107. TERAMNUS P. Browne, Civ. Nat. Hist. Jamaica, 290. 1756.

软荚豆属 ruan jia dou shu

Sun Hang (孙航); Mats Thulin

Perennial twining herbs. Leaves pinnately 3-foliolate; stipules and stipels deciduous. Flowers small, in axillary clusters or racemes; bracts small, linear, persistent; bracteoles linear, longitudinally striate. Calyx membranous, campanulate, 4- or 5-lobed. Corolla slightly exserted; standard obovate, narrow at base, clawed, without auricles; wings narrow, adnate to blunt, straight, and shorter keel. Stamens monadelphous, only 5 longer developed, 5 shorter sterile or lacking. Ovary sessile, many ovuled; style short, curved, glabrous; stigma capitate. Legumes linear, flattened, persistent style base forming upcurved beak at apex, sometimes transversely impressed between seeds. Seeds numerous.

About eight species: tropics of both hemispheres; one species in China.

1. Teramnus labialis (Linnaeus f.) Sprengel, Syst. Veg. 3: 235. 1826.

软荚豆 ruan jia dou

Glycine labialis Linnaeus f., Suppl. Pl. 325. 1782.

Stems slender, to 4 m, angular, densely appressed yellow tomentose. Stipules lanceolate; petiole 1.5–4 cm; stipels linear, ca. 3 mm; leaflets membranous, terminal leaflet oblong or long ovate, 2.5–6 \times 1–2.2 cm, abaxially densely hairy, adaxially glossy and appressed scattered yellow pubescent, lateral veins 5 or 6 pairs, base rounded, apex acute. Racemes axillary, 2.5–4 cm, with 6–10 flowers, appressed hairy; peduncle ca. 2 cm;

bracts lanceolate; pedicels ca. 5 mm; bracteoles at base of calyx, similar to bracts. Calyx 3–4 mm, appressed pubescent, 5-lobed; teeth ovate-lanceolate and shorter than calyx tube. Corolla white, changing to pink or purple; standard ca. 4 mm; wings oblong, truncate at base; keel rhombic. Ovary hairy. Legumes linear, ca. 4 cm × 3.5–4 mm, nodding, pubescent, hooked at apex. Seeds 5–9, oblong-ellipsoid, ca. 4 × 2 mm. Fl. Jun–Jul, fr. Sep–Oct.

Sparse bushlands, wastelands; low to middle elevations. Hainan, S Taiwan [Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Africa, tropical America, West Indies].