

18. **CESTRUM** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 191. 1753.

夜香树属 *ye xiang shu shu*

Shrubs or trees, glabrous or pubescent with simple or branched hairs. Leaves solitary, simple, petiolate, entire. Inflorescences terminal or axillary, racemose or paniculate, sometimes clustered in leaf axils, often bracteate or bracteolate. Flowers 5-merous. Calyx campanulate or tubular. Corolla long tubular; tube sometimes expanded or contracted around anthers, sometimes pubescent abaxially; limb lobed, usually spreading. Stamens inserted at various levels in corolla tube; filaments sometimes pubescent or appendaged at or below point of insertion; anthers dehiscing longitudinally; disc mostly evident. Ovary 2-locular; ovules few to several, rarely to 20. Style slender; stigma entire or 2-lobed, rarely exerted. Fruit a berry, mostly white or blackish, globose, ovoid, or oblong, often juicy. Seeds 1 or several, oblong; embryo straight or slightly curved; cotyledons ovate, oblong and much wider than radicle, or cylindrical.

About 175 species: North America, South America; three cultivated for ornament in China.

- 1a. Corolla red, violet, or pink, conspicuously narrowed at throat; stem copiously pubescent ..... 1. *C. elegans*
- 1b. Corolla white, green, yellow, or orange, not or scarcely narrowed at throat; stems glabrescent.
  - 2a. Corolla pale yellowish or greenish white, subcylindric except near anthers; calyx less than 4 mm, ca. 4 mm in fruit ..... 2. *C. nocturnum*
  - 2b. Corolla yellow-orange, conspicuously expanded at apex; calyx more than 5 mm, ca. 6 mm in fruit ..... 3. *C. aurantiacum*

1. **Cestrum elegans** (Brongniart) Schlechtendal, Linnaea 19: 261. 1847.

毛茎夜香树 *mao jing ye xiang shu*

*Habrothamnus elegans* Brongniart in Neumann, Ann. Fl. Pomone 118. 1844.

Shrubs. Stem copiously pubescent. Petiole 6–12 mm; leaf blade ovate or elliptic, ca. 8×3 cm. Inflorescences erect, terminal or axillary, congested racemose panicles; bracts ovate, minutely tomentose, 4–5 mm. Flowers odorless. Pedicel ca. 1 mm. Calyx narrowly campanulate, 6–8 mm, glabrous, unribbed; teeth ca. 3 mm, ciliate. Corolla red, pink, or violet, ca. 2 cm, expanded upward, abruptly contracted at throat, glabrous; lobes deltoid, ca. 2 mm. Filaments glabrous, unappendaged, slightly bent at point of insertion. Fruiting calyx not splitting. Berry dark pink, globose, 0.8–1.3 cm. Seeds ca. 8.

Yunnan [native to Mexico]. Cultivated for ornament.

2. **Cestrum nocturnum** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 191. 1753.

夜香树 *ye xiang shu*

Shrubs erect or sprawling, 1–3 m tall; young growth puberulent, glabrescent. Branches slender. Petiole 0.8–2 cm; leaf blade oblong-ovate or oblong-lanceolate, 6–15×2–4.5 cm, entire. Inflorescences drooping, many-flowered, axillary or terminal racemose panicles, 7–10 cm. Flowers strongly night scented. Pedicel 1–5 mm. Calyx campanulate, 2–3×1–1.5 mm; lobes deltoid, 0.5–0.8 mm. Corolla greenish or whitish yellow, 1.5–2.5 cm, tube slightly contracted at throat, lobes 3–4 mm. Filaments with dentate appendages, usually puberulent at point of insertion. Ovary ca. 1 mm. Berry white, juicy, oblong or globose, 6–10×4–10 mm. Seeds 1–5, ellipsoid, 3.5–4.5 mm.

Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Yunnan [native to America, widely cultivated for ornament in tropical regions].

3. **Cestrum aurantiacum** Lindley, Bot. Reg. 30: Misc. 71. 1844.

黄花夜香树 *huang hua ye xiang shu*

Shrubs, pubescent on young growth, glabrescent. Petiole 1–1.4 cm; leaf blade ovate or elliptic, 4–7×2–4 cm. Inflorescences erect, terminal or axillary racemose panicles; bracts deciduous, leaflike, to 7 mm. Pedicel ca. 1 mm. Calyx campanulate, ca. 6 mm, sometimes with 5 prominent longitudinal ribs; teeth ca. 1 mm, often somewhat unequal. Corolla golden yellow, 1.4–2 cm, gradually expanded upwards, glabrous, lobes 3–4 mm. Filaments denticulate, pubescent at point of insertion. Berry white, ovoid, 7–11 mm; persistent calyx often splitting. Seeds ca. 4.

Guangdong [native to Central America].

