

3. HEDYOSMUM Swartz, Prodr. 5, 84. 1788.

雪香兰属 xue xiang lan shu

Trees or erect subshrubs, monoecious or dioecious; branches jointed. Leaves opposite, usually serrate; petiole connate, forming a sheath at base. Inflorescences axillary or subterminal. Flowers unisexual, fragrant. Male flowers clustered in spikes; stamen 1; filaments nearly absent; anther 2-loculed, linear or oblong, transversely arranged; connective with a short appendage at apex. Female flowers in various capitula or panicles; tube of perianth 3-toothed, calyxlike, adnate to ovary; style very short or absent. Drupes globose or ovoid, sometimes trigonous, small; exocarp thin, fleshy; endocarp usually hard.

About 41 species: tropical America, SE Asia; one species in China.

1. *Hedyosmum orientale* Merrill & Chun, Sunyatsenia 5: 36. 1940.

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Herbs or subshrubs to 2 m tall, dioecious. Stems erect, glabrous. Petiole 0.5–2 cm, basal sheath cupular or tubular, membranous, 8–10 mm, apex truncate; leaf blade narrowly lanceolate, 10–23 × 1.5–4 cm, membranous or papery, glandular mucronate, pale yellow abaxially when dry, olive green adaxially when dry, base cuneate, margin densely serrulate, apex gradually angustate becoming caudate; midvein prominent abaxially, curved adaxially; lateral veins 15–22 pairs. Male spikes 3–5, clustered at apex of branches, pedunculate, 1.5–3.5 cm excluding peduncle at anthesis; bracts 0.8–1.2 cm; stamen 1; filament absent; anther oblong, ca. 2 mm, connective with a projected, acute appendage at apex, 0.7–1 mm. Female inflorescences terminal or axillary, branches few, 1.5–5 cm, ca. 2 cm wide; bracts large, 0.8–1.2 cm, with many small, orange-yellow spots. Drupes green, subellipsoid-trigonous, ca. 4 mm; apical part of bracts tightly adnate to fruit, elongated into a long beak. Fl. Dec–Mar, fr. Feb–Jun.

Forests, thickets, forested ravines; ca. 500 m. Guangdong, Hainan [Indonesia, S Vietnam].

The name *Hedyosmum nutans* Swartz was misapplied to this species by E. D. Merrill (Lingnan Sci. J. 5: 59. 1927).

