulate and irregularly incised, apex obtuse, slightly recurved; spur conic, ca. 3 mm, inside densely hairy, apex obtuse. Column ca. 2.5 mm, stout; anther cap subspherical; caudicle oblong-ovate, ca. 1.2 mm; viscidium subovate. Capsule suberect, cylindrical or narrowly fusiform, ca. 6 cm × 8–15 mm. Fl. Aug–Sep, fr. Oct–Nov. 2n = 38.

Epiphytic on tree trunks or lithophytic on rocks in forests; 300–1800 m. S Guangdong, SW Guangxi, S Guizhou, Hainan, Taiwan, E, SE, and SW Yunnan [Bhutan, Cambodia, NE India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Africa].


窄果脆兰 zhai guo cui lan


Stems ascending, to 1 m, stout, 1–1.3 cm in diam., internodes 2–3.5 cm. Leaves many, well spaced, distichous, spreading horizontally; leaf blade narrowly oblong, 13–20 × 2.5–3.4 cm, base amplexicaul-sheathing, apex obtuse and unequally bilobed. Inflorescences several, opposite to leaves, ascending, paniculate, 5–14 cm, with many short branches; each branch with 1 raceme and 2–6 flowers; peduncle 1–2 cm, 2–3 mm in diam.; floral bracts broadly triangular, ca. 1 mm, fleshy, acute. Flowers slightly fragrant; sepals and petals yellowish green with reddish brown transverse stripes and spots, lip white, spotted with purple-red, spur and anther cap yellow;
pedicel and ovary yellowish green, ca. 4 mm, sparsely shortly hairy. Dorsal sepal obovate, ca. 6 × 3 mm, obtuse; lateral sepals slightly oblique, obovate-oblong, slightly smaller than dorsal sepal, obtuse. Petals oblong-cylindric, ca. 5 × 2.3 mm, obtuse; lip slightly 3-lobed; lateral lobes erect, deltoid, very small; midlobe reflexed, deltoid, ca. 2 × 2 mm, obtuse, with a short conic projection abaxially, adaxially with many small warts, margin slightly undulate; spur straight, ca. 3 × 2 mm, inside with dense white hairs. Column ca. 1.5 mm, stout, with short hairs; anther cap subspherical; caudicle oblancoolate, ca. 1 mm; viscidium oblong. Capsule cylindric or narrowly fusiform, 4–4.5 cm × 5–6 mm. Fl. Nov, fr. next Mar–Apr. 2n = 38.

Epiphytic on tree trunks in open forests or at forest margins; 700–1200 m. S Yunnan [Bhutan, Cambodia, NE India, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam].


短序脆兰 duan xu cui lan

Saccolabium papillosum Lindley, Edwards’s Bot. Reg. 18: ad t. 1552. 1832; Acampe carinata (Griffith) Panigrahi; Gastrochilus carinatus (Griffith) Schlechter; G. papillosus (Lindley) Kuntze; S. carinatum Griffith; Sarcanthus papillosus (Lindley) Tixier.

Stems 5–20 cm or longer, 7–9 mm in diam., internodes 1–2 cm, laxly clothed with many distichous leaves. Leaf blade oblong, 7–14.5 × 1.4–2.3 cm, amplexicaul-sheathing at base, apex obtuse and slightly unequally bilobed. Inflorescences often several, opposite to leaves or axillary, 1–4 cm, subumbellate, with many short branches, densely few to many flowered; peduncle 3–10 mm, ca. 3 mm in diam.; floral bracts broadly triangular, 1–2 mm, fleshy, acute. Flowers slightly fragrant, opening widely; sepals and petals yellow with reddish brown transverse stripes, lip creamy white, slightly spotted with purple-red, spur yellow; pedicel and ovary ca. 5 mm, pale yellow. Dorsal sepal oblong, ca. 5 × 1.8 mm, obtuse; lateral sepals falcate-oblong, ca. 5 × 2 mm, obtuse. Petals oblong, ca. as long as dorsal sepal and narrower; lip inconspicuously 3-lobed, divided into hypochile and epichile; hypochile a narrow margin around entrance of spur; epichile ovate, ca. 3.5 × 3 mm, adaxially with dense warts, base with a transverse septum separating it from hypochile, margin crisped-corrugate, apex obtuse; spur straight, cylindric, ca. 3 × 2 mm, inside with dense white hairs. Column ca. 1.5 mm, stout, slightly shortly hairy; anther cap subglobose. Capsule erect or ascending, fusiform, 2–3 cm × 4–8 mm. Fl. Nov, fr. Dec–Jan. 2n = 36, 38, 72.

Epiphytic on tree trunks in forests; ca. 500 m. Hainan, SW Yunnan [Bangladesh, Bhutan, NE India, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam].