## 4. MALAISIA Blanco, Fl. Filip. 789. 1837.

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Shrubs, often scandent,  $\pm$  evergreen, with latex; dioecious. Stipules lateral, caducous. Leaves alternate; leaf blade asymmetric, margin entire to inconspicuously toothed; veins pinnate. Male inflorescences axillary, spicate, catkinlike, branched or unbranched; peduncle short. Female inflorescences globose-capitate, surrounded by fleshy bracts, flowers mostly sterile with 1 or 2(-5) fertile. Male flowers: calyx 3- or 4-lobed, valvate; stamens inflexed in bud; pistillode small. Female flowers: calyx urceolate; style central, deeply 2-lobed, branches filiform. Fruit densely aggregated into globose or  $\pm$  globose syncarp. Syncarp  $\pm$  globose, enclosed by a persistent thin and fleshy calyx; pericarp thin, fleshy,  $\pm$  connate with seed coats. Seed with endosperm thin or absent; cotyledons unequal, one large and split on one side, other small and folded around radicle; embryo globose to ovoid.

One species: Asia, Australia.

This monospecific genus is sometimes placed within the genus Trophis P. Browne.

**1. Malaisia scandens** (Loureiro) Planchon, Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot, sér. 4, 3: 293. 1855.

## 牛筋藤 niu jin teng

Caturus scandens Loureiro, Fl. Cochinch. 2: 612. 1790; Malaisia tortuosa Blanco; Trophis scandens (Loureiro) Hooker & Arnott.

Climbing shrubs, to 4 m tall when free standing, scandent to 9 m. Branchlets brown, cylindric; lenticels white, orbicular. Leaf blade narrowly elliptic to elliptic-obovate,  $5-12 \times 2-4.5$ cm, papery, abaxially  $\pm$  scabrous, adaxially smooth, base rounded to cordate, margin entire or shallowly dentate toward apex, apex acuminate, caudate, or less often acute to  $\pm$  rounded; secondary veins 7–12 on each side of midvein. Male inflorescences 3–6 cm, pubescent, basally dense, apically lax; peduncle 2–4 cm; bracts short, pubescent, basally connate, apically free. Female inflorescences  $\pm$  globose, rarely more elongated, ca. 6 mm in diam., densely pubescent; peduncle ca. 1 cm, pubescent. Male flowers: sessile; calyx lobes triangular, pubescent; filaments 2 × as long as calyx lobes; anthers  $\pm$  globose; pistillode small. Female flowers: calyx bottle-like, enclosing ovary; style pale reddish to dark red, linear, 1–3 cm, 2-branched. Drupes red, ovoid, 6–8 mm, sessile. Fl. spring to summer.

Scrub on hills; 100–300 m. Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Taiwan, SE Yunnan [Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam; Australia]. Flora of China 5: 27. 2003.