

9. **HYLOMECON** Maximowicz, Mém. Acad. Imp. Sci. St.-Pétersbourg Divers Savans 9: 36. 1859.

荷青花属 he qing hua shu

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Herbs, perennial, yellow lactiferous. Rootstock short, oblique, with dense orbicular brown membranous scales, at fruiting orange fleshy. Stems erect, simple, leafless or rarely with 1 or 2 leaves. Basal leaves few in a lax rosette, long petiolate; blade pinnatisect, lobes 2 or 3 pairs, lowest pair smaller. Cauline leaves 2 from stem apex, rarely 3, opposite or subopposite, shortly petiolate, otherwise similar to basal leaves. Inflorescences terminal or axillary, 1–3-flowered. Sepals 2, caducous, imbricate. Petals 4, yellow, shortly clawed. Stamens many; anthers erect. Ovary terete or oblong, glabrous, 1-loculed, 2-carpellate; ovules many; styles short; stigmas 2-lobed, plump, alternate with placentas. Capsule narrowly terete, 2-valvate upward from base. Seeds many, small, carunculate.

One species: C, E, and N China, Japan, Korea, Russia (E Siberia).

**1. *Hylomecon japonica*** (Thunberg) Prantl in Engler & Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenfam. 3(2): 139. 1889.

荷青花 he qing hua

Herbs, perennial, 15–40 cm tall, yellow lactiferous, sparsely pubescent, glabrous in age. Rootstock oblique, 2–5 cm, white, at fruiting orange, fleshy, with brown membranous scales; scales orbicular, 4–8 mm in diam. Stems erect, green to red or purple, simple, herbaceous, striate, glabrous. Basal leaves few, long petiolate; blade virescent abaxially, green adaxially, 10–15(–20) cm, pinnatisect; lobes 2 or 3 pairs, broadly lanceolate-rhombic, obovate-rhombic, or nearly elliptic, 3–7(–10) × 1–5 cm, both surfaces glabrous, base cuneate, margin irregularly crenate or biserrate, sometimes parted or incised, or pinnatifid and lobes irregularly incised again, apex acuminate. Cauline leaves usually 2, rarely 3. Inflorescences terminal, sometimes axillary, 1- or 2(or 3)-flowered. Pedicel erect, tenuous, 3.5–7 cm. Flower buds oval, 8–10 mm, glabrous or sparsely hairy. Sepals ovate, 1–1.5 cm, scattered floccose or glabrous abaxially, imbricate in bud. Petals obovate or suborbicular, 1.5–2 cm, imbricate in bud, suddenly inflated at flowering, basally shortly clawed. Stamens yellow, ca. 6 mm; anthers orbicular or oblong. Ovary ca. 7 mm; styles very short; stigmas 2-lobed. Capsule 5–8 cm × ca. 3 mm, glabrous, 2-valvate, with 1 persistent style to 1 cm. Seeds ovoid, ca. 1.5 mm. Fl. Apr–Jul, fr. May–Aug.  $2n = 24$ .

Forest understories, forest margins, ditch sides, shaded habitats; 300–2400 m. Anhui, Gansu, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Jiangsu, Jilin, Liaoning, Shaanxi, Shandong, Shanxi, Sichuan, Zhejiang [Japan, Korea, Russia (E Siberia)].

- 1a. Basal leaf lobes irregularly crenate or biserrate ..... 1a. var. *japonica*
- 1b. Basal leaf segments parted, incised, or pinnatifid.
  - 2a. Lowest leaf segments usually unilaterally or bilaterally parted or incised ..... 1b. var. *subincisa*
  - 2b. Leaf segments pinnatifid, lobes irregularly incised again ..... 1c. var. *dissecta*

**1a. *Hylomecon japonica* var. *japonica***

荷青花(原变种) he qing hua (yuan bian zhong)

*Chelidonium japonicum* Thunberg in Murray, Syst. Veg., ed. 14, 489. 1784; *Hylomecon vernalis* Maximowicz; *Styliphorum japonicum* (Murray) Miquel.

Basal leaf lobes 2 or 3 pairs, margin irregularly crenate or biserrate.

Forest understories, forest margins, ditch sides; 300–1800(–2400) m. Anhui, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Jiangsu, Jilin, Liaoning, Shaanxi, Shandong, Shanxi, NE Sichuan, Zhejiang [Japan, Korea, Russia (E Siberia)].

The following variants have been recognized, but one of us (Grey-Wilson) notes that they do not appear to be of great significance and numerous intermediates can be found in the wild.

**1b. *Hylomecon japonica* var. *subincisa*** Fedde in Engler, Pflanzentr. 40(IV.104): 210. 1909.

锐裂荷青花 rui lie he qing hua

Lowest leaf segments usually unilaterally or bilaterally parted or incised.

• Forest understories; 1000–2400 m. Gansu, Henan, Hubei, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Sichuan.

**1c. *Hylomecon japonica* var. *dissecta*** (Franchet & Savatier) Fedde in Engler, Pflanzentr. 40(IV.104): 210. 1909.

多裂荷青花 duo lie he qing hua

*Stylophorum japonicum* var. *dissectum* Franchet & Savatier, Enum. Pl. Jap. 1: 27. 1873.

Leaf segments pinnatipartite, lobes irregularly incised again.

Forest understories; 1000–2000 m. Hubei, Shaanxi, Sichuan [Japan].

