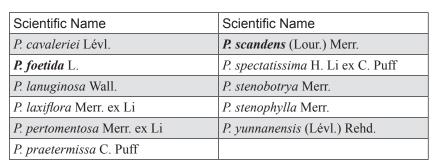
# Paederia foetida Skunk vine

#### Introduction

The genus *Paederia* contains 20-30 species worldwide, generally distributed in the tropics of Asia. In China, eleven species and one variety have been reported, occurring mainly in the south and southwest China<sup>[47]</sup>.

## Species of Paederia in China



## **Taxonomy**

Family: Rubiaceae Genus: Paederia L.

### **Description**

Paederia foetida, a twining vine-like shrub, may release a strong fetid odor when bruised. The opposite, membranous leaves are ovate to lanceolate, 5-10 cm long and 2-4 cm wide, with mucronate apices and rounded to cordate bases. The upper leaf surface is glabrous, the

underside pubescent. Conspicuous stipules are ovate lanceolate and 2-3 mm in length, with two notches in the top. Flowering terminally or from leaf axils, panicles reach a length of 6-18 cm. Corollas are violet, 12-16 mm long, and commonly hair-covered with short lobes. Topped with a conical flower discs and persistant lobes of the calyx, fruits are shiny black, broadly elliptic, with oblate nutlets 6-8 mm both long and wide, each with one broad wing<sup>[47]</sup>.





Paederia foetida growth habit. (Photo by Ken A. Langeland, University of Florida.)

Paederia scandens (Lour.) Merr., fever vine, is more common than *P. foetida*. It is a twining vine with a length of 3-5 m. It grows on hillsides, in forests, along forest edges, along streamsides, and twining on trees at elevations of 300-2,000 m in Anhui, Fujian, Guangdong, Sichuan, Taiwan, Yunnan, and Zhejiang<sup>[47]</sup>.

Although there are some differences in appearance between *Paederia foetida* and *P. scandens*, recent work has reduced *P. scandens* to a synonym of *P. foetida*<sup>[125]</sup>.

#### **Habitat and Distribution**

*Paederia foetida* is reported to occur in the southern coastal provinces of Fujian and Guangdong <sup>[47]</sup> and is suspected in the island provice of Hainan <sup>[5]</sup>. *P. foetida* can be found in sparse forests at low elevations <sup>[47]</sup>.

#### **Economic Importance**

The shading effect of *Paederia scandens* may cause crop damage. It is medically useful and it is also used in treating pesticide poisoning<sup>[47]</sup>.

#### Natural Enemies of Paederia

At least six fungi and seven arthropods are reported to attack *Paederia* spp.

# Fungi

Phylum	Family	Species	H. R.	Ref.
Basidiomycota	Coleosporiaceae	Coleosporium paederiae Dietel	00	23
	Incertae sedis	Uredo paederiae Syd. & P. Syd.	00	23
	Pucciniaceae	Puccinia paederiae Dietel	mo	23
		Puccinia zoysiae Dietel	po	23
			†	149
Anamorphic Guignardia		Phyllostictina paederiae Petr.	mo	23
Anamorphic Mycosphaerella		Cercospora paederiae Tai	mo	23‡
		Pseudocercospora paederiae Sawada ex Goh & W.H. Hsieh	mo	110

<sup>†</sup> Appears as spring spore of Aecidium paederiaei

# **Arthropods**

Order	Family	Species	H. R.	Ref.
Acariformes	Tetranychidae	Tetranychus hydrangeae Pritchard et Baker	po	142
Coleoptera	Chrysomelidae	Phygasia fulvipennis (Baly)	00	65
Homoptera	Aphididae	Aulacorthum nipponicus (Essig et Kuwana)	mo	65
Lepidoptera		Gurelca himachala (Butler)	mo	206
			mo	208
		Gurelca hyas (Walker)	po	206
	Cultingides		po	208
	Sphingidae	Macroglossum corythus luteata (Butler)	po	206
			po	208
		Macroglossum pyrrhosticta (Butler)	mo	206
			mo	208

<sup>‡</sup> Regarded as synonym of *Pseudocercospora paederiae* Sawada ex Goh & W.H. Hsieh [110]