

**71. CITHARELOMA** Bunge, Delect. Seminum Hort. Bot. Dorpat. 1843: 6. 1843.

对枝菜属 *dui zhi cai shu*

Herbs annual. Trichomes eglandular, subsessile, stellate, with basally forked rays, sometimes mixed with long-stalked dendritic ones, rarely with a few simple ones on the stem. Stems erect, often with two opposite basal branches from axils of cotyledons, other branches alternate. Basal leaves soon withered. Cauline leaves petiolate, dentate or entire. Racemes few flowered, ebracteate, elongated in fruit. Fruiting pedicels divaricate. Sepals narrowly oblong, connivent, erect, base of lateral pair strongly saccate. Petals purple, pink, or white, longer than sepals; blade narrowly oblanceolate or oblong-obovate, apex obtuse; claw distinct. Stamens 6, strongly tetradynamous; filaments not dilated at base; anthers linear, obtuse at apex. Nectar glands 2, lateral, semiannular, intrastaminal; median glands absent. Ovules 4–24 per ovary. Fruit dehiscent siliques or silicles, linear, oblong, or ovate, strongly latiseptate; valves papery, with a distinct midvein, pubescent, strongly torulose; gynophore absent or rarely to 1 mm; replum rounded, undulate; septum complete, thickened, opaque, veinless; style slender, 1–5 mm; stigma conical, 2-lobed, lobes prominent, connivent, decurrent. Seeds uniseriate, broadly winged, orbicular or nearly so, strongly flattened; seed coat minutely reticulate, not mucilaginous when wetted; cotyledons accumbent.

Two species: C and SW Asia; one species in China.

**1. *Cithareloma vernum*** Bunge, *Linnaea* 18: 150. 1844.

对枝菜 *dui zhi cai*

Herbs 6–20 cm tall. Stems pubescent with stellate subsessile trichomes sometimes mixed basally with much coarser, long-stalked subdendritic ones to 3 mm. Petiole of middle leaves 0.5–1.5 cm; leaf blade ovate to oblong-ovate, 2–5(–8) × 1–2(–3) cm, uniformly pubescent with subsessile stellate trichomes, base cuneate, margin sinuate-dentate, dentate, or repand, apex obtuse. Fruiting pedicels 1.5–2.5(–3) mm, stout. Sepals 4–5 × 0.5–0.8 mm. Petals white or purple, 7–10 × ca. 1 mm; claw 4–5 mm. Filaments 2–4 mm; anthers 0.9–1.2 mm. Ovules (14–)18–24 per ovary. Fruit linear, (3–)3.5–4.5(–5) cm × 3–5(–6) mm; valves with subsessile stellate trichomes mixed with coarser, subdendritic ones on stalks (0.5–)0.7–1.7(–2) mm, strongly torulose; gynophore obsolete; style 2–5 mm. Seeds orbicular to ovate-orbicular, 3.5–5 mm in diam., wing 0.5–0.7 (–1) mm. Fl. Mar–May, fr. May–Jul.

Sandy areas, deserts. Gansu, Xinjiang [Kazakstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan].

This is the first record of *Cithareloma* from China, based on *Team F–357* (PE), from Gansu, and *Anonymous 79–249* (PE) and *Team M–55* (PE), from Xinjiang. The species was misidentified as *Matthiola stoddartii* Bunge in FRPS and Fl. Xinjiang. (2(2): 164. 1995). The latter species is distributed from Afghanistan N into C Kazakstan.

