

**42. ARMORACIA** P. Gaertner et al., Oekon. Fl. Wetterau 2: 426. 1800, nom. cons.  
辣根属 *la gen shu*

*Raphanis* Moench, nom. rej.

Herbs perennial with rootstocks. Trichomes absent. Stems erect, branched above. Basal leaves long petiolate, rosulate, simple, entire or crenate. Cauline leaves petiolate or uppermost sessile, crenate, lacinate, pinnatifid, or pinnatisect. Racemes many flowered, ebracteate, often in corymbose panicles, elongated considerably in fruit. Fruiting pedicels slender, ascending, divaricate, or slightly reflexed. Sepals ovate or oblong, spreading or ascending, glabrous, base of lateral pair not saccate. Petals white, ascending, longer than sepals; blade obovate, spatulate, oblong, or oblanceolate, apex obtuse; claw short. Stamens 6, somewhat spreading, slightly tetradynamous; filaments slightly dilated at base; anthers ovate, oblong, or linear, obtuse at apex. Nectar glands confluent and subtending bases of all stamens; median glands present. Ovules 8–20 per ovary. Fruit dehiscent silicles, oblong, ovate, elliptic, or orbicular, angustiseptate, sessile; valves veinless, glabrous, smooth; replum rounded; septum perforated or reduced to a rim; style obsolete or short and to 2 mm; stigma capitate, entire or 2-lobed. Seeds biseriate, wingless, oblong, plump; seed coat punctate, not mucilaginous when wetted; cotyledons accumbent.

Three species: C and S Europe, Russia; one species (introduced) in China.

**1. *Armoracia rusticana*** P. Gaertner et al., Oekon. Fl. Wetterau 2: 426. 1800.

辣根 *la gen*

*Armoracia sativa* Bernhadi; *Cochlearia armoracia* Linnaeus; *Nasturtium armoracia* (Linnaeus) Fries; *Rorippa armoracia* (Linnaeus) A. S. Hitchcock; *R. rusticana* (G. Gaertner et al.) Godron.

Herbs with fusiform or cylindrical, fleshy or woody roots. Stems 50–120(–200) cm tall. Basal leaves few; petiole to 60 cm, broadly expanded at base; leaf blade broadly oblong, oblong-lanceolate, or ovate, (10–)20–45(–60) × (3–)5–12(–17) cm, coarsely crenate or rarely pinnatifid. Lower and middle cauline leaves shortly petiolate, pinnatifid or pinnatisect, with oblong to linear-oblong lobes, smaller than basal leaves; upper cauline leaves sessile or shortly petiolate, linear to linear-lanceolate, base cuneate or attenuate, margin serrate, crenate, or rarely entire. Fruiting pedicels ascending, slender, 0.8–2 cm. Sepals ovate, 2–4 mm. Petals obovate or oblanceolate, 5–7(–8) mm; claw to 1.5 mm. Filaments 1–2.5 mm; anthers ovate, 0.5–0.8 mm. Ovules 8–12 per ovary. Mature fruit rarely produced, ovate, oblong, or suborbicular, 4–6 mm, few seeded; style obsolete or to 0.5 mm; stigma capitate, well developed. Seeds not seen. Fl. May–Jul.  $2n = 32$ .

Cultivated and naturalized. Hebei, Heilongjiang, Jilin, Jiangsu, Liaoning [native to Europe; cultivated and naturalized elsewhere].

This species has been widely cultivated for some 2000 years for its fleshy roots, which are grated to produce the pungent horseradish sauce. The plant is also a weed that is very difficult to eradicate.

