

3. PHYLA Loureiro, Fl. Cochinch. 1: 66. 1790.

过江藤属 guo jiang teng shu

Herbs. Branches usually acutely 4-angled, sometimes spiny, hirsute, glandular. Leaves opposite. Inflorescences terminal, spicate or capitate, elongated in fruit; bracts obovate. Flowers small. Calyx membranous, 2-lipped, 4-lobed. Corolla sometimes 2-lipped; lobes 5, spreading. Stamens 4, didynamous, inserted on distal part of corolla tube, included. Ovary 2-locular; ovule 1 per locule. Style short; stigma capitate. Capsules small, splitting into 2 1-seeded cocci.

About ten species: Africa, America, and Asia; one species in China.

Phyla has often been combined with *Lippia* but differs in characters such as herbaceous habit, elongated infructescences, and obovate bracts.

1. **Phyla nodiflora** (Linnaeus) E. L. Greene, Pittonia 4: 46. 1899.

过江藤 guo jiang teng

Verbena nodiflora Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 20. 1753; *Lippia nodiflora* (Linnaeus) Michaux.

Herbs, perennial. Branches many, creeping, rooting at distal nodes, minutely strigose. Leaves subsessile; leaf blade spatulate, 1–3 × 0.5–1.5 cm, papery, pubescent, base cuneate, margin distally sharply serrate, veins inconspicuously 4-paired. Inflorescences cylindric to ovate capitula, 1–2.5 cm; peduncle 1–7 cm. Corolla pinkish purple or white, glabrous. Capsules ca. 1.5 mm in diam. $2n = 36$.

Common weed along stream banks and in grassy places; 300–2300 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Guizhou, Hainan, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Taiwan, Xizang, Yunnan [tropics and subtropics of both hemispheres].

Medicinal.

