

18. SPHENODESME Jack, Malayan Misc. 1: 19. 1820.

楔翅藤属 xie chi teng shu

Shrubs, climbing. Hairs simple or stellate. Stems lenticellate when young. Leaves opposite, short petiolate, margin entire. Inflorescences capitate cymes, 3–7-flowered, subtended by a whorl of 5 or 6 prominent involucre bracts. Calyx funnelform, 5-dentate, sometimes enlarged or inflated in fruit. Corolla tube short cylindrical; lobes 5 (or 6), narrowly lanceolate to ovate-oblong. Stamens 5(–7); anthers ovate. Ovary imperfectly 2-locular; ovules 2 per locule, pendulous from apex of a placenta bearing axis. Stigma 2-cleft. Fruit indehiscent, small, obovoid to globose, included or nearly included in calyx, 1- (or 2)-seeded.

About 16 species: mainly in tropical and subtropical Asia, four species in China.

- 1a. Cyme 5-flowered; calyx glabrous 1. *S. pentandra*
- 1b. Cyme 7-flowered; calyx with pilose or stellate hairs.
 - 2a. Hairs simple; involucre bracts oblanceolate-spatulate to spatulate; calyx usually with accessory teeth; fruit hairy 2. *S. mollis*
 - 2b. Hairs stellate; involucre bracts spatulate-lanceolate or obovate; calyx without accessory teeth; fruit glabrous.
 - 3a. Leaf blade narrowly elliptic to ovate; involucre bracts oblanceolate; flowers 4- or 5-merous; stamens included 3. *S. involucrata*
 - 3b. Leaf blade obovate-elliptic; involucre bracts spatulate-lanceolate; flowers 5- or 6-merous; stamens exerted 4. *S. floribunda*

1. *Sphenodesme pentandra* var. *wallichiana* (Schauer) Munir, Gard. Bull. Straits. Settlement., ser. 3, 21: 360. 1966.

山白藤 shan bai teng

Sphenodesme wallichiana Schauer in A. de Candolle, Prodr. 11: 622. 1847.

Indumentum of simple hairs. Branchlets 4-angled, densely pubescent when young, glabrescent. Petiole 0.5–1.5 cm; leaf blade lanceolate-oblong to elliptic-oblong, 5.5–18 × 2.5–7 cm, papery to thin leathery, subglabrous to pilose, adaxially usually shiny, base cuneate to rounded. Cymes capitate, 5-flowered; peduncle to 3 cm; involucre bracts 5 or 6, oblong-spatulate, 1.5–2.8 × 0.5–1 cm, glabrous. Calyx 4–7 mm, 5-dentate, with indistinct accessory teeth between main teeth, glabrous. Corolla purple, 5-lobed, pubescent in throat. Stamens 5, exerted. Ovary densely hispid, glandular. Capsules globose, ca. 4 mm in diam., yellow hispid. Fl. and fr. Feb–May.

Mixed forests; 500–700 m. Guangdong, Hainan, Yunnan [Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam].

Sphenodesme pentandra var. *pentandra* occurs in Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam but is absent from China.

2. *Sphenodesme mollis* Craib, Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1912: 154. 1912.

毛楔翅藤 mao xie chi teng

Sphenodesme annamitica Dop.

Indumentum of simple hairs. Branchlets slender, tomentose to pubescent when young, glabrescent. Leaf blade elliptic-oblong, 4–12 × 3.5–6(–8.5) cm, papery to thin leathery, tomentose to subglabrous, base cuneate. Cymes 7-flowered, arranged in loose terminal or axillary panicles; involucre bracts 6, oblanceolate-spatulate to spatulate, abaxially densely appressed pubescent, adaxially pilose. Calyx ca. 5 mm. Corolla mauve to purple, pubescent in throat; lobes 5, oblong. Stamens 5, exerted. Ovary ovate, hispid. Capsules enclosed in calyx, pilose-hispid. Fr. Oct–Nov.

Mixed forests on mountain slopes and along stream banks; 600–1500 m. S Yunnan [Thailand, Vietnam].

3. *Sphenodesme involucrata* (Presl) Robinson, Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts 51: 531. 1916.

爪楔翅藤 zhua xie chi teng

Vitex involucrata Presl, Bot. Bemerkungen 148. 1844; *Symphorema unguiculatum* Kurz.

Indumentum of simple and stellate hairs. Branchlets slender, with stellate hairs when young, glabrescent. Petiole ca. 1 cm, with dense stellate hairs; leaf blade narrowly elliptic to ovate, 6–13 × 3–7 cm, leathery, abaxially with stellate and simple hairs, base cuneate to subrounded, margin entire. Cymes 7-flowered, with rusty pilose and stellate hairs; peduncle with dense stellate hairs; involucre bracts oblanceolate to obovate. Calyx ca. 5 mm, nearly 2-lipped, 4- or 5-dentate, with yellow stellate hairs. Corolla white or pink, 4–6 mm, 4- or 5-lobed. Stamens 4 or 5, included. Ovary yellow, glabrous, apex glandular dotted. Capsules enclosed in calyx, glabrous. Fl. and fr. Nov–Jun.

Mixed forests; 500–700 m. Guangdong, Hainan, Taiwan [India, Malaysia].

4. *Sphenodesme floribunda* Chun & How, Acta Phytotax. Sin. 7: 79. 1958.

多花楔翅藤 duo hua xie chi teng

Bracts and young shoots with stellate hairs. Branchlets terete, prominently lenticellate, grayish rusty tomentose. Petiole 3–9 mm; leaf blade obovate-elliptic, 6–9 × 2–4 cm, glandular, abaxially pilose, base cuneate, margin entire or sinuate-dentate. Cymes 7-flowered; involucre bracts spatulate-lanceolate, 8–15 × 2–4 mm, membranous, densely rusty stellate pubescent. Calyx ca. 5 mm, densely yellowish rusty stellate pubescent; lobes 5 or 6, ovate-triangular, ca. 1 mm. Corolla ca. 9 mm, tube slender, white ciliate; lobes 5 or 6, oblanceolate, ca. 4 mm. Stamens 5, exerted. Ovary ca. 1.2 mm, glabrous. Style ca. 4 mm. Fl. Mar–Apr.

- Mixed forests; 300–700m. Guangdong, Hainan.

