

22. LEUCOSYKE Zollinger & Moritzi in Zollinger, Syst. Verz. 76. 1846.

四脉麻属 si mai ma shu

Chen Jiarui (陈家瑞 Chen Chia-ju); Ib Friis, C. Melanie Wilmot-Dear

Small trees or shrubs, without stinging hairs. Leaves alternate (or opposite outside Flora area), often distichous, petiolate; stipules caducous, intrapetiolar, connate, membranous, 2-lobed or entire; leaf blade papery, 3(-5)-veined, often tomentose abaxially, base asymmetric, margin crenate-serrate or entire; cystoliths punctiform. Inflorescences axillary, pedunculate, densely globose clusters of unisexual flowers (plants often dioecious); glomerules solitary or in dichotomous cymes. Male flowers: perianth lobes 4 or 5, valvate; stamens 4 or 5; rudimentary ovary ovoid, glabrous or woolly. Female flowers: perianth small, cupular, 4 or 5-lobed or -toothed, adnate to base of ovary. staminodes absent. Ovary obliquely ovoid, stigma sessile, penicillate, with tuft of long hairs; ovule orthotropous; Achene somewhat drupaceous, slightly compressed, with \pm fleshy pericarp. Seeds with thin endosperm; cotyledons elliptic.

About 35 species: tropical Asia and Pacific Islands; one species in China.

1. *Leucosyke quadrinervia* C. B. Robinson, Philipp. J. Sci., C, 6: 29. 1911.

四脉麻 si mai ma

Small trees or shrubs evergreen, to 7 m tall; bark dark brown. Branches often zigzagged, each node with an annular scar; young branchlets, stipules, and petioles densely appressed pubescent, glabrescent. Stipules lanceolate, 2-2.5 cm; petiole 0.5-1.5 cm; leaf blade adaxially green, obliquely ovate to obliquely elliptic, 5-16 \times 2.7-7 cm, papery, 3-5-veined at base, secondary veins 2-3 each side of midvein, adaxial surface

strigillose, appressed strigillose on veins, thinly gray woolly tomentose on veinlet meshes, base obliquely rounded, margin crenate-serrulate, apex shortly acuminate or acute. Cymes 0.5-1.5 cm; peduncle appressed pubescent; glomerules 4-7 mm, in fruit to 1.5 cm in diam. Male flowers: perianth lobes 4, narrowly ovate, 1.5-2 mm, connate at base, strigillose near apex; rudimentary ovary woolly at base. Achene broadly ovoid, 1.5-2 mm. Fl. Mar-May, fr. Jul-Aug.

Mixed rain forests, along streams; below 200 m. Taiwan (Lan Yu, Lu Dao) [Philippines].

The stem fibers are used to make ropes and sacks.

