

ANCISTROCLADACEAE

钩枝藤科 *gou zhi teng ke*

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Lianas or scandent shrubs climbing by hooked apices of sympodial branches; juvenile growth erect, shrubby, monopodial; plants externally glabrous. Leaves alternate; juvenile leaves crowded in terminal rosettes; adult leaves distributed along stems and clustered terminally on branches; stipules absent or tiny and caducous; petiole absent, though leaves often appearing pseudopetiolate due to long attenuate base of blade; leaf blade simple, entire, both surfaces with sparsely to moderately distributed small pits, each pit containing a single trichome that secretes a waxy substance. Flowers small, bisexual, in extra-axillary or apparently terminal dichotomously branched panicles with higher order branches sometimes becoming racemiform or spiciform, regular except for often unequal sepals. Bracts tiny, subtending axes and pedicels. Sepals (4 or)5, seated on middle or upper part of ovary, imbricate, equal or unequal, accrescent and winglike in fruit. Petals (4 or)5, distinct or slightly connate at base, imbricate, convolute, and/or intermediate in bud. Stamens 10, in 1 or 2 whorls, equal or 5 somewhat larger than others, or seldom 8 or only 5; filaments equal or unequal in length, somewhat connate at base and adnate to base of petals; anthers basifixed, tetrasporangiate and dithecal, introrse, opening by longitudinal slits. Gynoecium of 3 carpels united to form a compound, 1-loculed ovary; ovary inferior or partially inferior; ovule solitary, basilateral, hemitropous, bitegmic; styles 1 or usually 3, thickened, oblong; stigmas 3. Fruit a nut surrounded by corky hypanthium and crowned by often unequal sepals. Seed with hard, starchy, ruminate endosperm; embryo short, straight.

One genus and 16 or 17 species: tropical Africa, India, Sri Lanka, SE Asia; one species in China.

Ku Tsuechih. 1999. *Ancistrocladaceae*. In: Ku Tsuechih, ed., *Fl. Reipubl. Popularis Sin.* 52(1): 270–271.

1. ANCISTROCLADUS Wallich, Numer. List No. 1052. 1829, nom. cons.

钩枝藤属 *gou zhi teng shu*

Wormia Vahl, *Skr. Naturhist.-Selsk.* 6: 105. 1810, not Rottbøl (1783); *Ancistrella* Tieghem; *Bembix* Loureiro; *Bigamea* K. Koenig ex Endlicher.

Morphological characters and geographic distribution are the same as those of the family.

1. *Ancistrocladus tectorius* (Loureiro) Merrill, *Lingnan Sci. J.* 6: 329. 1928 [1930].

钩枝藤 *gou zhi teng*

Bembix tectoria Loureiro, *Fl. Cochinch.* 1: 282. 1790; *Ancistrocladus caralloides* Craib; *A. cochinchinensis* Gagnepain; *A. extensus* Wallich ex Planchon; *A. hainanensis* Hayata; *A. harmandii* Gagnepain; *A. pinangianus* Wallich ex Planchon.

Juvenile plants unknown but probably erect. Adult stems climbing to 20 m high; lateral branches with recurved to spiraling hooks. Stipules tiny, mostly caducous with saddlelike scars on branches; leaves at branchlet apices elliptic to obovate, 7–38(–50.2) × 2.1–9.3(–11.7) cm, leathery, both surfaces frequently with small, white, orbicular pits, base attenuate and decurrent, apex rounded or rounded-obtuse, rarely acute; midvein prominent abaxially, impressed adaxially, lateral and reticulate tertiary veins tenuous, slightly prominent on both surfaces. Inflorescence lax to congested, paniculate, lateral among leaves at apices of branches; bracts triangular to ovate, 0.2–2.4 × 0.2–1.5 mm, abaxially eglandular or with 1 or 2 circular glands, margin

fimbriate-erose, apex acute. Pedicel 0.3–3 mm. Sepals 5, at base shortly decurrent on ovary, suborbicular to elliptic-oblong, slightly unequal, 3.2–5.5 mm, outside eglandular or with 1–4 shallowly cupular glands below middle, inside with white orbicular small pits near base, apex rounded. Petals 5, convolute, connate basally, suborbicular to obliquely elliptic, 5–6 mm, apex acute, usually involute. Stamens in 1 whorl, 5 longer than others; filaments wider basally, dimorphic: shorter ones 0.3–1.2 mm, longer ones 1.1–2 mm. Ovary fully inferior; styles 3, erect, ca. 1 mm; stigmas ca. 0.2 mm. Nut red, obconic, sides 5-ridged by decurrent margins of accrescent sepals, 5–9 mm, 5–10 mm in diam.; persistent sepals spreading, narrowly oblong to spatulate, unequal, larger 3 sepals 3–5.6 × 1–1.7(–2.5) cm, smaller 2 sepals 2–3(–4) × 0.5–1.2(–1.9) cm, veined, apex rounded. Seeds subglobose. Fl. Apr–Jun, fr. Jun [fl. and fr. year-round outside of China].

Evergreen tropical forests in valleys and on slopes; 500–700 m [sea level to 1600 m outside of China]. Hainan [Cambodia, India (Andaman and Nicobar Islands), Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam].

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