

## 2. ANREDERA Jussieu, Gen. Pl. 84. 1789.

落葵薯属 *luo kui shu shu*

*Boussingaultia* Humboldt et al.

Vines herbaceous, branched. Leaves sessile or petiolate, slightly fleshy. Racemes axillary, rarely branched. Flowers pedicellate; pedicel persistent, articulated below the perianth, apex with 2 pairs of decussate bracteoles adnate to the perianth; lower bracteoles small, connate and persistent or free and caducous; upper bracteoles tepaloid, convex or boat-shaped, often keeled abaxially, sometimes narrowly winged, rarely broadly winged. Perianth segments membranous, spreading rotate at anthesis. Petals connate at base, segments thin, patent in anthesis. Filaments filiform, broadened toward base, reflexed in bud. Styles 3; stigmas globular or club-shaped, papillose. Fruit ovoid to globose, enclosed by perianth, pericarp fleshy or parchmentlike. Seed lens-shaped.

Between five and ten species: warmer parts of the Americas, from the West Indies to Argentina, Galápagos Islands; two species (introduced) in China.

- 1a. Upper bracteoles boat-shaped, with a conspicuously winged keel ..... 1. *A. scandens*  
1b. Upper bracteoles flattened, orbicular to broadly elliptic, not keeled ..... 2. *A. cordifolia*

**1. *Anredera scandens*** (Linnaeus) Moquin-Tandon in Candolle, Prodr. 13(2): 230. 1849.

短序落葵薯 *duan xu luo kui shu*

*Polygonum scandens* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 364. 1753.

Vines fleshy, with large, tuberous roots. Stems green or purplish, angular, glabrous. Leaves petiolate; petiole ca. 1 cm; leaf blade ovate to rotund, 3–6 × 1.5–4 cm, thinly fleshy, base decurrent, apex acuminate. Racemes many flowered, erect or pendent with ascending apex, 5–10 cm. Bracts ovate-lanceolate, 3–5 mm, apex acute, caducous. Pedicel 1.5–2 mm, persistent. Lower bracteoles ovate-triangular, apex acute, caducous; upper bracteoles greenish white, boat-shaped, broadly winged abaxially, 2–2.5 mm at anthesis including wings, accrescent, to 3–3.5 mm, wing base semicordate, enclosing perianth and fruit. Perianth greenish white, ca. 2.5 mm, thin, hyaline, little opening in anthesis, not accrescent. Styles 3, white, connate at base. Utricle ovoid to globose. Seed not seen. Fl. and fr. Nov.

Cultivated. Fujian, Guangdong [native to America].

The tuberous roots are used as a poultice applied to boils.

**2. *Anredera cordifolia*** (Tenore) Steenis, Fl. Malesiana, Ser. 1, Spermatoph. 5(3): 303. 1957.

落葵薯 *luo kui shu*

*Boussingaultia cordifolia* Tenore in Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot.

sér. 3, 19: 355. 1853; *B. gracilis* Miers; *B. gracilis* f. *pseudobaselloides* Hauman; *B. gracilis* var. *pseudobaselloides* (Hauman) Bailey.

Vines twining, with thick, hardy rhizome. Leaves shortly petiolate; leaf blade ovate to subcordate, 2–6 × 0.5–5.5 cm, thinly fleshy, base rounded or cordate, apex acute, producing small axillary tubercles (bulbils). Racemes many flowered; rachis pendent, thin, 7–25 cm. Bracts not longer than pedicel, narrow, persistent. Pedicel 2–3 mm, receptacular tip cupular, flowers shed from here. Lower bracteoles broadly triangular, hyaline, apex acute, persistent; upper bracteoles greenish white, flattened, orbicular to broadly elliptic, shorter than perianth. Flowers ca. 5 mm in diam., fragrant. Perianth white, inflexed, patent in anthesis; segments ovate or oblong to elliptic, 3 × 2 mm, apex blunt. Stamens white; filaments reflexed at apex in bud, spreading in anthesis. Style white, split to 3 stigmatic arms, each with 1 club-shaped or broadly elliptic stigma. Utricle and seed not seen. Fl. Jun–Oct.

Cultivated. Beijing, Fujian, Guangdong, Hainan, Jiangsu, Sichuan, Yunnan, Zhejiang [native to South America].

The plants are not known to produce seeds, but are propagated vegetatively by the axillary bulbils. The bulbils, leaves, and roots are used medicinally.