

55. EPITHEMA Blume, Bijdr. 737. 1826.

盾座苣苔属 *dun zuo ju tai shu*

Herbs, possibly perennial, terrestrial, rhizomatous. Stems usually simple. Leaves 1 to few, lowest leaf unpaired, those near apex usually opposite, equal or nearly so; leaf blade puberulent, base cordate. Inflorescences scorpioid, dense, pseudoterminal or axillary, many-flowered cymes; bract 1. Flowers zygomorphic, often reduced, cleistogamous, sometimes autogamous and intermediate. Calyx actinomorphic, 5-lobed from just above middle; segments equal. Corolla blue to reddish or white, zygomorphic, inside sparsely puberulent centrally or with a ring of hairs; tube tubular, not swollen, longer than limb, 2–3 mm in diam.; limb 2-lipped; adaxial lip 2-lobed, nearly equalling abaxial lip; abaxial lip 3-lobed, lobes subequal, apex rounded. Stamens 2, adnate to adaxial side of corolla tube above middle, included; anthers dorsifixed, apically coherent, thecae divaricate, confluent at apex, dehiscing longitudinally; connective not projecting; staminodes 2, adnate to abaxial side of corolla tube. Disc ringlike, cupular, interrupted, or 2-lobed. Ovary ovoid to globose, 1-loculed; placentas 2, parietal, projecting inward, 2-cleft. Stigma 1, terminal, subcapitate, undivided. Capsule straight in relation to pedicel, globose to subglobose, shorter than calyx, dehiscence circumscissile. Seeds with long deciduous funicle.

About 10 species: Africa, SE Asia; two species in China.

1a. Leaf blade of apical stem leaves (0.8–)3.5–8 × (0.5–)2–5.5 cm; stems (1.5–)8–16 cm; leaf blade of basal stem

leaves (1–)7.5–12(–14) × (0.8–)4.5–6.5(–9.2) cm; bract hoodlike, obovate, 6–10 mm; pedicel 2–4 mm; corolla

inside sparsely puberulent centrally, tube ca. 4.5 mm 1. *E. carnosum*

1b. Leaf blade of apical stem leaves 0.4–3 × 0.3–2.5 cm; stems 2–7 cm; leaf blade of basal stem leaves 2–5 × 1.2–4

cm; bract ovate, 4–6 mm; pedicel ca. 0.1 mm; corolla inside with a ring of hairs, tube ca. 2.5 mm 2. *E. taiwanensis*

1. *Epithema carnosum* Benth, Scroph. Ind. 57. 1835.

盾座苣苔 *dun zuo ju tai*

Aikinia carnosa (Benth) G. Don.

Stems (1.5–)8–16 cm, spreading puberulent. Basal stem leaves 1; petiole (0.3–)1.8–7.5 cm; leaf blade elliptic to ovate, (1–)7.5–12(–14) × (0.8–)4.5–6.5(–9.2) cm, puberulent, base sometimes slightly oblique, cordate, margin undulate-denticulate to serrate, apex obtuse; apical stem leaves usually 2, opposite, short petiolate or subsessile, leaf blade ovate-elliptic, (0.8–)3.5–8 × (0.5–)2–5.5 cm, base subcordate. Peduncle (0.2–)2.2–5.5 cm; bract hoodlike, obovate, 6–10 mm. Pedicel 2–4 mm. Calyx 3.5–4 mm; lobes triangular. Corolla reddish to purplish or white, ca. 6 mm, inside sparsely puberulent centrally; tube ca. 4.5 mm; lips ca. 2 mm. Stamens ca. 2 mm; staminodes ca. 1 mm. Pistil ca. 3 mm; ovary puberulent toward style. Capsule ca. 2 mm in diam. Fl. Jun–Sep, fr. Sep.

Shaded rocks, caves in valleys; 300–1400 m. N Guangdong, Guangxi, SW Guizhou, Taiwan, SE Yunnan [Bhutan, NE India, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand].

2. *Epithema taiwanensis* S. S. Ying, Coloured Illustr. Pl. Taiwan 4: 795. 1992.

台湾盾座苣苔 *tai wan dun zuo ju tai*

Epithema brunonis (Wallich) Decaisne var. *fasciculata* C. B. Clarke.

Stems 2–7 cm, puberulent. Basal stem leaves 1; petiole 0.3–2.5 cm; leaf blade ovate to broadly ovate, 2–5 × 1.2–4 cm, puberulent, base sometimes slightly oblique, cordate, margin obscurely crenulate to serrulate or

denticulate, apex obtuse; apical stem leaves 2, opposite, subsessile, leaf blade broadly ovate, 0.4–3 × 0.3–2.5 cm, base subcordate. Peduncle 1–4 cm; bract ovate, 4–6 mm. Pedicel ca. 0.1 mm. Calyx ca. 3 mm; lobes triangular. Corolla pinkish white, ca. 4 mm, inside with a ring of hairs; tube ca. 2.5 mm; lips ca. 1.5 mm. Stamens ca. 1.5 mm; staminodes ca. 0.5 mm. Pistil 1.5–3 mm; ovary with straight hairs toward style. Capsule 2–3 mm in diam. Fl. Jul–Aug, fr. Sep.

Partially shaded, moist coral rock; 200–500 m. S Taiwan [Philippines].

