
Key to the species of *Capparis* L. in Lao PDR

1. Flowers in supra-axillary rows 2
 - Flowers solitary or in terminal or lateral inflorescences 11
2. Shoots without cataphylls 3
 - Shoots with cataphylls at the base 9
3. Innovations with tomentum initially reddish or orangish; gynophore during anthesis pubescent or puberulous at base *C. zeylanica* L.
 - Innovations glabrous or with fulvous-brownish tomentum; gynophore during anthesis nearly always glabrous 4
4. Sepals (4–)5–10 mm long; stamens ca 20–61 5
 - Sepals 5 mm long or shorter; stamens (7–)8–25 6
5. Stamens ca 47–61 *C. florida* Fici & Souvann.
 - Stamens 20–35 *C. acutifolia* Sweet
6. Innovations with stellate, ferruginous hairs or glabrescent; thorns straight, slightly recurved or lacking 7
 - Innovations whitish pubescent-tomentose, glabrous or early glabrescent; thorns vigorous, recurved 8
7. Sepals 2.5–4 mm wide, minutely hairy outside; stamens ca 20–25 *C. pyrifolia* Lam.
 - Sepals 2–3 mm wide, glabrous outside; stamens ca 14–20 *C. urophylla* F.Chun
8. Sepals (2.5–)3–4.5(–5.5) mm long; stamens (7–)8–18; fruit ca 0.7–1(–1.3) cm in diameter *C. tenera* Dalzell
 - Sepals ca 5 mm long; stamens 8–10; fruit ca 2 cm in diameter *C. echinocarpa* Pierre ex Gagnep.
9. Sepals 20–25 mm long; petals 35–45 mm long *C. macrantha* Souvann., Fici & Lanors. sp. nov.
 - Sepals up to 13 mm long; petals up to 25 mm long 10
10. Twigs firstly pubescent or puberulous, later glabrous; petiole 6–10(–15) mm long *C. micracantha* DC.
 - Twigs glabrous, densely set with minute warts; petiole 5–6 mm long *C. radula* Gagnep.
11. Flowers axillary, solitary 12
 - Flowers in subumbels, panicles, racemes or conferted at the top of twigs 13
12. Petiole 3–4(–7) mm; pedicel 1–3 cm long; sepals 6–8 mm long; petals ca 8–9 mm long; stamens 6–7(–12) *C. flavicans* Kurz
 - Petiole ca 7–13 mm long; pedicel 0.75–1.25 cm long; sepals 8–10 mm long; petals (13–)18–27 mm long; stamens ca 36–46 *C. siamensis* Kurz
13. Innovations glabrous; leaf-blade narrowly lanceolate, ca 7.1–9.2 times as long as wide *C. lanceolatifolia* Fici, Bouaman. & Souvann.
 - Innovations pubescent, puberulous or glabrescent; leaf-blade not lanceolate, less than 4 times as long as wide 14

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14. Innovations sparsely puberulous with stellate, 2-armed and simple hairs or glabrescent, usually surrounded by cataphylls at the base *C. hinnamnoensis* Souvann. & Fici
 – Innovations pubescent or puberulous, with simple or 2-armed hairs 15
15. Sepals ca 9–12 mm long; stamens ca (30–)60–70 *C. trinervia* Hook.f. & Thomson
 – Sepals up to 7.5 mm long; stamens up to 45 16
16. Thorns recurved or wanting; inflorescence short, terminal or lateral umbel or subumbel, or flowers conferted at the top of lateral twigs 17
 – Thorns straight, up to 1 mm long, or wanting; inflorescence terminal or subterminal panicle or raceme, more than 11 cm long 20
17. Thorns wanting or slightly recurved, up to 2–3 mm long; petiole 10–12 mm long; flowers conferted at the top of lateral twigs *C. khuamak* Gagnep.
 – Thorns always present, recurved, up to 5(–8) mm long; petiole up to 7 mm long; flowers in terminal or lateral umbels or subumbels 18
18. Leaves ca 15–20 cm long; petals ca 10 mm long *C. laotica* Gagnep.
 – Leaves up to 10 cm long. Petals up to ca 7.5 mm long 19
19. Leaves ca 2–3.5(–4) cm long; sepals ca 2 mm wide *C. thorelii* Gagnep.
 – Leaves (1.5–)3.5–5.5(–10) cm long; sepals 3–5 mm wide *C. sepiaria* L.
20. Innovations densely pubescent with simple hairs; leaves ca 7–11 cm long
 *C. mekongensis* Gagnep.
 – Innovations sparsely pubescent with 2-armed hairs; leaves (15–)18–21 cm long
 *C. assamica* Hook.f. & Thomson