156. SCHOENORCHIS Blume, Bijdr. 361. 1825.

匙唇兰属 chi chun lan shu

Chen Xinqi (陈心启 Chen Sing-chi); Jeffrey J. Wood

Herbs, epiphytic, monopodial, small. Stems pendulous or ascending, with condensed or elongated internodes, to 30 cm, sometimes branched, with several to many nodes. Leaves flat to suberecte, fleshy, with sheathing base, blade jointed to sheath. Inflorescence axillary, racemose or paniculate, many flowered. Flowers usually not opening widely, white or red-purple, small, fleshy. Sepals similar, free, often dorsally carinate. Petals free, smaller than sepals; lip thickly fleshy, adnate to base of column, immovable, longer than petals, spurred at base, 3-lobed; lateral lobes erect; mid-lobe slightly larger, often spatulate; spur large, usually parallel to ovary, lacking interior calli. Column very short, stout, foot absent; stigma at base of column; anther and rostellum, pointed, geniculate; pollinia 4, appearing as 2 unequal masses, waxy, flat-globose or subglobose, attached by a common stipe to a narrowly elliptic to ovate viscidium.

About 24 species: from the Himalayan region, S India, and Sri Lanka to SE China and the Philippines, south to Indonesia and east to New Guinea, Australia, and the Pacific islands; three species in China.

1a. Stems very short, inconspicuous; leaves 1–2 cm; inflorescence racemose .......................................................... 1. S. tixieri
1b. Stem 5–20 cm; leaves 4–13 cm; inflorescence paniculate.

2a. Flowers purple-red except for mid-lobe of lip; leaves linear-terete, conduplicate ........................................ 2. S. gemmata
2b. Flowers white; leaves linear-lanceolate, flat, not conduplicate .......................................................... 3. S. vanoverberghii


匙唇兰 yuán yè chi chun lan


Plants 1–3 cm tall. Stem very short, inconspicuous, enclosed in leaf sheaths. Leaves nearly basal, many; leaf blade dark green, oblong or elliptic, flat, 1–2 × 0.6–0.9 cm, thickly textured, wrinkled, obtuse and unequally bilobed. Inflorescences pendulous, racemose, 1–2 cm, densely many flowered; rachis fleshy, ribbed; floral bracts yellowish green, lanceolate, 1.5–2.5 mm, acute. Flowers not opening widely, deep red, slightly fleshy; petals tinged white, lip tinged yellow, column and anther cap yellow; pedicel and ovary purplish brown, 4–5 mm. Dorsal sepal ovate, ca. 2.5 × 1.5 mm, obtuse; lateral sepals obliquely obovate, ca. 2.5 × 2.5 mm, dorsally ± carinate, apex obtuse. Petals ovate, ca. 2 × 1.2 mm, obtuse; lip 3-lobed; lateral lobes erect, suborbicular, ca. 2 × 2 mm; mid-lobe ca. 2 mm, thickly fleshy, adaxially convex-thickened and broadly conic centrally; spur ca. 3 mm, slightly constricted at base, obtuse; disk with a subglobose callus near base of mid-lobe. Column ca. 1 mm, stout; rostellum ca. 0.4 mm; anther cap apex with 3 sharp teeth; stipe flat, ca. 1 × 0.3 mm; viscidium scalelike, ca. 2 × 0.5 mm. Fl. May.

Epiphytic on tree trunks at forest margins; 900–1400 m. S Yunnan [Vietnam].


匙唇兰 tai wan chi chun lan

Schoenorchis gemmata Lindley, Edwards's Bot. Reg. 24 (Misc.): 50. 1838; Cleisostoma gemmatum (Lindley) King & Pantling; Gastrochilus gemmatus (Lindley) Kuntze; S. hainanensis Rolfe; Schoenorchis hainanensis (Rolfe) Schlechter.

Stems usually pendulous, ± compressed cylindric, 5–20 cm, 5–8 mm in diam., somewhat rigid, unbranched, internodes 7–15 mm. Leaves many, cauleine; leaf blade linear-terete, 4–13 × 0.5–1.3(–1.7) cm, obtuse and shallowly 2- or 3-lobed. Inflorescences paniculate, arising from near apex of stem, 8–15 cm, densely many flowered; peduncle purplish brown, slender, sheathed; floral bracts ovate-triangular, ca. 1 mm. Flowers 3–4 mm; sepals white or bright purple with white apices, petals bright purple, lip white with purple on spur and lateral lobes, column and anther cap yellowish brown; pedicel and ovary purplish red, ca. 3 mm. Dorsal sepal ovate, 1.5–2.2 × 1–1.2 mm, 1-veined, obtuse; lateral sepals slightly obliquely ovate, 2–2.5 × 1.1–1.4 mm, dorsally slightly carinate, apex obtuse. Petals obovate-cuneate, 1.1–1.5 × ca. 1 mm, 1-veined, apex truncate and emarginate; lip spatulate, 3-lobed; lateral lobes erect, subovate, ca. 1.5 × 1 mm; mid-lobe obovate-spatulate, 2–2.5 × 1.7–2.1 mm, thickly fleshy, shortly clawed at base, apex obtuse; spur parallel to ovary, conic, ca. 2 × 1.5 mm, obtuse. Column ca. 0.8 mm. Capsule subovoid, ca. 6 × 3 mm. Fl. Mar–Jun, fr. Apr–Jul. 2n = 36.

Epiphytic on tree trunks in forests; 200–2000 m. S Fujian, Guangxi, Hainan, Hong Kong, SE Xizang, W to SE Yunnan [Butan, Cambodia, NE India, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam].


台灣匙唇兰 tai wan chi chun lan

Schoenorchis paniculata Blume var. vanoverberghii (Ames) S. S. Ying.

Stems 5–15 cm, rooting at base, internodes ca. 5 mm. Leaves many, distichous; leaf blade flat, narrowly oblong or linear-lanceolate, 5–6 × 0.4–0.7 cm, obtuse or unequally bi-
lobed. Inflorescence paniculate, borne from near apex of stem, 6–7 cm, branched, densely many flowered; floral bracts deltoid, ca. 3 mm. Flowers white, not opening widely; pedicel and ovary ca. 2 mm. Dorsal sepal elliptic, 2–2.3 × 1–1.2 mm, rounded; lateral sepals obliquely ovate, 2.3–2.5 × 1.2–1.5 mm, obtuse. Petals obovate or elliptic, ca. 2 × 0.9–1 mm, rounded; lip spatulate, ca. 2.5 × 1.3 mm, fleshy, 3-lobed; lateral lobes erect, nearly suborbicular; mid-lobe hornlike, rather thick; spur subellipsoid, ca. 1.3 mm, with a ligulate appendage on front wall of entrance. Column ca. 0.6 mm. Fl. Mar–May.

Epiphytic in forests; ca. 1000 m. Taiwan [Philippines].