Flora of China 5: 240-241. 2003.

1. KORTHALSELLA Tieghem, Bull. Soc. Bot. France 43: 83. 1896.

栗寄生属 li ji sheng shu

Bifaria Tieghem; *Pseudixus* Hayata.

Shrubs or subshrubs parasitic on flowering plants, monoecious. Branches opposite or dichotomous; stem internodes usually flattened, successive internodes in the same plane. Leaves reduced to scales, in 2 ranks, usually fused into a ring. Inflorescence axillary, a cyme, the flowers in each group developing successively to form a dense cluster; peduncle and pedicel ± absent; bracts absent, but flowers subtended by hairs. Male flower globose in mature bud; perianth lobes 3. Anthers sessile, circular, 2-loculed, introrse, connate into a synandrium, dehiscence longitudinal. Pollen grains prolate, semicircular in polar view. Female flower ovoid in mature bud; perianth lobes 3, minute. Placentation free, central. Style absent; stigma nipple-shaped. Berry ellipsoid or pyriform, mostly less than 4 mm, crowned by persistent perianth, exocarp smooth, weakly explosively dehiscent at maturity.

About 25 species: tropical and temperate regions of the Old World (except Europe); one species in China.

1. Korthalsella japonica (Thunberg) Engler in Engler & Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenfam., Nachtr. 1: 138. 1897.

栗寄生 li ji sheng

Viscum japonicum Thunberg, Trans. Linn. Soc. London 2: 329. 1794; *Bifaria davidiana* Tieghem; *B. fasciculata* Tieghem; *B. japonica* (Thunberg) Tieghem; *B. opuntia* Merrill, nom. illeg. superfl.; *Korthalsella fasciculata* (Tieghem) Lecomte; *K. japonica* var. *fasciculata* (Tieghem) H. S. Kiu; *K. moniliformis* (Wight & Arnott) Lecomte; *K. opuntia* Merrill, nom. illeg. superfl.; *K. opuntia* var. *fasciculata* (Tieghem) Danser; *Pseudixus japonicus* (Thunberg) Hayata; *Viscum moniliforme* Wight & Arnott (1834), not Blume (1826); *V. opuntia* Thunberg, nom. illeg. superfl.

Plants green, 5–15 cm tall. Branches usually opposite; stem internodes narrowly obovate or oblanceolate-obovate, 7–17 × (2–)3–6 mm, longitudinally 1-ribbed when dried. Leaves fused into a ring. Inflorescence lateral at node. Male flower greenish, subglobose in bud, ca. 0.5 mm; perianth lobes triangular. Synadrium spheric. Female flower ellipsoid or ovoid in bud, 5–7 mm; perianth lobes triangular, minute. Berry yellowish, ca. 2 × 1.5 mm. Fl. and fr. Jan–Dec.

Forests, scrub, mountain slopes, valleys, islands; 100–700(–2500) m. Fujian, S Gansu, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hainan, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, S Shaanxi, Sichuan, Taiwan, Xizang (Bomi), Yunnan, Zhejiang [Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; E Africa (and Madagascar), Australia, Indian Ocean Islands].

The plants are parasitic on *Adinandra millettii*, *Camellia caudata*, *C. oleifera*, *C. sinensis* var. *assamica*, *Carpinus turczaninowii*, *Quercus baronii*, *Q. setulosa*, *Syzygium buxifolium*, *Tutcheria spectabilis*, and species of *Ilex*, *Rhododendron*, *Symplocos*, and Lauraceae.

This species has often been confused with the more widespread *Korthalsella taenioides* (Commerson ex Candolle) Engler, which differs by having internodes with eight or more longitudinal veins. The Chinese material belongs to f. *japonica*. The form f. *rubra* (Tieghem) Molvray, a rather larger plant, commonly more than 15 cm tall with segments more than 10 mm, was first described from Australia and has been recorded from N India and Japan; it could occur in the Flora area. A third form with almost terete segments, f. *grayi* (Barlow) Molvray, is restricted to Australia.