# **MUSACEAE**

## 芭蕉科 ba jiao ke

## Wu Delin (吴德邻 Wu Te-lin)1; W. John Kress2

Herbs perennial or monocarpic, growing from sympodial rhizomes or a massive, sympodial corm. Pseudostems composed of closely packed leaf sheaths. Leaves spirally arranged, petiolate; leaf blade entire, pinnately veined. Inflorescence terminal or rarely axillary, cymose. Bracts spirally arranged, often brilliantly colored, spathelike, large. Flowers bisexual or unisexual by abortion, zygomorphic. Perianth in 2 whorls; 3 outer tepals and 2 inner ones united into a compound tepal; third inner tepal free. Stamens 5, free; anthers 2-loculed. Pistil 1; ovary inferior, 3-loculed; ovules numerous per locule, anatropous; placentation axile. Style simple or capitate. Fruit a berry, fleshy or leathery and dry, indehiscent. Seeds hard, not arillate; embryo straight, surrounded by a  $\pm$  well-developed endosperm and a mealy perisperm.

Three genera and ca. 40 species: tropical and subtropical regions of Africa and Asia; three genera (one endemic) and 14 species (four endemic, three introduced) in China.

Musaceae subfam. Lowioideae and subfam. Musoideae, as treated in FRPS, are treated here as Lowiaceae and Musaceae, respectively. Strelitziaceae is represented in China by *Ravenala* Adanson and *Strelitzia* Aiton, and Heliconiaceae by *Heliconia* Linnaeus. All three genera are introduced and cultivated for ornament in China; they were treated in FRPS under Musaceae subfam. Strelitzioideae but are not described in this account.

Li Hsi-wen. 1981. Musaceae subfam. Musoideae. In: Wu Te-lin, ed., Fl. Reipubl. Popularis Sin. 16(2): 1-14.

- 1a. Herbs monocarpic, 1-stemmed; pseudostem often swollen at base; bracts green; seeds usually more than
   (5–)10 mm in diam.

  1. Ensete
- Herbs perennial, tufted; pseudostems not swollen at base; bracts variously colored; seeds usually less than 7 mm in diam.

## **1. ENSETE** Horaninow, Prodr. Monogr. Scitam. 8, 40. 1862.

## 象腿蕉属 xiang tui jiao shu

Herbs monocarpic. Stem 1, remaining short until flowering. Pseudostem composed of clasping leaf sheaths, tall, base swollen to strongly so and jarlike. Leaves large, base often narrowed into a petiole; leaf sheath lax; leaf blade oblong. Inflorescence rosulate when young, becoming elongate and pendulous with age. Bracts green, usually persistent. Flowers in 2 rows per bract; flowers in proximal bracts female (with reduced stamens) or bisexual; flowers in distal bracts male (with reduced gynoecium). Compound tepal linear, apex often 3-lobed, without 2 accessory teeth between lobes; free tepal usually wider than compound one, apex often 3-cuspidate or entire. Stamens 5. Berries leathery, dry or with very scanty pulp. Seeds few, globose or irregular, often more than (0.5–) 1 cm in diam., usually smooth; hilum conspicuous, irregular, usually deeply sunken.

Ten species: mainly in Africa, extending to S and SE Asia; two species (one endemic) in China.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Herbarium, Department of Taxonomy, South China Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Wushan, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510650, People's Republic of China

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Herbarium, Department of Botany NHB-166, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560, U.S.A.

**1. Ensete glaucum** (Roxburgh) Cheesman, Kew Bull. 2: 101. 1947.

### 象腿蕉 xiang tui jiao

Musa glauca Roxburgh, Pl. Coromandel 3: 96. 1820.

Plants not stoloniferous, sap pale yellow-orange. Pseudostem yellow-green, with black-purple spots when old, cylindric, to 5 m (measured to crown of leaves at maturity), base swollen and jarlike. Petiole short; leaf blade oblong, 1.4–1.8 m × 50–60 cm, glabrous, base cuneate, apex caudate. Inflorescence cylindric, to 2.5 m. Bracts numerous, imbricate, persistent. Flowers 10–20 per bract. Compound tepal ca. 2.5 cm, apex 3-cleft; free tepal obcordate, shorter then compound tepal, apex with a large mucro. Berries purplish black, glaucous, obovoid-oblong, ca. 9 × 3.5 cm, base acuminate, apex rounded and with persistent perianth. Seeds black, globose, ca. 1.2 cm in diam., smooth. Fl. and fr. all year. 2n = 18.

Wild or cultivated in mountainous areas; 800–1100 m. S and W Yunnan [India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand].

The species is used to feed pigs.

2. Ensete wilsonii (Tutcher) Cheesman, Kew Bull. 2: 103. 1947.

## 象头蕉 xiang tou jiao

Musa wilsonii Tutcher, Gard. Chron., ser. 3, 32: 450. 1902.

Pseudostem conical, ca. 1.7 m tall (measured to crown of leaves at maturity), 38–45 cm in diam. at base, 18–20 cm in diam. immediately below basal leaves of crown. Petiole ca. 60 cm, deeply channeled; leaf blade oblong,  $3.3-4 \text{ m} \times 60-70 \text{ cm}$ , base truncate to slightly cordate, apex acute. Inflorescence ca. 1 m, ca. 38 cm. in diam. at base, 10–13 cm in diam. at apex. Bracts green, persistent, proximal ones lanceolate, ca. 30 cm, distal ones ovate, much shorter than proximal ones. Flowers 15–20 per bract. Tepals white; compound tepal ca. 5 cm, apex 3-lobed, lobes free or laxly coherent; free tepal short, less than 1/2 as long as compound tepal, apex 3-cuspidate, central cusp linear, large. Berries golden yellow, trigonous clavate, 9–11.5 × ca. 4 cm, pulpy. Seeds ca. 20, black, 1–1.3 cm in diam., angled, slightly wrinkled. Fl. Jun, fr. Oct.

• Wild or cultivated in fertile soil in ravines; near sea level to 2700 m. Yunnan.

The species is used to feed pigs.

# 2. MUSELLA (Franchet) C. Y. Wu ex H. W. Li, Acta Phytotax. Sin. 16(3): 57. 1978.

地涌金莲属 di yong jin lian shu

Musa Linnaeus sect. Musella Franchet, J. Bot. (Morot) 3: 329. 1889.

Herbs perennial, tufted, rhizomatous. Pseudostems less than 60 cm, with persistent sheaths, base not swollen. Leaves expanded proximally into a sheath. Inflorescence terminal, or axillary near base of pseudostem, erect, conical, dense. Bracts yellow to yellow-orange, scarious, persistent. Flowers in 2 rows per bract, persistent; flowers in proximal bracts female (with reduced stamens) or bisexual; flowers in distal bracts male (with reduced gynoecium). Compound tepal 5-toothed at apex; free tepal emarginate and shortly cuspidate at apex. Stamens 5. Berries trigonous ovoid, densely hirsute. Seeds numerous, oblate, 6–7 mm in diam., glabrous.

• One species: China.

**1. Musella lasiocarpa** (Franchet) C. Y. Wu ex H. W. Li, Acta Phytotax. Sin. 16(3): 56. 1978.

地涌金莲 di yong jin lian

*Musa lasiocarpa* Franchet, J. Bot. (Morot) 3: 330. 1889; *Ensete lasiocarpum* (Franchet) Cheesman.

Rhizomes horizontal. Pseudostems ca. 15 cm in diam. at base. Leaf blade glaucous, narrowly elliptic, bilaterally symmetric, to  $50 \times 20$  cm, base subrounded, apex acute.

Inflorescence 20–25 cm. Flowers 8–10 per bract. Compound tepal ovate-oblong. Berries ca.  $3 \times 2.5$  cm. Seeds brown to black-brown; hilum white, large.

 $\bullet$  Wild on slopes or cultivated in gardens; 1500–2500 m. S Guizhou, C and W Yunnan.

Medicinal and used to feed pigs.

## 3. MUSA Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 1043. 1753.

# 芭蕉属 ba jiao shu

Herbs perennial, tufted, rhizomatous, stoloniferous. Stems remaining short until flowering. Pseudostems composed of closely packed leaf sheaths, more than 60 cm, base slightly swollen. Leaves large; petiole long, base enlarged into a sheath; leaf blade oblong. Inflorescence terminal, erect, pendulous, or subpendulous, not conical, lax. Bracts green, brown, dull purple, or rarely yellow, flat or furrowed, convolute or imbricate in bud, usually deciduous. Flowers in 1 or 2 rows per bract, deciduous; flowers in proximal bracts female (with reduced stamens) or bisexual; flowers in distal bracts male (with reduced gynoecium); sometimes (in cultivated or semicultivated forms) all flowers functionally sterile. Compound tepal tubular, soon splitting to base on 1 side, apex 5-toothed; free tepal inserted within compound tepal and opposite to it. Stamens 5; filaments short; anthers linear, 2-loculed. Berries elongate, fleshy, with numerous seeds (except in parthenocarpic forms). Seeds irregularly globose to lenticular.

About 30 species: mainly in SE Asia; 11 species (two endemic, three introduced) in China.

1a. Inflorescence erect or ascending (pendulous in <i>M. sanguinea</i> ); flowers 3 or 6 per bract, in 1 row; pseudostems often
less than 3 m.
2a. Free tepal much shorter than compound tepal
2b. Free tepal nearly as long as compound tepal.
3a. Inflorescence rachis glabrous; flowers 6 per bract
3b. Inflorescence rachis brown puberulent; flowers 3 per bract
1b. Inflorescence pendulous or subpendulous; flowers 8–20 per bract, in 2 rows; pseudostems often more than 3 m.
4a. Leaf sheath distally and leaf blade abaxially pruinose (sometimes not pruinose in <i>M. balbisiana</i> ); fruit of
cultivated species usually edible, seedless.
5a. Inflorescence rachis hairy; bracts usually acute at apex
5b. Inflorescence rachis glabrous (sometimes pubescent in M. balbisiana); bracts rounded at apex.
6a. Tepals purplish
6. M. ×paradisiaca
4b. Leaf sheath distally and leaf blade abaxially not pruinose (leaf blade abaxially pruinose in <i>M. textilis</i> );
fruit inedible, with numerous seeds.
7a. Margin of petiole tightly closed; compound tepal cucullate and corniculate
7b. Margin of petiole open or slightly closed; compound tepal neither cucullate nor corniculate.
8. M. basjoo
8b. Free tepal $1/3-1/2$ as long as compound tepal.
9a. Inflorescence rachis glabrous
9b. Inflorescence rachis hairy.
10a. Bracts dark reddish purple, often with yellow margin and often variegated with
longitudinal, yellow stripes 10. M. itinerans
10b. Bracts uniformly brownish red 11. M. insularimontana

1. Musa rubra Wallich ex Kurz, J. Agric. Soc. India 14: 301. 1867.

### 阿西蕉 a xi jiao

Rhizome tuberous. Pseudostems dark purple, 1.5–2.4 m. Petiole purple spotted, deep purple at base, purple-red at margin, to 1 m, slender, margin narrow, open ca. 1.5 cm wide; leaf blade adaxially deep green, abaxially yellow-green, ovate-oblong, ca. 2 m × 50 cm, midvein pink striped, base obliquely asymmetric, apex obtuse. Inflorescence erect, ca.  $40 \times 2.5-4$  cm; rachis brown villous. Bracts pink, lanceolate. Flowers 5 or 6 per bract, in 1 row. Compound tepal golden yellow, apex of outer lobes with a hooklike appendage; free tepal yellow, much shorter than compound tepal, membranous. Infructescence erect, often with 6–9 fruit clusters. Berries 5 or 6 per cluster, reddish, cylindric, slightly curved, ca.  $7 \times 2.5-3$  cm, base attenuate, apex truncate. Seeds numerous, brownish, depressed, ca. 5 mm in diam., irregularly angled, tuberculate. 2n = 22.

Shaded and moist ravine bottoms or semimarshlands; 1000–1300 m. SW Yunnan [Myanmar, Thailand].

#### 2. Musa coccinea Andrews, Bot. Repos. 1: t. 47. 1799.

#### 红蕉 hong jiao

### Musa uranoscopos Loureiro.

Pseudostems 1–2 m. Petiole 30–50 cm, narrowly winged; leaf blade adaxially yellow-green, abaxially light yellowgreen and not pruinose, oblong, 1.8–2.2 m  $\times$  70–80 cm, base rounded, noticeably asymmetric. Inflorescence erect; rachis glabrous. Bracts adaxially pink, abaxially scarlet and conspicuously wrinkled. Flowers 6 per bract, in 1 row. Tepals of female flowers yellow; outer lobes of compound tepal cornered; free tepal equaling compound tepal, apex acute, finely toothed. Berries obliquely pendulous on rachis, gray-white, straight, 10–  $12 \times \text{ca. 4 cm}$ , not angled; stalk 3–3.5 cm. Seeds numerous. Fl. Sep–Nov. 2n = 20.

Ravines and slopes, also cultivated in gardens; near sea level to 600 m. Guangdong, Guangxi, SE Yunnan [Vietnam].

Cultivated as an ornamental.

3. Musa sanguinea J. D. Hooker, Bot. Mag. 98: t. 5975. 1872.

## 血红蕉 xue hong jiao

Pseudostems clumped, 1.5–2 m. Petiole ca. 30 cm, margin narrow and open; leaf blade deep green, ovate-oblong, not more than 1 m, base asymmetric, apex obtuse. Inflorescence erect or ascending, becoming pendulous, ca. 20 cm; rachis brown puberulent. Bracts reddish, ovate-lanceolate, 7.5–14 cm. Flowers borne on proximal bracts, 3 per bract, in 1 row. Compound tepal bright yellow, ca. 3.8 cm, apex of outer lobes with a hook-like appendage; free tepal yellow, equaling compound tepal, membranous. Berries grayish yellow-green with red blotches, trigonous oblong, 5–7.5 cm. Seeds numerous, black, ca. 5 mm in diam., irregularly multiangled, tuberculate. 2n = 22.

Ravine bottoms or semimarshlands; ca. 1000 m. Xizang [India, Indonesia].

Cultivated as an ornamental.

4. Musa acuminata Colla, Mem. Gen. Musa, 66. 1820.

### 小果野蕉 xiao guo ye jiao

Pseudostems green with black blotches, ca. 4.8 m. Leaf sheath and petiole pruinose; petiole ca. 80 cm, margin erect or spreading and basally with scarious wings; leaf blade adaxially green and pruinose, abaxially yellow-green and pruinose or not, oblong,  $1.9-2.3 \text{ m} \times 50-70 \text{ cm}$ , base cordate, asymmetric, midvein adaxially green, abaxially white-yellow. Inflorescence subhorizontal or vertically reflexed; peduncle usually downy or

hairy. Bracts bright red to dark violet, sometimes yellow at extreme apex, ovate, apex usually acute. Male flowers ca. 20 per bract, in 2 rows. Compound tepal white or cream, lemon yellow at apex, 3.5-4 cm, apex of outer lobes with a hooklike, hairy appendage; free tepal not more than 1/2 as long as compound tepal, apex emarginate, shortly apiculate. Infructescence ca. 1.2 m; peduncle to  $70 \times$  ca. 4 cm, white setose. Berries incurved, green to yellow-green, 5-angled when young, cylindric at maturity, ca. 9 cm, white setose, base curved and attenuate into a stalk, apex contracted into a rostrum 6–10 mm. Seeds numerous in wild plants but absent in cultivated clones, brown, depressed, 5–6 mm in diam., irregularly angled. 2n = 22, 33.

Shaded and moist ravines, marshlands, semimarshlands, slopes, also cultivated; near sea level to 1200 m. Native in W Guangxi and Yunnan; cultivated in Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Taiwan, and Yunnan [India, Indonesia (Java), Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam].

Wild plants are diploid (2n = 22) and bear fruits containing numerous seeds making them inedible. Cultivated plants are triploid (2n = 33) and bear seedless, edible fruits; such plants have been called *M. acuminata* 'Dwarf Cavendish' (*M. cavendishii* Lambert ex Paxton; *M. chinensis* Sweet; *M. nana* Loureiro).

5. Musa balbisiana Colla, Mem. Gen. Musa, 56. 1820.

## 野蕉 ye jiao

Musa dechangensis J. L. Liu & M. G. Liu; M. lushanensis J. L. Liu; M. luteola J. L. Liu; M. ×paradisiaca Linnaeus subsp. seminifera (Loureiro) Baker; M. seminifera Loureiro.

Pseudostems clumped, yellow-green, often with large, black markings, ca. 6 m. Petiole 60-75 cm, margin open, ca. 2 cm wide, often closed when young; leaf blade adaxially green and slightly pruinose or not, ovate-oblong, ca. 2.9 m  $\times$  90 cm, base auriculate, asymmetric. Inflorescence pendulous, ca. 2.5 m; peduncle and rachis glabrous. Bracts of bisexual and male flowers adaxially purple-red, abaxially brownish purple to yellowgreen and pruinose, ovate to lanceolate, persistent, apex obtuse, reflexed after flowering; bracts of female flowers deciduous. Male flowers up to 20 per bract, in 2 rows. Compound tepal adaxially pale purple, abaxially pale purple-white, 4-5 cm, striate, teeth yellow to orange; free tepal milky white, translucent, obovate, ca. 1/2 as long as compound tepal, apex emarginate, shortly mucronate-apiculate. Infructescence pendulous, with ca. 8 clusters ("hands") each of 15 or 16 berries in 2 rows. Berries gray-green, obovoid, ca. 13 × 4 cm, distinctly angled at maturity, base narrowed into a stalk ca. 2.5 cm, apex contracted or not into a short, angled column ca. 2 cm. Seeds numerous, brown, oblate, 5-10 mm in diam., minutely warty. 2n = 22.

Ravines in evergreen forests; ca. 1100 m. Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Xizang, W Yunnan [India, Indonesia (Java), Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Guinea, Philippines, Sikkim, Sri Lanka, Thailand].

The Chinese cultivars "Fen Ba Jiao" and "Da Jiao" are triploid forms of this species recognized by Li (Acta Phytotax. Sin. 16(3): 54–56. 1978) and Wang (J. Trop. Subtrop. Bot 3: 49–53. 1995).

The species is used to feed pigs.

6. Musa ×paradisiaca Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 1043. 1753.

大蕉 da jiao

*Musa* ×*paradisiaca* subsp. *sapientum* (Linnaeus) Kuntze; *M. sapientum* Linnaeus.

Pseudostems clumped, pruinose, 3-7 m. Leaves erect or ascending; petiole pruinose, more than 30 cm, margin closed; leaf blade adaxially deep green, abaxially light green and distinctly pruinose, oblong, 1.5-3 m × 40–60 cm, base subcordate to auriculate, subsymmetric, apex acute. Inflorescence pendulous; rachis glabrous. Bracts adaxially deep red, abaxially purple, ovate to ovate-lanceolate, 15-30 cm or more, deciduous. Flowers in 2 rows in each bract; male flowers with tepals yellow to pale yellow. Compound tepal 4–6.5 cm; free tepal suborbicular to oblong, ca. 1/2 as long as compound tepal, waxy, apex acuminate or rolling into a sac. Infructescence with 7 or 8 clusters of berries. Berries erect or slightly curved, oblong, 10-20 cm, angled; pulp sweet or sweet and acidic, not very fragrant; stalk elongate. Seeds absent or few. 2n = 33.

Cultivated. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Taiwan, Yunnan [native to tropical Asia, widely cultivated in the tropics].

 $Musa \times paradisiaca$  is a hybrid between M. acuminata and M. balbisiana.

The species is grown for its edible fruit.

7. Musa textilis Née, Anales Ci. Nat. 4: 123. 1801.

#### 蕉麻 jiao ma

Pseudostems clumped,  $3-8 \text{ m} \times 12-30 \text{ cm}$ . Petiole 60–70 cm, margin tightly closed, submembranous, densely and finely wrinkled; leaf blade adaxially bright green, abaxially pruinose and often with large, brown spots, oblong,  $1.2-2.4 \text{ m} \times 20-40$  cm, adaxially glabrous, midvein stout, secondary veins conspicuous, pinnate, parallel, base cordate, asymmetric. Inflorescence pendulous, long. Bracts closely imbricate, reddish brown to green, ovate, ca.  $10 \times 6$  cm, deciduous. Flowers 10-12 per bract, in 2 rows; flowers in basal 3–6 bracts female, those in distal bracts male. Compound tepal ca. 4 cm, outer lobes cucullate, corniculate. Berries green, slightly trigonous, curved,  $5-9 \times 2-3$  cm, inedible. Seeds black, turbinate, ca. 7 mm in diam., multiangled. 2n = 20.

Cultivated. Guangdong, Guangxi, Yunnan [native to Indonesia, Philippines].

Grown for the fiber obtained from the leaf sheaths.

**8. Musa basjoo** Siebold & Zuccarini, Verh. Batav. Genootsch. Kunsten 12: 18. 1831.

### 芭蕉 ba jiao

Pseudostems 2.5–4 m. Petiole to 30 cm, robust; leaf blade adaxially bright green, oblong, 2–3 m × ca. 30 cm, base rounded, asymmetric. Inflorescence pendulous. Bracts red-brown to purple. Male flowers 10–16 per bract, in 2 rows. Compound tepal 4–4.5 cm; free tepal equaling compound tepal, apex apiculate. Berries subsessile, trigonous oblong to sometimes 5angled, 5–7 cm. Seeds numerous, black, irregularly angled, 6–8 mm wide, tuberculate. 2n = 22.

Cultivated. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Yunnan, Zhejiang [native to Japan, Korea].

Medicinal and ornamental.

**9. Musa formosana** (Warburg ex Schumann) Hayata, Icon. Pl. Formos. 6(Suppl): 83. 1917.

台湾芭蕉 tai wan ba jiao

*Musa* ×*paradisiaca* Linnaeus var. *formosana* Warburg ex Schumann in Engler, Pflanzenr. 1(IV. 45): 21. 1900.

Pseudostems ca. 6 m. Petiole ca. 35 cm; leaf blade ca. 1.2 m × 45 cm. Inflorescence pendulous; rachis 40–50 m × 3–4 cm, glabrous. Bracts bronze yellow, ovate,  $15-20 \times 6-10$  cm, concave. Flowers ca. 8 cm, with pale yellow tepals. Compound tepal 5-lobed at apex; free tepal oblong, ca. 1/2 as long as compound tepal, strongly vaulted, apex cuspidate. Berries bronze, fusiform, 8–10 cm.  $2n = 20^*$ .

• Slopes in mountains; near sea level to 1000 m. Taiwan.

### 10. Musa itinerans Cheesman, Kew Bull. 4: 23. 1949.

阿宽蕉 a kuan jiao

Rhizomes markedly elongating. Pseudostems dull yellowgreen, purple when old, 5-7 m, often with withered leaves. Petiole 50-60 cm, margin closed at middle of petiole but gradually opening basally and apically, submembranous; leaf blade adaxially green, abaxially pale green and not pruinose, ovateoblong, 2.4-3.1 m × 70-90 cm, base rounded, subsymmetric, apex truncate. Inflorescence subpendulous, velvety. Bracts of male flowers adaxially yellow but basally nearly white, abaxially dark reddish purple and often variegated with longitudinal, yellow stripes and with yellow margin. Flowers 12-16 per bract, in 2 rows. Outer 2 lobes of compound tepal with hooklike appendages; free tepal ca. 1/3 as long as compound tepal, apex minutely apiculate. Infructescence with 5-10 clusters of berries. Berries 15-18 per cluster, ovoid-cylindric, 12-14 × 3-3.5 cm, white velvety, base gradually narrowed into a stalk ca. 3 cm, apex rostrate. Seeds numerous, depressed, ca.  $3 \times 5-7$  mm, irregularly angled, tuberculate. 2n = 22.

Evergreen forests, ravine bottoms; 1000–1300 m. Yunnan [India, Myanmar, Thailand].

**11. Musa insularimontana** Hayata, Icon. Pl. Formos. 3: 194. 1913.

## 兰屿芭蕉 lan yu ba jiao

Pseudostems subcylindric. Leaf blade narrow. Inflorescence pendulous, curved, slender; rachis terete, ca. 3 cm thick, densely pubescent. Bracts wholly brownish red, ovate-lanceolate, ca.  $7 \times 3$  cm, strongly concave. Flowers sessile, ca. 8 per bract, in 2 rows. Male flowers: compound tepal cylindric, ca. 3.5 cm, outer lobes oblong-triangular, ca. 5 mm, apex corniculate; free tepal elliptic-obovate, ca. 1.5 cm, apex truncate or emarginate and shortly cuspidate. Berries cylindric, 10–12 cm; stalk ca. 4 cm, unequally 4-angled, densely pubescent.

• Near sea level to 100 m. Taiwan (Lan Yu opposite SE coast).

No specimens were seen by the present authors. The description is taken from the protologue.