
黄三七属 huang san qi shu

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One species: Bhutan, China, Myanmar, Sikkim.

Elsewhere (Compton et al., Taxon 47: 593–634. 1998), Souliea has been transferred to Actaea. However, for the present account, as in FRPS, the authors have maintained Souliea as distinct, and regional advisor Rudolf V. Kamelin (pers. comm.) agrees.


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Isopyrum vaginatum Maximowicz, Fl. Tangut. 18. 1889; Actaea vaginata (Maximowicz) J. Compton; Coptis ospriocarpa Brühl.

Rhizome robust, creeping, 4–9 cm in diam., branched, with fibrous roots. Stems more than 15 cm tall, to 75 cm at fruiting, glabrous or subglabrous, with 2–4 membranous broad scales at base. Cauline leaves ca. 2, glabrous, long petiolate; petiole 5–34 cm; leaf blade triangular, to 24 cm; primary segments ovate to broadly so, central secondary segments ovate-triangular, 4–7.5 × 3.5–6.5 cm, central tertiary segments rhomboid, 1- or 2-pinnatifid, unequally dentate at margin, lateral tertiary segments similar to central tertiary ones, oblique. Raceme 4–6-flowered; bracts ovate, membranous. Pedicel 1.2–1.4 cm. Flowers 1.2–1.4 cm in diam. Sepals 8–11 × 4–7 mm, 3-veined, margin irregularly shallowly wavy at apex, apex rounded. Petals 2.5–5.5 mm, multiveined. Stamens 4–7 mm. Follicles 1 or 2(or 3), 3.5–7 × 0.3–0.7 cm. Seeds 12–16, black when ripe, 3–4 mm. Fl. May–Jun, fr. Jul–Sep. $2n = 16^*$. 

Forests, forest margins, grassy slopes; 2800–4000 m. S Gansu, E Qinghai, S Shaanxi, W Sichuan, SE Xizang, NW Yunnan [Bhutan, India, N Myanmar, Sikkim].