

4. **ATROPANTHE** Pascher, Oesterr. Bot. Z. 59: 329. 1909.

天蓬子属 tian peng zi shu

Subshrubs or perennial herbs, glabrous. Rhizomes thick. Stems erect, terete or angled, di- or trichotomously branched. Leaves mostly paired, petiolate, entire. Inflorescences solitary flowers axillary or lateral on stems. Flowers nodding, 5-merous, zygomorphic. Pedicel elongate. Calyx tubular-campanulate or somewhat urceolate, slightly inflated, somewhat bent, 15-veined, with 5 main veins; lobes subequal. Corolla slightly zygomorphic, tubular-campanulate, twice as long as calyx, 15-veined; lobes subequal, quincuncial in bud. Stamens inserted in corolla tube, unequal, shorter than or equaling corolla; filaments pubescent at base; anthers dehiscing longitudinally. Disc ringlike, indistinctly lobed. Ovary 2-locular. Fruiting pedicel hardly thickened. Fruiting calyx inflated at base, contracted below apex but open, abruptly inserted on pedicel and easily detached from it after drying. Fruit a globose capsule. Seeds rectangular, somewhat compressed, netted.

Monotypic: endemic to China.

This genus differs from *Scopolia* and *Anisodus* in its zygomorphic flowers, shape of calyx, and in other features. *Atropanthe mairei* (H. Léveillé) H. Léveillé was identified by Lauener (Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh 37: 147. 1978) as *Cyananthus albiflorus* Chamberlain, *Campanulaceae*.

1. *Atropanthe sinensis* (Hemsley) Pascher, Oesterr. Bot. Z. 59: 330. 1909.

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Scopolia sinensis Hemsley, J. Linn. Soc., Bot. 26: 176. 1890; *Anisodus sinensis* (Hemsley) Pascher.

Plants 0.8–1.5 m tall. Stems usually dark blue-purple. Petiole 1–4.5 cm; leaf blade elliptic to ovate, 11–22×4–12 cm, papery, glabrous, base cuneate, slightly decurrent, apex acuminate. Pedicel 1–2.5 cm, glabrous. Calyx papery, ca. 2 cm, glabrous, lobes deltate or rounded, erose or ciliate, glabrescent. Corolla yellow-green, ca. 3.2 cm, sparsely pubescent abaxially, pubescent adaxially at point of filament insertion; 1 lobe larger and semirounded, 2 lateral lobes deltate-rounded, remaining lobe rounded. Stamens included; filaments ca. 2 cm; anthers subcordate, 4–4.5 mm. Disc orange-red. Fruiting pedicel 3–3.5 cm. Fruiting calyx conical, ovoid, or oblong, 2.5–3 cm in diam., open at apex. Capsules 1.8–2 cm in diam. Seeds brown, ca. 3×2.5 mm, wavy-netted. Fl. Apr-Jul, fr. Aug-Sep.

• Humid places, along ditches, forests; 1400–3000 m. NW Guizhou, W Hubei, SE Sichuan, NE Yunnan.

A source of tropane alkaloids, the roots are used medicinally for relieving muscular spasm and pain.

