

1. THAMNOCHARIS W. T. Wang, Acta Phytotax. Sin. 19: 485. 1981.

辐花苣苔属 fu hua ju tai shu

Herbs, perennial, terrestrial, rhizomatous, stemless. Leaves many, basal; leaf blade appressed puberulent, base cuneate. Inflorescences umbel-like, dense, axillary, few-flowered cymes; bracts 2, opposite. Calyx actinomorphic; 4- or 5-sect from base; segments equal. Corolla purple to blue, actinomorphic, inside glabrous; tube rotate, not swollen, ca. 1/3 length of lobes, ca. 3 mm in diam.; limb deeply 4- or 5-lobed; lobe apex rounded to mucronulate. Stamens 4 or 5, adnate to corolla near base, equalling corolla; anthers basifixed, free, thecae parallel, not confluent, dehiscing longitudinally; connective not projecting; staminodes absent. Disc ringlike. Ovary narrowly ovoid, 1-loculed; placentas 2, parietal, projecting inward, 2-cleft. Stigma 1, terminal, punctiform to subcapitate, undivided. Capsule straight in relation to pedicel, narrowly ellipsoid, much longer than calyx, dehiscing loculicidally to base; valves 2, straight, not twisted. Seeds unknown.

- One species: endemic to China

Thamnocharis, along with *Bournea* Oliver, *Tengia* W. Y. Chun, and *Conandron* Siebold & Zuccarini, belongs to tribe Ramondieae Fritsch as defined by W. T. Wang (Fl. Reipubl. Popularis Sin. 69: 125–140. 1990). The Ramondieae are sometimes considered to be primitive in Gesneriaceae. They share (along with *Ramonda* L. C. Richard) actinomorphic corollas and all stamens fertile. Most other Gesneriaceae have zygomorphic corollas with at least one sterile stamen.

1. *Thamnocharis esquirolii* (H. Léveillé) W. T. Wang, Acta Phytotax. Sin. 19: 486. 1981.

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Oreocharis esquirolii H. Léveillé, Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 9: 329. 1911.

Petiole 0.6–4 cm, white appressed puberulent; leaf blade oblong or elliptic to ovate, (1.2–)2.5–5.5 × (0.7–)1.6–2.8 cm, white appressed puberulent, base broadly to narrowly cuneate, margin shallowly crenulate to serrulate, apex broadly acute to rounded; lateral veins 3 or 4 on each side of midrib. Cymes 5–9-flowered; peduncle 5–9(–10) cm; bracts subulate, 1.5–2 mm. Pedicel (0.6–)4–9(–20) mm. Calyx 4- or 5-sect from base; segments narrowly triangular, 2.2–3 mm. Corolla ca. 8 mm × 1–1.2 cm, outside puberulent; tube ca. 2–3 mm; limb deeply 4- or 5-lobed; lobes lanceolate-oblong, 6–8 × 2–3 mm. Stamens unequal; filaments 2.5–8 mm, sparsely puberulent basally; anthers 1.3–1.8 mm. Ovary ca. 2 mm, puberulent. Style ca. 8 mm, glabrous. Capsule ca. 1.1 cm. Fl. Jul–Aug, fr. Aug.

- Thickets, hilly forests; 1500–1600 m. SW Guizhou (Xingren Xian, Zhenfeng Xian).

