

1. PENTHORUM Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 432. 1753.

扯根菜属 che gen cai shu

Pan Jintang (潘锦堂); Douglas E. Soltis

Herbs perennial, erect, fibrous rooted. Stems terete, glabrous proximally to finely pubescent and widely branched distally. Leaves alternate, shortly petiolate; leaf blade lanceolate or narrowly so, thin, apex long acuminate. Flowers numerous, arranged in terminal and axillary, scorpioid (or corymblike) cymes, bisexual, yellow-green, small. Sepals 5(–8). Petals 5(–8) or absent. Stamens 10(–16), in 2 whorls. Carpels 5(–8), connate near base; ovules many; styles short. Capsule 5(–8)-lobed; carpels rostrate at apex. Seeds many, small.

Two morphologically very similar species: one in E Asia, the other in E North America; one species in China.

Recent studies have demonstrated that *Penthorum* is not part of Saxifragaceae, but is actually most closely related to Haloragaceae.

1. *Penthorum chinense* Pursh, Fl. Amer. Sept. 1: 323. 1814.

扯根菜 che gen cai

Penthorum humile Regel & Maack; *P. intermedium* Turczaninow; *P. sedoides* Linnaeus subsp. *chinense* (Pursh) S. Y. Li & K. T. Adair; *P. sedoides* var. *chinense* (Pursh) Maximowicz.

Herbs perennial, large, 40–65(–90) cm tall. Rhizome branched. Stems usually simple, rarely branched at base, proximally glabrous, distally sparsely brown glandular hairy. Leaves sessile or subsessile; leaf blade lanceolate to narrowly so, 4–10 cm × 4–12 mm, glabrous, margin serrulate, apex acuminate. Cyme 1.5–4 cm; branches brown glandular hairy; bracts ovate to narrowly so, small; pedicels 1–2.2 mm, brown glandular hairy. Flowers yellowish, small. Sepals 5, triangular, ca. 1.5 × 1.1 mm, leathery, glabrous, 1-veined. Petals 5 or absent. Stamens 10, ca. 2.5 mm. Pistil ca. 3.1 mm; carpels 5(or 6), connate near base; ovary 5(or 6)-loculed; styles 5(or 6). Capsule red-purple, 4–5 mm in diam. Seeds ovoid-oblong, tuberculate. Fl. and fr. Jul–Aug. $2n = 16$.

Forests, scrub meadows, wet places along rivers in lowlands, by water; 100–2200 m. Anhui, Gansu, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Jilin, Liaoning, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Yunnan [Japan, Korea, Laos, Mongolia, Russia, Thailand, Vietnam].

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