

3. HYDROCHARIS Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 1036. 1753.

水鳖属 shui bie shu

Herbs, floating. Stems short, stoloniferous. Leaves basal, floating or submerged, rarely emerged, petiolate and stipulate; blade ovate, orbicular, or reniform, entire, with more than 5 curved veins, sometimes with a central pad of spongy tissue on abaxial surface of floating blade. Plants monoecious; flowers unisexual. Spathes 1- or 2-valved, male spathes pedunculate, 1–6-flowered; female spathes sessile, 1-flowered. Sepals greenish white. Petals white or yellowish, much larger than sepals. Stamens 6–12; anthers 2-thealous. Ovary elliptic; ovules numerous; styles 6, bifid. Fruit with 6 ribs, irregularly dehiscent at apex. Seeds ellipsoid.

About three species: Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America; one species in China.

1. *Hydrocharis dubia* (Blume) Backer, Handb. Fl. Java 1: 64. 1925.

水鳖 shui bie

Pontederia dubia Blume, Enum. Pl. Javae 1: 33. 1827; *Hydrocharis asiatica* Miquel; *H. morsus-ranae* Linnaeus; *H. morsus-ranae* var. *asiatica* (Miquel) Makino; *Limnobium dubium* (Blume) Shaffer-Fehre; *Monochoria dubia* (Blume) Miquel.

Leaves floating or sometimes emerged; blade cordate or orbicular, 4.5–5 × 5–5.5 cm, 5–7-veined, base cordate, apex rounded. Male flowers 5 or 6 in spathe; peduncles 0.5–3.5 cm; pedicels 5–6.5 cm; sepals ca. 6 × 3 mm; petals yellow, ca. 1.3 ×

1.7 cm; stamens 12, inner 3 stamens staminodal; anthers 1–1.5 mm; staminodes hairy at base and papillose at apex. Female flowers larger than male flowers; sepals ca. 1.1 cm × 4 mm; petals white, yellow at base, ca. 1.5 × 1.8 cm; staminodes 6; glands 3, reniform; styles ca. 4 mm, with dense glandular hairs. Fruit berrylike, spherical to obovoid, 8–10 mm, ca. 7 mm in diam. Seeds gradually acute toward apex. Fl. and fr. Aug–Oct. $2n = 16$.

Still water. Anhui, Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, NE Hainan, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Jilin, Liaoning, Shaanxi, Shandong, Sichuan, Taiwan, Yunnan, Zhejiang [Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan (including Ryukyu Islands), Korea, Myanmar, New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam; N Australia].

Fl. China 23: 97. 2010.