

3. STREPTOCAULON Wight & Arnott in Wight, Contr. Bot. India 64. 1834.

马莲鞍属 ma lian an shu

Shrubs or lianas. Cymes extra-axillary or terminal, lax, irregularly forked. Calyx glands 5, minute. Corolla rotate; tube short, overlapping to right. Corona lobes 5, slender, inflexed, adnate to filaments. Stamens inserted at corolla base; filaments distinct, threadlike, alternate with minute teeth; anthers connivent, adnate to stigma head, appendages membranous; pollen tetrads in solitary masses in each anther cell, pollen carriers erect; retinaculum minute, dilated at base. Stigma head convex, angular. Follicles paired, divaricate, cylindric, ovoid, or beaked.

About five species: SE Asia, one in China.

1. *Streptocaulon juvenas* (Loureiro) Merrill, Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc. n.s., 24: 315. 1935.

马莲鞍 ma lian an

Apocynum juvenas Loureiro, Fl. Cochinch. 1: 167. 1790; *Streptocaulon griffithii* J. D. Hooker; *S. tomentosum* Wight & Arnott.

Lianas to 8 m, densely tawny pilose except for corolla. Petiole 3–7 mm; leaf blade obovate or broadly elliptic, 7–15 × 3–9.5 cm, leathery or thick papery, base rounded to cordate, apex acute or rounded and apiculate; lateral veins 14–20 pairs, subparallel. Inflorescences 4–20 cm, sometimes thyrsoid; sessile or with peduncle to 8 cm; flowers densely clustered in young inflorescences. Flower buds subglobose to ovoid, ca. 3 × 3 mm. Sepals ovate, ca. 1.3 × 1 mm, acute. Corolla yellow-green outside, yellow-brown inside, glabrous; tube short; lobes ovate, ca. 3 × 1.5 mm. Corona lobes longer than anthers. Ovaries densely pubescent. Follicles oblong or oblong-lanceolate in outline, 7–13 cm × 5–10 mm, horizontal. Seeds oblong, 6–9 × 2–3 mm; coma 3–3.5 cm. Fl. May–Oct, fr. Aug–Dec.

Montane forests, thickets, often clinging to trees; 300–1000 m. Guangxi, Guizhou, Yunnan [Cambodia, India, ?Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam].

The roots are used medicinally for the treatment of dysentery and stomachache, and the leaves are used externally for the treatment of snake poisoning and abscesses.

