
**刺萼参属**

Hong Deyuan (洪德元); Thomas G. Lammers

Herbs, perennial. Roots slightly thickened, carrot-shaped. Leaves alternate, pinnatipartite. Flowers solitary, terminal, or 2 or 3 in a cyme. Calyx 2–5(often 4)-lobed; lobes with 2–4 spinose lobules. Corolla tubular, 3–5-cleft to middle. Stamens 3–5, mostly 4, free but connivent initially; filaments dilated at base, dilated part ciliate. Ovary almost entirely inferior, 3–5-locular; stigma lobes equal in number to ovary locules, linear, recurved; ovules numerous. Capsule globose, superior part conical, loculicidal, valves alternate with calyx lobes. Seeds numerous, ellipsoid, 3-ribbed, ribs obtuse.

- One species: China.


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Plants diffuse, glabrous throughout. Roots up to 5 mm in diam. Stems up to 40 cm, multi-branched. Leaves petiolate; petiole 5–10 mm; blade abaxially green-gray, adaxially green, elliptic, 5–20 × 3–15 mm, base narrowly cuneate, margin pinnatifid nearly to middle vein or to middle, apex obtuse. Pedicels 1–5 cm. Calyx lobes ovate-lanceolate, 2–6 × 1–3 mm (lobules excluded). Corolla purple-blue, 3–4.5 mm. Stamens ca. 1.5 mm; anthers narrowly oblong, ca. 1 mm. Style ca. 1 mm; stigma segments linear, recurved. Capsule globose, 3–5 mm in diam., superior part conical, up to 2 mm. Seeds minute, ca. 0.3 mm. Fl. and fr. Jun–Jul. 2n = 16*.

- Herb communities in stony places; ca. 300 m. Hubei (Yunxi).