

18. DIPLECTRIA (Blume) Reichenbach, Deut. Bot. Herb.-Buch 174. 1841.

藤牡丹属 teng mu dan shu

Dissochaeta sect. *Diplectria* Blume, Flora 14: 501. 1831.

Climbers or scandent shrubs. Stems squamose, glabrous or pubescent. Leaves shortly petiolate; secondary veins 1 or 2 on each side of midvein, margin entire. Inflorescences terminal or axillary, cymose paniculate, sometimes bracteate. Flowers small, 4-merous. Hypanthium tubular-campanulate to campanulate, squamose, glabrous or pubescent, apex truncate or inconspicuous. Petals white, ovate to oblong, glabrous. Stamens 8, whorls unequal in shape and length. Longer stamens with anthers oblong to linear-oblong, base abaxially 2-tuberculate and abaxially spurred or not, apex usually beaked. Shorter stamens abortive; anthers rhomboid-ovate, usually papery, abaxially long caudate-spurred, adaxially 2-setose at base. Ovary inferior, ovate, apex truncate. Style filiform; stigma apiculate. Fruit a berry, subglobular to ovate, apex often with persistent calyx lobes. Seeds numerous, cuneate, small, angular.

Between eight and eleven species: China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Guinea, Philippines, Vietnam; one species in China.

Diplectria is often considered as a synonym of *Dissochaeta* Blume (see Renner et al., Fl. Thailand 7(3): 419–420. 2001). *Dissochaeta* when including *Diplectria* has ca. 40 species and a similar geographic distribution.

1. *Diplectria barbata* (Wallich ex C. B. Clarke) Franken & M. C. Roos, Blumea 24: 415. 1978.

藤牡丹 teng mu dan

Anplectrum barbatum Wallich ex C. B. Clarke in J. D. Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 2: 546. 1879; *Backeria barbata* (Wallich ex C. B. Clarke) Raizada.

Climbers or scandent shrubs, 3–4 m tall. Stems obtusely 4-sided, sparsely stellate pilose, later subterete and glabrescent. Petiole ca. 5 mm, densely stellate pilose, both sides setose; leaf blade oblong, broadly lanceolate, or oblong-ovate, 8–12 × 2.8–4 cm, stiffly papery to subpapery, both surfaces with stellate trichomes but glabrescent, secondary veins 2 on each side of midvein, base slightly cordate to subcordate, margin entire, apex acuminate. Inflorescences terminal, cymose paniculate,

ca. 22 × 12 cm, many-flowered, with dense stellate trichomes. Pedicel 2–5 mm, with stellate trichomes. Hypanthium tubular-campanulate, 5–7 mm, with stellate trichomes. Calyx lobes inconspicuous. Petals white, broadly ovate, ca. 7 × 6 mm, apex acute. Longer stamens ca. 1.2 cm; anthers ca. 8 mm, U-curved, abaxially spurred, adaxially 2-tuberculate at base. Shorter stamens abortive, ca. 2.5 mm; anthers papery, rhomboid-ovate, ca. 1 mm, margin denticulate, abaxially with a spur ca. 2 mm, adaxially at base with 2 setae ca. 1 mm. Ovary ovoid, apex truncate. Fl. Jun or Nov, fr. Jun–Jul.

Dense forests, climbing up trees; ca. 400 m. Hainan [India, Malaysia, Vietnam].

This species has also been treated as a synonym of *Dissochaeta divaricata* (Willdenow) G. Don (Renner et al., Fl. Thailand 7(3): 423–424. 2001). In addition to Hainan, *D. divaricata* sensu lato occurs in India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Flora of China 13: 392. 2007.