

3. **LYSIDICE** Hance, J. Bot. 5: 298. 1867.

仪花属 yi hua shu

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Shrubs or trees. Leaves abruptly pinnate; leaflets 3–5 pairs, opposite, base slightly oblique, asymmetric on two sides; petiolules short; stipules caducous or late deciduous, small, subulate or narrowly triangular. Panicles terminal. Flowers showy, purplish red or pink, with large, red or white bracts at base; bracteoles small, in pairs inserted at apex or near apex on pedicels. Calyx tubular, 4-lobed; lobes imbricate, reflexed after anthesis. Petals 5: 3 at back large, obovate, long clawed; 2 in front small, reduced, scalelike or subulate. Perfect stamens 2, free or slightly connate at base; filaments elongated, reflexed in bud; anthers elliptic, opening lengthwise; staminodes 3–8, unequal in length, subulate, without anthers or with 1–3 orbicular, small, abortive anthers. Ovary compressed, oblong, stalked, stalk adnate to calyx tube, 6–14-ovuled; style filiform, long; stigma capitate, small. Legume compressed, oblong or obovoid-oblong, thickly leathery or woody, with stipe, 2-valved, valves flat or slightly curling or spirally twisted. Seeds shiny, compressed, oblong, obliquely broadly elliptic to suborbicular, margin not thickened or conspicuously thickened into a narrowly edged ring; cotyledons flat; embryo small.

About two species: S and SW China, Vietnam; two species (one endemic) in China.

- 1a. Bracts and bracteoles pink; calyx tube 1.2–1.5 cm, longer than lobes; seeds marginally not thickened, testa thin, inside without gelatin; shrubs or small trees 1. *L. rhodostegia*
1b. Bracts and bracteoles white; calyx tube 3–9 mm, shorter than lobes; seeds marginally conspicuously thickened into a narrowly edged ring, testa thicker, inside with a layer of spongy gelatin; trees 2. *L. brevicalyx*

1. **Lysidice rhodostegia** Hance, J. Bot. 5: 299. 1867.

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Shrubs or small trees, 2–5 m tall, rarely more than 10 m tall. Petiolules short, 2–3 mm; leaflets oblong or ovate-lanceolate, 5–16 × 2–6.5 cm, papery, lateral veins subparallel, slender, evident on both surfaces, base rounded, apex caudate-acuminate. Panicles 20–40 cm; rachis, bracts, and bracteoles sparsely puberulent; bracts and bracteoles pink, ovate-oblong or elliptic, bracts 1.2–2.8 × 0.5–1.4 cm, bracteoles small, 2–5 mm. Calyx tube 1.2–1.5 cm, much longer than lobes (8–10 mm); lobes dark purplish red, oblong. Petals purplish red, broadly obovate, ca. 1.2 cm including claw, apex rounded, emarginate. Anthers ca. 4 mm; staminodes usually 4, subulate. Ovary hairy,

6–9-ovuled; style slender, hairy. Legume obovoid-oblong, 12–20 cm, sutures unequal in length, ventral suture longer and curved, dehiscent; valves often spirally twisted. Seeds 2–7, brownish red, oblong, 2.2–2.5 × 1.2–1.5 cm, margin not thickened; testa thinner and fragile, surface slightly wrinkled, inside without gelatin. Fl. Jun–Aug, fr. Sep–Nov. $2n = 24^*$.

Mountain slopes, jungles, among bushes, near roads, along valleys by streams; below 500 m. Guangdong, Guangxi (Longzhou), Guizhou, Yunnan [Vietnam; introduced in tropical Africa, the Caribbean, Central America, and United States (Florida)].

The roots, stems, and leaves are somewhat toxic. They are used medicinally to relieve pain from rheumatism and arthritis and for detumescence.

2. **Lysidice brevicalyx** C. F. Wei, Guihaia 3: 12. 1983.

短萼仪花 duan e yi hua

Trees, 10–20 m tall. Trunk 20–30 cm d.b.h. Leaflets oblong, obovate-oblong, or ovate-lanceolate, 6–12 × 2–5.5 cm, subleathery, base cuneate or obtuse, apex obtuse or caudate-acuminate. Panicle spreading, 13–20 cm; bracts and bracteoles white, broadly ovate, ovate-oblong, or oblong, bracts 1.5–3.1 cm, bracteoles 0.5–1.5 cm. Calyx tube short, 3–9 mm; lobes oblong to broadly oblong, longer than calyx tube. Petals purple, obovate, 1.6–1.9 cm including claw, apex subtruncate, emarginate. Anthers 3–4 mm; margin of cells purplish red; stami-

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nodes 8, or 5 or 6, unequal in length. Ovary villous along sutures, 9–14-ovuled. Legume oblong or obovoid-oblong, 15–26 × 3.5–5 cm, base rounded, dorsal and ventral sutures equal or subequal in length, dehiscent; valves flat or slightly twisted. Seeds 7–10, chestnut-brown or grayish green, shiny, oblong or obliquely broadly oblong to subglobose, 2–2.8 × 1.5–2.2 cm, margin thickened into a narrowly edged ring; testa crustaceous, inside with a layer of white spongy gelatin, ferruginous red when dry. Fl. Apr–May, fr. Aug–Sep. $2n = 24^*$.

• Sparse or dense forests, along valleys, by streams; 500–1000 m. Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Yunnan.

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