

92. CHUANMINSHEN M. L. Sheh & R. H. Shan, *Acta Phytotax. Sin.* 18: 47. 1980.

川明参属 *chuan ming shen shu*

She Menglan (佘孟兰 *Sheh Meng-lan*); Mark F. Watson

Herbs perennial, plant withered in every summer, sprouting again in autumn. Taproot long-cylindric, deep-rooted with a slender and elongated stem to soil surface. Aerial stem terete, erect, base purplish, distally glaucous, branched above. Basal leaves numerous, 2–3-ternate-pinnate. Umbels loosely compound; inflorescence branches many-branched and spreading; bracts and bracteoles usually absent, rarely with 1–3 linear, membranous and deciduous bracts or bracteoles. Calyx teeth conspicuous, narrowly triangular. Petals white or purplish, midvein conspicuous. Stylopodium conic; styles much longer than stylopodium, often reflexed. Fruit ellipsoid, dorsally compressed; dorsal ribs filiform, prominent, lateral ribs narrowly winged, wings thickened; vittae 2–3 in each furrow, 4–6 on commissure. Seed face plane.

- One species.

1. *Chuanminshen violaceum* M. L. Shen & R. H. Shan, *Acta Phytotax. Sin.* 18: 48. 1980.

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Taproot surface pale tawny brown, inner parts white, starchy. Leaves mainly in basal rosette; petiole sheaths broad, purplish and scarious margin; leaf blade broadly triangular-ovate, ternate-2–3-pinnate; pinnae 3–4 pairs, pinnules 1–2 pairs; ultimate segments ovate to long-ovate, 2–3 × 0.6–2 cm, abaxially

glaucous, base cuneate or rounded, margins irregularly 2–3-lobed or dentate, apex acuminate. Umbels 3–10 cm across; rays 4–8, 0.5–6(–8) cm, very unequal. Fruit 5–7 × 2–4 mm. Fl. and fr. Apr–Jun.

- Grassy places along stream banks, also cultivated on mountain slopes; 100–800 m. Hubei, Sichuan.

The root is used in Hubei and Sichuan as a regional substitute for the traditional Chinese medicine “ming dang shen” (see *Changium*).

