

**29. DIGITALIS** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 621. 1753.

毛地黄属 mao di huang shu

Herbs, rarely basally woody. Stems simple or branched at base. Leaves alternate, large, often crowded below, margin entire or toothed. Flowers in terminal, often secund racemes. Calyx 5-lobed; lobes imbricate. Corolla oblique, tubular-campanulate, often constricted beyond ovary, somewhat ventricose; limb slightly 2-lipped; lower lip 3-lobed, middle lobe longer than lateral lobes; upper lip lobes much reduced, emarginate. Stamens 4, didynamous, included; anthers touching in pairs, locules divaricate, apically confluent. Style 2-lobed. Capsule ovoid, septical. Seeds numerous, oblong to subovoid, small, ribbed; seed coat scrobiculate-reticulate.

About 25 species: Asia, Europe; one species cultivated in China.

**1. *Digitalis purpurea*** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 622. 1753.

毛地黄 mao di huang

Annuals or perennials, 60–120 cm tall, gray-white pubescent and glandular hairy except for corolla and sometimes for subglabrous stems. Stems 1 or few and cespitose. Basal leaves mostly rosulate; petiole narrowly winged, to 15 cm; leaf blade ovate to oblong-elliptic, 5–15 cm, base tapering, margin crenate and rarely serrate, apex acuminate to obtuse. Stem leaves similar to basal leaves, decreasing in size upward, sessile or short petiolate and forming bracts. Calyx campanulate, ca. 1 cm; segments free, oblong-ovate. Corolla purple to white, 3–4.5 cm, inside spotted, lobe apex white pubescent. Capsule ca. 1.5 cm. Seeds clavate, puberulent. Fl. May–Jun.

Native to Europe but sometimes naturalized in disturbed areas; low elevations. Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Zhejiang [Europe].

Cultivated as an ornamental and also used medicinally.

