

**46. ALCHEMILLA** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 123. 1753.

羽衣草属 yu yi cao shu

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Herbs perennial (rarely annual), with woody rhizome. Stems decumbent to erect. Leaves stipulate, long petiolate; stipules adnate to sheathing petiole; leaf blade simple, ± orbicular, margin lobed, digitate, or palmately parted. Inflorescences usually dense corymbs, rarely lax cymes or a solitary flower, ebracteate. Flowers very small, bisexual. Hypanthium urceolate, persistent, with constricted throat. Sepals 4(or 5), valvate; epicalyx segments 4(or 5), alternating with sepals. Petals absent. Disk lining hypanthium, margin thickened. Stamens (1–4); filaments free, short. Carpel 1(–4), sessile or substipitate, free; ovule ascending from base of locule; style basal or adaxial, filiform, glabrous; stigma capitellate. Achene 1(–4), enclosed in membranous hypanthium. Seed basal; testa membranous; cotyledons cylindric-obvoid.  $x = 8$ .

Between 100 and 300 species: frigid and temperate regions of Africa, Asia, Europe, and America, extending to alpine areas in the tropics; three species in China.

- 1a. Stems and petioles glabrous, or stem only declinate hairy in lower part ..... 3. *A. glabra*  
1b. Stems and petioles covered with ascending, spreading, or declinate hairs.  
  2a. Pedicel glabrous or subglabrous; hypanthium abaxially densely or sparsely villous; basal sinus of leaf blade deep and narrow, sometimes with 2 lobes meeting ..... 1. *A. japonica*  
  2b. Pedicel and hypanthium glabrous; basal sinus of leaf blade broad, sometimes base subtruncate ..... 2. *A. gracilis*

**1. Alchemilla japonica** Nakai & H. Hara, J. Jap. Bot. 13: 177. 1937.

羽衣草 yu yi cao

Herbs perennial, 10–30 cm tall. Rhizome thick, fleshy, woody. Stems solitary or tufted, decumbent to erect, densely white villous. Radical leaves: stipules brown, membranous, abaxially villous; petiole 3–15 cm, densely spreading villous; leaf blade cordate-orbicular, 2–3 × 3–7 cm, both surfaces sparsely pilose, more densely so on veins, base deeply cordate, sinus narrow, sometimes with 2 lobes meeting, margin 7–9-lobed and serrulate; cauline leaves shortly petiolate or subsessile; stipules connate at base, abaxially villous, margin serrate; leaf blade small. Inflorescences densely corymbose-cymose. Flowers 3–4 mm in diam.; pedicel 2–3 mm, glabrous or subglabrous. Hypanthium abaxially densely or sparsely villous. Sepals yellow-green, triangular-ovate, 1–1.5 mm, slightly larger than epicalyx segments, abaxially sparsely pilose; epicalyx segments oblong-lanceolate. Stamens nearly 1/2 as long as sepals. Style filiform, slightly longer than stamens. Achene included in membranous receptacle, ovoid, ca. 1.5 mm, glabrous, apex subacute.

Alpine grasslands; 2500–3500 m. Gansu, Nei Mongol, Qinghai, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Xinjiang [Japan].

**2. Alchemilla gracilis** Opiz in Berchtold & Opiz, Oekon.-Techn. Fl. Böhm. 2(1): 14. 1838.

纤细羽衣草 xian xi yu yi cao

Herbs perennial, 20–30 cm tall. Radical leaves: stipules brown, membranous, abaxially sparsely villous; petiole 5–14 cm, densely spreading villous; leaf blade reniform-orbicular, 2–4 × 4–8 cm, both surfaces sparsely villous, abaxially densely so on veins, base subcordate with broad sinus or subtruncate, margin 7–9-lobed and serrulate; cauline leaves 2–5, shortly petiolate or subsessile; stipules connate at base, margin serrate; leaf blade gradually smaller higher up stem. Inflorescences laxly corymbiform-cymose. Pedicel 3–4 mm, glabrous. Hypanthium

glabrous, base slightly decurrent. Epicalyx segments ca. 1/2 as long as sepals. Achene ovoid, 1–2 mm, glabrous, apex subacute.

Thinned forests, alpine grasslands; 1700–3500 m. Gansu, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Sichuan, Xinjiang [Mongolia, Russia (W Siberia); Europe].

**3. Alchemilla glabra** Neygenfind, Ench. Bot. 67. 1821.

无毛羽衣草 wu mao yu yi cao

Herbs perennial, 30–60 cm tall. Rhizome robust. Stems

tufted, erect, taller than the leaves, glabrous or only declinate hairy in lower part. Radical leaves many; stipules membranous, brown, glabrous; petiole 10–18 cm, glabrous; leaf blade cordate-orbicircular, 3–5 × 6–8 cm, both surfaces glabrous, rarely slightly appressed hairy and margin ciliate, base cordate, margin 7–9-lobed and serrulate; cauline leaves 2–5, shortly petiolate or subsessile; stipules connate at base, glabrous, margin serrate; leaf blade small, margin 3–5-lobed. Inflorescences laxly corymbiform-cymose. Flowers ca. 3 mm in diam.; pedicel 1–2 mm, glabrous. Hypanthium glabrous, base slightly decurrent. Sepals yellow-green, triangular-ovate, subglabrous; epicalyx segments oblong-lanceolate, nearly 1/2 as long as sepals, subglarous.

Alpine grasslands; ca. 4000 m. NW Sichuan [Russia (W Siberia); Europe].

