



# 香港的秋山紅葉與金縷梅科植物

## The Autumn Leaves and the Hamamelidaceae of Hong Kong

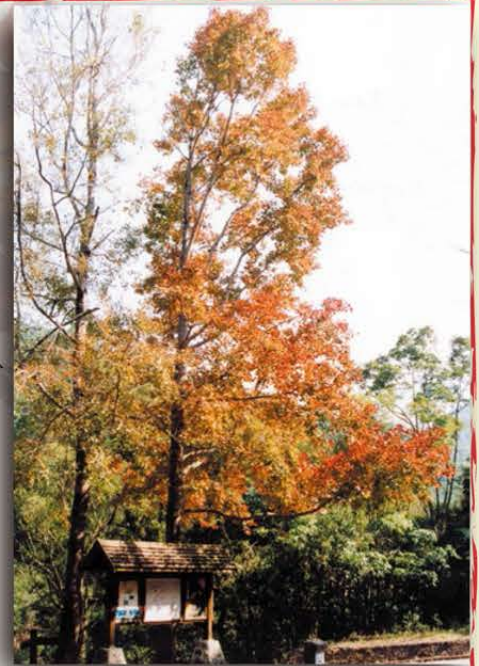
在秋天，葉片變紅的樹木，由翠綠及金黃的叢林襯托，別有一番景象。其中楓香樹是秋色的重要成員，被稱為「紅葉之首」，除了在中國北方及歐美的溫帶地區，本港的大埔滘林區也有不少楓香，秋冬時，與漆樹、烏桕及山烏桕等呈現紅綠相映的景致。

其實，金縷梅科的植物均各具特色，除了著名的楓香之外，也有一些本港及華南特有的種類，例如四藥門花和紅花荷，都在香港首先被發現。本科植物在全世界共有30屬140種，主要分布於亞洲東南部，少數在北美洲、澳大利亞及南非。中國有18屬74種，在香港原生的有9屬12種。

金縷梅科在顯花植物中歷史非常悠久，小阿丁楓 (*Microaltingia*) 最早的化石紀錄出現在距今九千萬年前的美國新澤西州地層中；楓香和蕁樹也早在七千萬年前已分化為許多屬。金縷梅科植物的一些特徵，在種屬之間變化很廣，充份反映了自然界多姿多采的魅力。

許多金縷梅科植物都具有重要的經濟價值，可作藥用（如楓香）、材用（大果馬蹄荷、楓香、欖木）及觀賞用（紅花欖木、紅花荷）。

在此介紹一些本地的金縷梅科植物，希望你能認識這些有趣的植物，當它們活現眼前時，你會更加驚喜。



楓香的紅葉 Red leaves of Sweet Gum

In autumn, red leaves amongst the green and gold colours of vegetations form a lovely scene. The autumn colours are contributed by many plants including Sweet Gum, "the champion of red leaves". Similar to those in northern China and temperate Europe and America, the forest of Tai Po Kau preserves numerous Sweet Gum, which turns into different shades of red and green together with *Rhus*, *Sapium sebiferum* and *S. discolor* when autumn comes.

Many beautiful plants belong to the Hamamelidaceae (the Witch-Hazel Family). Besides Sweet Gum, the family includes *Loropetalum subcordatum*, *Rhodoleia championii* and some other endemic plants of South China. It has 30 genera and 140 species worldwide, mostly confined to East Asia, particularly in South China, despite a few members native to North America, Australia and South Africa. In China, there are 18 genera and 74 species, of which 9 genera, 12 species occur naturally in Hong Kong.

The Hamamelidaceae is a flowering plant family of long history on geological scale. The first fossil record of *Microaltingia* appeared in late Cretaceous stratum (Turonian, 90 million years ago) in New Jersey, U.S.A. The diversity of the members in the family reflects the beauty of nature through the wide range of unique characters exhibited among them.

Many species of the family have economic importance. To name a few, Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar formosana*) as herbal medicine, Big-fruited Exbucklandia (*Exbucklandia tonkinensis*), Strap Flower (*Loropetalum chinense*) and Sweet Gum as timbers, and Red Strap Flower (*Loropetalum chinense* var. *rubrum*) and *Rhodoleia* (*Rhodoleia championii*) as landscape plants. Introduced here are the local species of the Hamamelidaceae.

## 葦樹(阿丁楓、山荔枝)

### *Altingia chinensis* (Mountain Litchi)

喬木。葉長橢圓形，頂端有鋸齒，花序球狀，由15至26朵小花組成，果實球狀。花期為3至6月。樹皮含有揮發性的芳香樹脂，藥用，也可作香料；木材可供建築及製作傢具用，也有用作放養香菇。在馬鞍山、香港島及八仙嶺的林中生長。

Trees. Leaves elliptic, with toothed margins. 15 to 26 small flowers clustered into a round head. Fruits are spherical heads. Flowering in March to June. Aromatic resins are used as medicine and perfume; timber can be used for construction, furniture and mushroom-cultivation. Known from Ma On Shan, Hong Kong Island and Pat Sin Leng.



## 細柄葦樹

### *Altingia gracilipes* (Slender Stalk Altingia)

*Altingia gracilipes* 細柄葦樹



喬木。葉披針形，邊緣完好無齒裂。花序由5至6朵雌花組成，果序倒圓錐形。花期為4至6月八仙嶺、烏蛟騰及南涌有紀錄，生於林中。可藥用。

Trees. Leaves lance-shaped, with entire, toothless margins. Five to six flowers clustered into a head. The fruit is inverted cone-like. Flowering from April to June. Known from the forests in Pat Sin Leng, Wu Kau Tang and Nam Chung. Used as herbal medicine.

本港產一變種細齒葦樹(*A. gracilipes* var. *serrulata*)，喬木，葉卵狀，邊緣有小鋸齒。花期為4至6月。首次由前林務監督德邱(W. J. Tutcher)在烏蛟騰的林中發現，已知分布在廣東及福建。現已併歸本種。



*Altingia gracilipes* var. *serrulata* 細齒葦樹

Lesser Altingia (*A. gracilipes* var. *serrulata*), a local variety, was first reported from Wu Kau Tang by W. J. Tutcher, the then Superintendent of the former Botanical and Forestry Department, and also known from Guangdong and Fujian. It is a tree with ovate, minutely-toothed leaves. Flowering from April to June. This variety is now considered as a synonym of *A. gracilipes*.

## 蚊母樹

### *Distylium racemosum* (Mother-of-mosquitoes Tree)

又名「蚊子樹」或「門子樹」，因葉生囊狀蟲癭。灌木或小喬木。葉倒卵形，厚，革質，光滑無毛。長深紅色的細花，雄蕊的花藥紅色。能耐二氧化硫、氯氣，抗煙塵，可種在工礦地區，也是四季常青，碧綠宜人的觀賞樹。木材細密，可作工藝雕刻。花期為4至6月。香港島、馬鞍山、大帽山、東涌、鳳凰山等地有紀錄，生於林中。

Shrubs to small trees, known in Chinese as "Mosquito Tree" because of its insect-galls. Leaves obovate, thick, leathery and hairless. The red flowers are elongated; anthers of the male parts are also red. An ever-green plant good for providing shade in quarry areas due to its resistance to sulphur dioxide and chlorine. Wood has fine texture and is suitable for craftwork. Flowering from April to June. Recorded from the forests of Hong Kong Island, Ma On Shan, Tai Mo Shan, Tung Chung and Lantau Peak.



*Eustigma oblongifolium* (Oblong-leaved Eustigma)

灌木或小喬木。長淡黃色的細花，散發強烈的、仿如橙皮的香味，花瓣小，紫色的花柱甚為突出。花期為每年的4至6月。生於香港島、大帽山及大嶼山的林中。

Shrubs to small trees. Small flowers pale-yellow, with orange peel-like fragrance; petals small but the purplish styles are very obvious. Flowering from April to June. Distributed in the forest areas of Hong Kong Island, Tai Mo Shan and Lantau Island.



大果馬蹄荷

*Exbucklandia tonkinensis*

樹姿美麗的大喬木，可高達30米。樹幹粗大，深灰色。葉闊卵形(幼時呈三裂)，光滑無毛，在風中搖擺姿態優美，可用作行道樹。花期為每年的5至7月。生於大東山林中，城門標本林也有種植。可作材用。

A graceful tree reaching 30 m in height. Trunk massive, dark grey. Leaves broadly obovate (juvenile leaves 3-lobed), hairless, delightful movement in the wind and thus good for planting as roadside trees. Flowering from May to July. Growing in the forest areas of Sunset Peak as well as the Shing Mun Arboretum. Wood used as timbers.

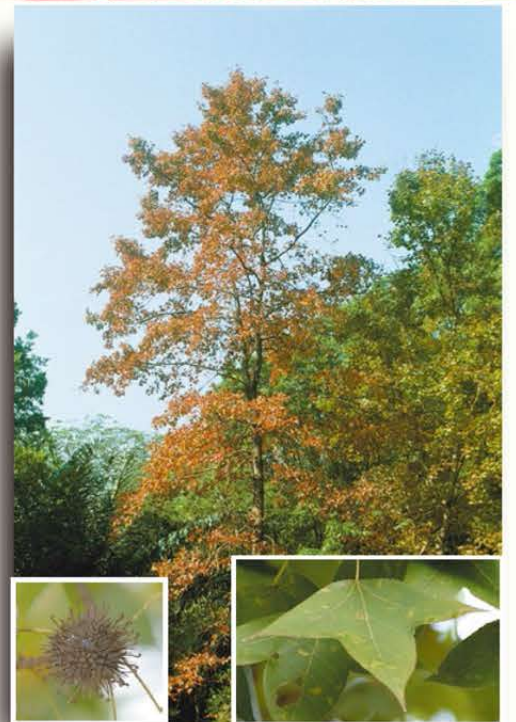


楓香

*Liquidambar formosana* (Sweet Gum)

落葉喬木，樹姿幽雅，它的三裂掌狀葉片邊緣有鋸齒，顏色隨季節而轉變，入秋後轉黃，翌年春落葉前變紅。雌頭狀花序有花20至40朵，花期為3至6月。木質的果實是球狀乾果，在冬季成熟，懸於枝上，甚具特色。見於香港島、大帽山及大埔滘的林中，也有在公園栽種。在本港較冷地區，葉色較紅。楓香的樹脂有芬芳香味，可藥用，解毒，止血止痛；果實也可入藥，稱為「路路通」，有祛風除濕、通絡活血的功效。木材可製作傢具。雖然楓香與多種著名的楓葉(即槭，*Acer* spp.)都在秋季轉紅，但屬於槭樹科的楓葉，葉緣卻較為齒裂。

Deciduous tree of outstanding and graceful shape. Turning yellow in autumn and becoming red in spring before shedding. Leaves palm-like, 3-lobed with saw-toothed margins. Flowering from March to June. Each head of female pseudanthia contains 20 to 40 flowers. The woody fruit is globose in shape and matures in winter, hanging from the twigs. Sweet Gum is known from the woodlands of Hong Kong Island, Tai Mo Shan, and Tai Po Kau. It is planted for amenity purpose because of its autumn colouring. The leaves are more brightly red in colder areas in the territory. The fragrance and the spherical dry fruits are unique among plants in winter. The fruit is a traditional Chinese medicine by the name "Lu Lu Tong", with the function of dispelling evil wind and removing dampness (antirheumatic), activating meridians and promoting blood circulation. Timber may be used for furniture. Both Sweet Gum and Maples (*Acer* spp.) produce red leaves in autumn. However, Maples, belonging to the family Aceraceae, have more dissected leaf margins.



## 欖木 (紙末花)

### *Loropetalum chinense* (Strap Flower)

落葉灌木或小喬木。嫩枝有星狀毛。葉革質，卵形，兩側形狀不對稱，上面有短柔毛，下面有星狀毛。由3至8朵花聚成短花序；花瓣細長而潔白，盛開時白花滿樹，為南方常見的庭院觀賞植物。花期3至4月。見於大嶼山、大帽山、青山、香港島等地的灌叢。本種枝葉茂盛，樹型多姿，枝條柔韌性好，常用於製作盆景。本港公園也有引種栽培同屬的紅花欖木(*L. chinense* f. *rubrum*)作觀賞樹。灌木，長紅色的花和葉，花期為3至5月。



紅花欖木 *L. chinense* f. *rubrum*

Shrubs or small trees; young branches covered with star-like hairs. Leaves leathery, ovate, unequal, upper surface short soft hairy, lower surface with star-like hairs. Three to eight flowers cluster in short spikes or heads. The elegant white flowers, bearing white ribbon-like petals, scatter on the tree when blooming, and thus cultivated in southern Chinese ornamental gardens for the graceful appearance. Flowering from March to May. Known from Lantau Island, Tai Mo Shan, Castle Peak and Hong Kong Island in thickets. It is a good choice as bonsai plant because of its dense leaves, variable plant figures and flexibility of branches. Red Strap Flower (*L. chinense* f. *rubrum*), a relative species, is cultivated as ornamental trees in local parks. Shrubs with red flowers and leaves. Flowering from March to May.

## 四藥門花

### *Loropetalum subcordatum* (Hong Kong Witch-hazel)

常綠灌木或小喬木。葉革質，卵狀或橢圓形，葉尖短急尖，葉面亮綠色，側脈在上面凹陷，但在下面突起。頭狀花序由約20朵花組成，每朵有5片白色絲帶狀花瓣；因每個雄蕊具4個瓣裂的花粉囊而得名「四藥門花」。蒴果近球形。花期為每年4至6月。本種原稱 *Tetrathrium subcordatum*，模式標本採自香港，現分布於大嶼山及香港島等地；內地分布包括廣西及貴州，是中國國家二級保護植物，生於石灰岩山地常綠林下。

Evergreen shrubs or small trees. Leaves leathery, ovate or elliptical with short acute apices; upper surface glossy green; lateral veins impressed on upper surface but prominent on the lower surface. About 20 flowers clustered in a head; each flower bears five white, ribbon-like petals; the Chinese name means "four anther-door flower", derives from the four valvately-dehiscent stamens. Fruit a subglobose capsule, usually matures from September to October. Originally named *Tetrathrium subcordatum* and collected from a bush on the "Black Mountain" on Hong Kong Island, the species is known from Lantau Island and Hong Kong Island. The species is also known from Guangxi and Guizhou in calcareous evergreen forests and is a National Category II threatened plant of China.



## 紅花荷 (紅苞木、吊鐘王)

### *Rhodoleia championii* (*Rhodoleia*)



常綠小喬木。葉片厚，堅硬，圓卵形，具3出脈，無毛，上面亮綠，下面灰白色。頭狀花序由大約五朵花組合而成，苞片卵圓形，有褐色柔毛；花瓣匙形，紅色。一般花期為早春。見於香港仔及城門郊野公園；廣東中南部也有，可作珍貴的行道樹。本種的花序懸垂，形似吊鐘(杜鵑花科的灌木，學名 *Enkianthus quinqueflorus*)，較大而悅目，故稱為「吊鐘王」。兩種植物均受《林務規例》所保護。

Evergreen small trees. Leaves are ovate and thick-leathery; the leaf base is 3-nerved, upper leaf surface glossy green but lower surface pale-white and hairless. About five flowers clustered into a pendulous head; bracts ovate, unequal, with brown velvet hairs; petals spoon-shaped, red. Flowering in early spring. The species grows in woodlands in Aberdeen and Shing Mun Country Parks. Distributed also in central and southern Guangdong and planted as roadside trees, *Rhodoleia* is an attractive ornamental plant with numerous bell-like "flowers" (pseudanthial heads), from which its local folk name "the King of Hanging Bells" is derived. *Enkianthus quinqueflorus* (Chinese New Year flower; local name means hanging-bells), belonging to the family Ericaceae, is another protected plant with similar bell-shaped flowers. Both species are listed under the Forestry Regulations (Cap. 96A).

文：夏念和、葉國樑 Text: N. H. Xia, K. L. Yip

香港植物標本室 九龍長沙灣道303號長沙灣政府合署七樓

The Hong Kong Herbarium, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department  
7th Floor, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon.  
<http://www.hkherbarium.net>