

16. METAPANAX J. Wen & Frodin, Brittonia 53: 117. 2001.

梁王茶属 liang wang cha shu

Trees, small, or shrubs, evergreen, hermaphroditic (?or functionally andromonoecious), unarmed, glabrous. Leaves simple, palmately lobed or palmately compound, margins serrate; stipules absent. Inflorescence a terminal panicle of umbels, secondary axes with a terminal umbel of bisexual flowers, often also with 1 or 2(or 3) lateral umbels of smaller, later-blooming ?functionally male flowers. Pedicels articulate below ovary. Calyx rim entire or 5-toothed. Petals 5, valvate. Stamens 5. Ovary 2(–4)-carpellate; styles 2(–4), free to base or united up to 2/3 of their length. Fruit a drupe, laterally compressed. Seeds laterally compressed; endosperm smooth.

Two species: C and W China, N Vietnam; two species in China.

The first author recently included *Metapanax* in *Macropanax* (Shang and Ji, J. Nanjing Forest. Univ. 30(6): 41–43. 2006), casting doubt on the value of the morphological features used by Wen and Frodin (Brittonia 53: 116–121. 2001) to distinguish the two genera, an interpretation that is not favored by the second author.

- 1a. Leaves simple, entire or 3-lobed, rarely palmately compound with 3 sessile leaflets usually more than 2.5 cm wide 1. *M. davidii*
1b. Leaves usually palmately compound (rarely simple); leaflets 2–5, 1–2.5(–4) cm wide, subsessile or with distinct petiolules to 10 mm 2. *M. delavayi*

1. **Metapanax davidii** (Franchet) J. Wen & Frodin, Brittonia 53: 117. 2001.

异叶梁王茶 yi ye liang wang cha

Panax davidii Franchet, Nouv. Arch. Mus. Hist. Nat., sér. 2, 8: 248. 1886 [“*davidii*”]; *Acanthopanax bockii* (Harms) R. Viguier; *A. davidii* (Franchet) R. Viguier; *A. diversifolius* Hemsley; *Aralia bodinieri* H. Léveillé; *Macropanax davidii* (Franchet) C. B. Shang & C. F. Ji; *Nothopanax bockii* Harms; *N. bodinieri* (H. Léveillé) S. Y. Hu; *N. davidii* (Franchet) Harms; *N. davidii* var. *gongshanensis* C. B. Shang; *N. diversifolius* (Hemsley) Harms; *N. latifolius* Handel-Mazzetti; *Pseudopanax davidii* (Franchet) Philipson.

Trees, small, to ca. 12 m tall. Petiole 3–20 cm, slender to stout; leaves simple, entire or 3-lobed, rarely palmately compound; blade oblong-ovate to oblong-lanceolate, 6–20 × (2.5–)3.5–6.5 cm, leathery, 3-veined from base, secondary veins 6–8 pairs, not prominently conspicuous, base acute to broadly cuneate, occasionally rounded, margin sparsely serrate, apex acuminate. Inflorescence terminal, a panicle of umbels; primary axis 6–12(–30) cm, secondary axes 1.5–3(–4.5) cm; umbels 1.5–2.5 cm in diam.; pedicels 6–8 mm at anthesis, 7–10 mm in fruit. Fruit laterally compressed, circular, 5–6 mm in diam.; styles united 1/2–2/3 their length, rarely free to base. Fl. Jun–Aug, fr. Sep–Oct.

Common in scrub, stream banks, forest margins, roadsides; 800–3000 m. Guizhou, Hubei, Hunan, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Yunnan [N Vietnam].

Two varieties (*Nothopanax davidii* var. *davidii* and var. *gongshanensis*) have sometimes been distinguished on the basis of minor

differences in the petiole and inflorescence, but they were not retained by Wen and Frodin when those authors described *Metapanax*.

2. **Metapanax delavayi** (Franchet) J. Wen & Frodin, Brittonia 53: 118. 2001.

梁王茶 liang wang cha

Panax delavayi Franchet, J. Bot. (Morot) 10: 305. 1896; *Acanthopanax delavayi* (Franchet) R. Viguier; *Macropanax delavayi* (Franchet) C. B. Shang & C. F. Ji; *Metapanax delavayi* var. *longicaudatus* (K. M. Feng) R. Li & H. Li; *Nothopanax delavayi* (Franchet) Harms; *N. delavayi* var. *longicaudatus* K. M. Feng; *Pseudopanax delavayi* (Franchet) Philipson.

Shrubs, to 5 m tall. Petiole 4–15 cm, slender; leaves palmately compound, rarely simple; leaflets subsessile or petiolules to 1 cm; leaflets 2–5, oblong-lanceolate to narrowly ovate or obovate, 5–13 × 1–2.5(–4) cm, leathery, base acute, margin serrulate, apex acuminate. Inflorescence terminal, a panicle of umbels; primary axis to 10(–15) cm, secondary axes 1–1.5 cm; umbels 1.5–2 cm in diam.; pedicels 3–5 mm. Fruit laterally compressed, circular to slightly oblate, 4–5 mm in diam.; styles 1.5–2 mm, united up to 1/2 of length, forked or divided nearly to base, free arms recurved. Fl. Sep–Oct, fr. Dec–Jan.

Mixed forests, scrub in valleys; 1500–3000 m. Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan [N Vietnam].

This species is used medicinally.

Two varieties (*Nothopanax delavayi* var. *delavayi* and var. *longicaudatus*) have sometimes been distinguished on the basis of minor differences in leaf size and the shape of the apex, but they were not retained by Wen and Frodin when those authors described *Metapanax*.

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