

41. ERIOPHYTON Bentham, Edward's Bot. Reg. 15: t. 1289. 1829.

绵参属 mian shen shu

Herbs perennial, lanate. Roots thick, terete. Leaf blade rhombic to subcircular, lower stem leaves sometimes reduced, scalelike. Verticillasters 6-flowered, compact or basally widely spaced; bracteoles spinelike. Flowers sessile. Calyx broadly campanulate, ± transparent, 10-veined; teeth 5, subequal, triangular, apex acuminate. Corolla purplish to reddish, 2-lipped; tube included, without hairy annulus inside; upper lip broad, galeate, incurved, covering lower lip; lower lip subpatent, 3-lobed; middle lobe slightly larger than lateral lobes, emarginate to rounded; lateral lobes circular. Stamens 4, anterior 2 longer, apex dentate, ascending beneath upper lip. Posterior filaments basally thickened; anthers close together in pairs, cells 2, apex divaricate, confluent, villous. Style apex subequally 2-cleft, lobes subulate. Ovary glabrous. Nutlets broadly triquetrous, oblong, large, apex rounded, smooth.

Monotypic: China, India (Sikkim), Nepal.

1. Eriophyton wallichii Bentham, Pl. Asiat. Rar. 1: 63. 1830.

绵参 mian shen

Herbs perennial. Roots thick, apex forked. Stems erect, 10–20 cm tall, unbranched, rigid, lanate. Petiole very short or obsolete; basal leaves scalelike, colorless, glabrous; upper leaves rhombic to circular, ca. 3–4×3–4 cm, reduced apically, densely lanate, base broadly cuneate, margin crenate to crenate-serrate near apex, apex acute, veins radiate from base. Bracteoles spinelike, to 1.2 cm, densely lanate. Flowers sessile. Calyx broadly campanulate, ca. 1.5 cm, densely lanate outside, glabrous inside, margin lanate; teeth ca. 7 mm, long acuminate. Corolla purplish to reddish, 2.2–2.8 cm, tube slightly incurved, 1.1–1.4 cm, densely lanate outside. Nutlets yellow-brown, ca. 3 mm. Fl. Jul-Sep, fr. Sep-Oct.

Alpine, stony alluvial fans; 2700–4700 m. Qinghai, Sichuan, Xizang, Yunnan [India (Sikkim), Nepal].

Roots used as a tonic.

