

3. **FATSIA** Decaisne & Planchon, Rev. Hort. (Paris), sér. 4, 3: 105. 1854.

八角金盘属 ba jiao jin pan shu

*Diplofatsia* Nakai.

Shrubs or small trees, evergreen, andromonoecious, unarmed. Leaves simple, palmately lobed, serrate; stipules united with petiole, sheathing at base. Inflorescence a terminal panicle of umbels; bracts large, membranous, caducous. Pedicels not articulate below ovary. Calyx rim obsolete or 5-toothed. Petals 5, valvate. Stamens 5. Ovary 5- or 10-carpellate; styles 5 or 10, free. Fruit a subglobose drupe. Seed ± compressed laterally, endosperm smooth.

Two or three species: one or two native to Japan, one widely cultivated, one endemic to China (Taiwan).

1a. Leaves 7–9-lobed, glabrous, margins crenate to crenate-serrate, teeth rounded to blunt; ovary 5-carpellate ..... 1. *F. japonica*

1b. Leaves 5–7-lobed, brown tomentose when young, margins serrate, teeth sharply pointed; ovary

(8–)10(or 11)-carpellate ..... 2. *F. polycarpa*

**1. *Fatsia japonica*** (Thunberg) Decaisne & Planchon, Rev. Hort. (Paris), sér. 4, 3: 105. 1854.

八角金盘 ba jiao jin pan

*Aralia japonica* Thunberg in Murray, Syst. Veg., ed. 14, 300. 1784.

Shrubs, to ca. 5 m tall. Young branches, leaves, and inflorescences densely woolly tomentose, later glabrescent. Petiole 10–30 cm; leaf blade nearly orbicular, (5–)7–9(–11) cm wide, leathery, with 7–9 deeply cleft, narrowly ovate-elliptic lobes, both surfaces glabrous, base cordate to truncate-cordate, margin crenate to crenate-serrate, teeth rounded to blunt, apex acuminate. Inflorescence a panicle of umbels; primary axis 20–40 cm; peduncles 10–15 cm; umbels 3–4 cm in diam., with numerous flowers; pedicels 1–1.5 cm. Calyx rim indistinctly denticulate. Petals ovate, 3–4 mm. Ovary 5-carpellate; styles 5, free, ca. 1.5 mm. Fruit globose, ca. 5 mm in diam. Fl. Oct–Nov, fr. Feb–May.  $2n = 24, 48$ .

Widely cultivated or occasionally naturalized in gardens or secondary vegetation; below 200 m. Anhui, Fujian, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Zhejiang [native to Japan].

Many cultivars are used as ornamentals.

**2. *Fatsia polycarpa*** Hayata, J. Coll. Sci. Imp. Univ. Tokyo 25: 105. 1908.

多室八角金盘 duo shi ba jiao jin pan

*Diplofatsia polycarpa* (Hayata) Nakai.

Trees, small, to ca. 8 m tall. Young branches, leaves, and inflorescences densely brown tomentose, later glabrescent. Petiole 15–30 cm; leaf blade orbicular, 15–30 cm wide, with 5–7(–9) deeply cleft, ovate-oblong or elliptic lobes, tomentose, glabrous when older, base attenuate, margin serrate, teeth sharply pointed, apex caudate. Inflorescence a panicle of umbels; primary axis 30–40 cm; peduncles ca. 1.5 cm; umbels ca. 2.5 cm in diam., ca. 20-flowered; pedicels ca. 1 cm. Calyx rim subentire. Ovary (8–)10(or 11)-carpellate; styles (8–)10(or 11), free, ca. 0.5 mm. Fruit globose, ca. 4 mm in diam. Fl. Dec–Jan, fr. Jan–May.

• Shaded and humid places in broad-leaved forests; 2000–2800 m. Taiwan.

This species is used as an ornamental.

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