

**180. AERIDES** Loureiro, Fl. Cochinch. 2: 525. 1790.

指甲兰属 zhi jia lan shu

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Herbs, epiphytic, medium-sized, coarse, monopodial, with many thick roots. Stems ascending, short to elongate, often stout, enclosed by leaf sheaths, with many nodes, leafy. Leaves distichous, linear-oblong to terete, leathery, slightly fleshy, base jointed and sheathing, apex bilobed. Inflorescence lateral, pendulous, variable, racemose or paniculate, usually densely many flowered. Flowers showy, medium-sized. Sepals and petals similar, broad, spreading; lateral sepals decurrent on column foot. Petals smaller than sepals; lip attached to end of column foot, usually immovable, spurred, 3-lobed; lateral lobes decurrent on column, erect; mid-lobe large or small, often erose; spur narrowly conic or horn-shaped, bent forward, usually with swellings or calli inside. Column elongate, often broadened at apex, with a short or long foot; rostellum short or long, bifid; anther 2-locular, ± beaked; pollinia waxy, 2, subglobose, grooved, attached by a long, slender stipe to a solitary, semicircular viscidium.

About 20 species: Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, China, Thailand, Indochina, and Malaysia to the Philippines and Indonesia; five species (one endemic) in China.

- 1a. Inflorescence laxly 3–8(–10)-flowered.
  - 2a. Spur ca. 10 mm; mid-lobe of lip flabellate; column foot ca. 3 mm ..... 4. *A. flabellata*
  - 2b. Spur 3–4 mm; mid-lobe of lip broadly ovate; column foot 10–12 mm ..... 5. *A. falcata*
- 1b. Inflorescence densely 15-flowered or more.
  - 3a. Mid-lobe of lip 12–14 mm wide, subovate, much larger than lateral lobes; spur ca. 5 mm ..... 1. *A. rosea*
  - 3b. Mid-lobe of lip 3–5 mm wide, much smaller than lateral lobes; spur ca. 3.5 mm or ca. 10 mm.
    - 4a. Spur ca. 10 mm ..... 2. *A. odorata*
    - 4b. Spur ca. 3.5 mm ..... 3. *A. orthocentra*

**1. *Aerides rosea*** Loddiges ex Lindley & Paxton, Paxt. Fl. Gard. 2: [109]. 1851 [“*roseum*”].

多花指甲兰 duo hua zhi jia lan

*Aerides affinis* Wallich ex Lindley var. *rosea* (Loddiges ex Lindley & Paxton) E. C. Parish; *A. fieldingii* B. S. Williams; *A. fieldingii* var. *williamsii* (Warner) Veitch; *A. williamsii* Warner.

Stems 5–20 cm, ca. 2.5 cm in diam., stout. Leaf blade narrowly oblong or lorate, 28–30 × 2–3.5 cm, fleshy, obtuse and unequally bilobed. Inflorescences often 1–3, arising from peduncle sheath, pendulous, racemose or paniculate, 15–35 cm, densely 20–40-flowered; floral bracts ovate-lanceolate, 5–7 mm. Flowers white, spotted or tinged with purplish red, particularly on lip, opening widely; pedicel and ovary 12–14 mm. Dorsal sepal subobovate, ca. 12 × 7 mm, base contracted, apex obtuse; lateral sepals slightly oblique, ovate, ca. 8 × 7 mm, obtuse. Petals obovate, ca. 10 × 7 mm, obtuse; lip deltoid to trullate, slightly laterally compressed, 1.4–1.6 × 0.8–1.1 cm, immovable, 3-lobed, apex acute; lateral lobes small, incurved over mouth of spur; mid-lobe hastate, triangular-acute, margin slightly irregularly denticulate, base with a linear appendage running into spur; appendage hooked tipped, minutely papillate; spur spreading horizontally, parallel to mid-lobe, narrowly conic, ca. 5 mm. Column ca. 5 mm, foot ca. 1 mm. Capsule subovoid, ca. 2 × 1.2 cm. Fl. Jul, fr. Aug–Oct.  $2n = 38$ .

Epiphytic on tree trunks in open forests or at forest margins; 300–1600 m. S Guangxi, SW Guizhou, S and SE Yunnan [Bhutan, NE India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam].

**2. *Aerides odorata*** Loureiro, Fl. Cochinch. 2: 525. 1790.

香花指甲兰 xiang hua zhi jia lan

*Epidendrum odoratum* (Loureiro) Poir.

Stems rather drooping, stout, branched. Leaf blade broadly lorate, 15–20 × 2.5–4.6 cm, thickly leathery, obtuse and unequally bilobed. Inflorescence numerous, nodding, racemose, 15–30 cm, densely 20–30-flowered; floral bracts broadly ovate, 5–9 mm, obtuse. Flowers fragrant, opening widely, 1.5–3 cm in diam., purple to almost white, often tipped and spotted purple, spur apex greenish yellow; pedicel and ovary 1–2.5 cm, slender. Dorsal sepal elliptic, ca. 10 × 8 mm, obtuse-rounded; lateral sepals broadly ovate, ca. 12 × 9 mm, adnate at base to column foot, apex obtuse. Petals subelliptic, 11–12 × 5–7 mm, base contracted, apex obtuse; lip immovable, spurred, 3-lobed, almost enclosing column; lateral lobes erect, obovate-cuneate, ca. 15 × 10 mm, distal margin irregularly toothed, apex obtuse-rounded; mid-lobe linear, ca. 12 × 3 mm, bilobed; spur bent forward, narrowly horn-shaped, ca. 1 cm. Column ca. 5 mm, thick, foot ca. 9 mm. Fl. May.  $2n = 36, 38, 40$ .

On tree trunks in forests; 200–1200 m. Guangdong, W Yunnan [Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam].

For a more extensive synonymy, see Seidenfaden (Opera Bot. 95: 242–243. 1988).

**3. *Aerides orthocentra*** Handel-Mazzetti, Oesterr. Bot. Z. 87: 132. 1938.

小蓝指甲兰 xiao lan zhi jia lan

Stems up to 6 cm, ca. 4 mm thick. Leaf blade linear, compressed, ca. 9 × 1.4 cm, fleshy, apex rounded, truncate, or emarginate. Inflorescence racemose; peduncle erect, 7–10 cm × ca. 2 mm; rachis ca. 7 cm, ca. 15-flowered; floral bracts broadly ovate, 1–3 mm wide, concave, spreading, somewhat scarious,

rounded or acute. Flowers white, lip violet; pedicel and ovary slender, 2–2.5 cm. Sepals obovate, 9–10 × 6–7 mm, rounded. Petals similar to sepals, slightly narrower; lip hypochile rhombic, ca. 1/2 as long as epichile, cordate at base, sides connivent; epichile ca. 8 mm, ca. 4 mm wide at base, sinuate at center, apex broadly rounded, emarginate, ca. 5 mm wide, base with 2 gibbous calli and undulate crests; spur ca. 3.5 × 1 mm, spreading, obtuse. Column ca. 3 mm; anther cap apiculate. Fl. Apr.

• Epiphytic in forests; 1000–1500 m. Yunnan (“He-ho, Fufang, Chenpien”).

**4. *Aerides flabellata*** Rolfe ex Downie, Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1925: 387. 1925.

扇唇指甲兰 shan chun zhi jia lan

*Vanda flabellata* (Rolfe ex Downie) Christenson.

Stems 10–30 cm, stout. Leaf blade narrowly oblong or lorate, ca. 16 × 1.5–2 cm, thickly leathery, conduplicate toward base, apex unequally bilobed or ± praemorse. Inflorescences axillary, 1–2, racemose, 5–25 cm, sparsely few flowered; floral bracts broadly ovate, ca. 4 mm, obtuse. Flowers thickly textured, sepals and petals yellowish brown, spotted with reddish brown, lip white, spotted with pale purple, mid-lobe with a central purple stripe and yellow ridges, spur yellow with blackish tip, anther cap deep yellow and purplish spotted; pedicel and ovary ca. 2 cm. Dorsal sepal broadly ovate, ca. 10 × 8 mm, obtuse; lateral sepals oblique, broadly ovate, ca. 10 × 12 mm, base adnate to column foot, apex obtuse. Petals obliquely ovate, slightly smaller than dorsal sepal; lip movable, spurred, 3-lobed; lateral lobes erect, ovate-triangular, ca. 5 mm, adnate to apical part of column foot; mid-lobe flabellate, ca. 10 × 7 mm, channeled above, densely minutely papillate, and on both sides with 2 ridges; claw ca. 1.5 cm, margin erose; spur bent forward and pointing to mid-lobe, cylindrical, ca. 1 cm × 2–3 mm. Column ca. 3 mm, foot ca. 3 mm; anther cap truncate-rounded at apex. Fl. May.  $2n = 38$ .

Epiphytic on tree trunks in sparse evergreen broad-leaved forests or at forest margins; 600–1700 m. S and SE Yunnan [Laos, Myanmar, Thailand].

**5. *Aerides falcata*** Lindley & Paxton, Paxt. Fl. Gard. 2: 142. 1851 [*falcatum*].

指甲兰 zhi jia lan

*Aerides larpentae* H. G. Reichenbach; *A. siamensis* Klinge.

Stems ± elongate, stout, with several distichous leaves. Leaf blade lorate, 20–29 × 2.5–3.7 cm. Inflorescences racemose, sparsely several flowered. Flowers 2–2.5 cm in diam., whitish, tinged or spotted with purple or purplish red. Dorsal sepal broadly ovate or suborbicular, ca. 12 × 10 mm; lateral sepals broadly ovate, base completely adnate to column foot. Petals smaller than sepals; lip movable, spurred, 3-lobed; lateral lobes falcate-oblong; mid-lobe nearly broadly ovate, ca. 12 × 18 mm, margin erose-denticulate, apex emarginate, base with a suborbicular callus near spur entrance; spur ascending, nearly parallel to mid-lobe, 3–4 mm. Column 3–4 mm, foot ca. 1 cm or more; anther cap narrowed and beaked at apex. Fl. unknown.  $2n = 38$ .

Epiphytic on tree trunks in evergreen broad-leaved forests. SE Yunnan [Cambodia, NE India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam].

