

## 11. OXYSTELMA R. Brown, Prodr. 462. 1810.

尖槐藤属 *jian huai teng shu*

Lianas, woody at base. Cymes extra-axillary, lax, racemelike or umbel-like, rarely a solitary flower, pedunculate. Flower buds globose. Calyx glands 5 or many. Corolla bowl-shaped; lobes basally valvate and apically overlapping to right. Corona in 2 series: outer corona at base of corolla tube, annular, truncate, margin membranous; inner series of 5 ovate-lanceolate lobes attached to gynostegium and exceeding anthers. Filaments short, connate into a tube; anthers with appendages; pollinia 2 per pollinarium, pendulous, on long translator arms. Stigma head convex. Follicles solitary or paired, oblong or ovate-lanceolate in outline, smooth.

Two species: tropical and subtropical Asia, tropical Africa; one species in China.

**1. *Oxystelma esculentum*** (Linnaeus f.) Smith in Rees, Cycl. 25: (not numbered). 1813.

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*Periploca esculenta* Linnaeus f., Suppl. Pl. 168. 1781; *Asclepias rosea* Roxburgh; *Oxystelma wallichii* Wight; *Sarcostemma esculentum* (Linnaeus f.) R. W. Holm.

Lianas to at least 4 m, glabrous except for flowers. Petiole 1–1.5 cm; leaf blade linear or linear-lanceolate, 6–11 × 0.7–2 cm, membranous, base rounded; lateral veins 9–12 pairs, marginal vein present. Inflorescences longer than leaves, (1- or) 2–4-flowered. Flower buds 8–9 mm. Sepals ovate-lanceolate, ca. 3.5 × 1 mm. Corolla white with purple veins or blotches, 2–3 cm in diam., limb 1.5–2 cm; lobes triangular, 1–1.5 cm, densely ciliate. Outer corona densely pubescent. Pollinia ca. 1.5 mm. Ovaries glabrous. Follicles lanceolate in outline, ca. 5 × 1.5 cm, apex subacute. Seeds ovate, ca. 2 × 1.5 mm; coma 1.5–2 cm. Fl. Jul-Sep, fr. Oct-Dec.

Moist bushland, stream banks. Guangdong, Guangxi, Yunnan [Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; NE Africa, SW Asia].

Decoctions of all parts are used against cancer, menoxenia, and traumatic injury.

Some authorities have suggested that the correct name for this species is *Oxystelma secamone* (Linnaeus) Karsten, 1883, based on *Periploca secamone* Linnaeus, 1771, but Goyder & Singh (Taxon 40: 629–630, 1991) showed that *P. secamone* is a synonym of *Secamone alpinii* Schultes from Africa.

