

1. ENSETE Horaninow, Prodr. Monogr. Scitam. 8, 40. 1862.

象腿蕉属 *xiang tui jiao shu*

Herbs monocarpic. Stem 1, remaining short until flowering. Pseudostem composed of clasping leaf sheaths, tall, base swollen to strongly so and jarlike. Leaves large, base often narrowed into a petiole; leaf sheath lax; leaf blade oblong. Inflorescence rosulate when young, becoming elongate and pendulous with age. Bracts green, usually persistent. Flowers in 2 rows per bract; flowers in proximal bracts female (with reduced stamens) or bisexual; flowers in distal bracts male (with reduced gynoecium). Compound tepal linear, apex often 3-lobed, without 2 accessory teeth between lobes; free tepal usually wider than compound one, apex often 3-cuspidate or entire. Stamens 5. Berries leathery, dry or with very scanty pulp. Seeds few, globose or irregular, often more than (0.5–) 1 cm in diam., usually smooth; hilum conspicuous, irregular, usually deeply sunken.

Ten species: mainly in Africa, extending to S and SE Asia; two species (one endemic) in China.

- 1a. Pseudostem to 5 m (measured to crown of leaves at maturity); leaf blade 1.4–1.8 m, base cuneate; compound tepal ca. 2.5 cm; fruit obovoid-oblong; seeds smooth 1. *E. glaucum*
1b. Pseudostem ca. 1.7 m (measured to crown of leaves at maturity); leaf blade ca. 3.3 m, base slightly cordate to truncate; compound tepal ca. 5 cm; fruit trigonous clavate; seeds slightly wrinkled 2. *E. wilsonii*

1. *Ensete glaucum* (Roxburgh) Cheesman, Kew Bull. 2: 101. 1947.

• Wild or cultivated in fertile soil in ravines; near sea level to 2700 m. Yunnan.

象腿蕉 *xiang tui jiao*

The species is used to feed pigs.

Musa glauca Roxburgh, Pl. Coromandel 3: 96. 1820.

Plants not stoloniferous, sap pale yellow-orange. Pseudostem yellow-green, with black-purple spots when old, cylindrical, to 5 m (measured to crown of leaves at maturity), base swollen and jarlike. Petiole short; leaf blade oblong, 1.4–1.8 m × 50–60 cm, glabrous, base cuneate, apex caudate. Inflorescence cylindrical, to 2.5 m. Bracts numerous, imbricate, persistent. Flowers 10–20 per bract. Compound tepal ca. 2.5 cm, apex 3-cleft; free tepal obcordate, shorter than compound tepal, apex with a large mucro. Berries purplish black, glaucous, obovoid-oblong, ca. 9 × 3.5 cm, base acuminate, apex rounded and with persistent perianth. Seeds black, globose, ca. 1.2 cm in diam., smooth. Fl. and fr. all year. $2n = 18$.

Wild or cultivated in mountainous areas; 800–1100 m. S and W Yunnan [India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand].

The species is used to feed pigs.

2. *Ensete wilsonii* (Tutcher) Cheesman, Kew Bull. 2: 103. 1947.

象头蕉 *xiang tou jiao*

Musa wilsonii Tutcher, Gard. Chron., ser. 3, 32: 450. 1902.

Pseudostem conical, ca. 1.7 m tall (measured to crown of leaves at maturity), 38–45 cm in diam. at base, 18–20 cm in diam. immediately below basal leaves of crown. Petiole ca. 60 cm, deeply channeled; leaf blade oblong, 3.3–4 m × 60–70 cm, base truncate to slightly cordate, apex acute. Inflorescence ca. 1 m, ca. 38 cm. in diam. at base, 10–13 cm in diam. at apex. Bracts green, persistent, proximal ones lanceolate, ca. 30 cm, distal ones ovate, much shorter than proximal ones. Flowers 15–20 per bract. Tepals white; compound tepal ca. 5 cm, apex 3-lobed, lobes free or laxly coherent; free tepal short, less than 1/2 as long as compound tepal, apex 3-cuspidate, central cusp linear, large. Berries golden yellow, trigonous clavate, 9–11.5 × ca. 4 cm, pulpy. Seeds ca. 20, black, 1–1.3 cm in diam., angled, slightly wrinkled. Fl. Jun, fr. Oct.

