

• 中文名稱：半邊蓮

• 英文名稱：Chinese Lobelia

• 學名：*Lobelia chinensis* Lour.

• 科名：桔梗科(Campanulaceae)山梗菜屬(Lobelia)

半邊蓮、水仙花草、拈力仔草、鑷歷仔草、半邊荷花、鑷刀草、鑷刀仔草、細米草、急解索、半邊花、禾鑷草、蛇俐草(廣東)、長蟲草(河南)、蛇舌草(福建)、瓜仁草

• 別名：

- **Primary Name:** 半邊蓮 (**Bàn Biān Lián**) — "Half-side Lotus" (referring to the unique shape of the flower).
- **Water-themed Names:** 水仙花草 (Daffodil Grass), 半邊荷花 (Half-side Water Lily).
- **Tool-themed Names (Shape-based):** 鑷刀草 / 鑷刀仔草 (Sickle Grass), 鑷歷仔草, 禾鑷草.
- **Medicinal/Action Names:** 急解索 (Quick Reliever/Detoxifier).
- **Regional Names:**
 - **Guangdong:** 蛇俐草 (Snake Tongue Grass).
 - **Henan:** 長蟲草 (Long Bug/Snake Grass).
 - **Fujian:** 蛇舌草 (Snake Tongue Grass).
- **Other:** 細米草, 瓜仁草, 拈力仔草, 半邊花.

• 原產地：

中國長江流域各省及南部各省區、中南半島、琉球及日本。

- **China:** Widespread across all provinces in the **Yangtze River Basin** and the **Southern provinces**.
- **Southeast Asia:** The **Indochinese Peninsula**.
- **East Asia:** The **Ryukyu Islands** and **Japan**.

• 分佈：

臺灣生長分布於平地至低海拔山區之溝渠、畦畔、池澤濕地或休耕田地。

- **Elevation:** Found from **coastal plains to low-altitude mountain regions**.

- **Specific Habitats:** It thrives in moist, saturated environments, including:
 - **Ditches and canals** (溝渠).
 - **Ridges between rice paddies** (畦畔).
 - **Marshy wetlands and pond edges** (池澤濕地).
 - **Fallow or abandoned agricultural fields** (休耕地).

1. 藥用：性味：全草：甘、淡、微寒。效用：全草：涼血解毒，利尿消腫，清熱解毒。治黃疸，水腫，肝硬化腹水，晚期血吸虫病腹水，乳蛾，腸癰，毒蛇咬傷，跌打，痢疾，疔瘡。用於疔瘡腫毒，內服外用均可；或以鮮品搗爛外敷亦效。也用於腹脹水腫，常與金錢草、澤瀉、茯苓、大黃、枳實等藥同用。本草綱目·李時珍曰：(半邊蓮)秋開小花，淡紅紫色，止有半邊如蓮花狀，故名(半邊蓮)。俗諺云：有人識得半邊蓮，包管同得毒蛇眠，由此可知中國人早就將半邊蓮視為治毒蛇咬傷的良藥。

1. Core Properties (Nature & Flavor)

- **Part Used:** The entire plant (全草).
- **Nature:** Slightly Cold (微寒).
- **Flavor:** Sweet and Bland (甘、淡).

2. Primary Actions & Medical Indications

- **Detoxification & Blood Cooling:** Used to clear "heat" and toxins. It is highly effective against **venomous snake bites, boils, sores (疔瘡), and carbuncles.**
- **Diuretic & Swelling Reduction:** It helps the body eliminate excess water.
 - **Treats:** Jaundice, edema (swelling), and **ascites** (fluid buildup in the abdomen) caused by **liver cirrhosis** or late-stage schistosomiasis.
 - **Common Formulas:** Often combined with herbs like *Jin Qian Cao*, *Ze Xie*, *Fu Ling*, and *Rhubarb* for abdominal bloating.
- **Internal & External Application:** For skin infections or snake bites, it can be taken as a decoction (tea) or applied externally by **mashing the fresh plant into a poultice.**

3. Historical & Cultural Context

From the *Compendium of Materia Medica* (本草綱目): Li Shizhen noted: "In autumn it opens small flowers, pale reddish-purple. They have only one side, looking like a lotus flower, hence the name 'Half-side Lotus'."

• 用途：

The "Snake-Sleeper" Proverb: There is a famous folk saying in Chinese medicine:

"If one recognizes the Half-side Lotus, they can safely sleep with a venomous snake." (有人識得半邊蓮，包管同得毒蛇眠)

This rhyme emphasizes how vital this plant was considered for survival in snake-prone rural areas.

草本，莖光滑，細長，有稜溝，匍匐狀分歧；小枝高 10~20 公分，斜上生長。

• 莖：

- **Plant Type:** A small, succulent herb.
- **Surface:** The stems are **smooth (glabrous)** and **slender**.
- **Structure:** They feature distinct **ridged grooves (稜溝)** along their length.
- **Growth Habit:**
 - **Creeping:** The main stems are **prostrate/creeping (匍匐狀)** and branch out horizontally across the mud.
 - **Ascending Shoots:** The smaller branchlets (小枝) grow **obliquely upward**, reaching a height of **10–20 cm**.

葉為單葉，互生，具短柄；葉片長 0.5~2.5 公分，寬 0.2~1 公分，披針形或長橢圓狀披針形，葉基鈍形，葉尖銳尖，葉緣為全緣或疏生鈍齒緣。

• 葉：

- **Type:** Simple leaves, arranged **alternately (互生)**.
- **Petiole (Stalk):** Very **short-stalked (具短柄)**, almost sitting directly on the stem.
- **Shape & Size:**
 - **Length:** 0.5–2.5 cm.
 - **Width:** 0.2–1 cm.
 - **Form:** **Lanceolate** (spear-shaped) or **oblong-lanceolate**.
- **Apex & Base:** The leaf tip is **acute** (pointed), while the base is **obtuse** (rounded/blunt).
- **Margin (Edges):** Ranges from **entire** (smooth) to **sparsely crenate** (having few blunt teeth).

• 花：

花單一，腋生，白色至淡紅紫色，開花後向下傾；花梗細，長 1.5~3 公分長；萼片 5 裂，裂片狹三角形，長 0.3~0.4 公分；花冠白帶紫暈，長 0.5~1.2 公分，單側被毛，5 裂，裂片

不等長；雄蕊 5 枚，合生，長 0.6~0.8 公分，花絲基部被毛，花藥 2 枚先端具毛叢，另 3 枚無毛；雄蕊與雌蕊合生成圓筒花柱；柱頭 3 裂；子房下位。花期 4~11 月。

- **Arrangement:** Flowers are **solitary** and grow from the **leaf axils** (the junction between leaf and stem).
- **Color & Movement:** They range from **white to pale reddish-purple**. After blooming, the flowers tend to **nod or tilt downward**.
- **Pedicel (Stalk):** The flower stalk is slender and relatively long (**1.5–3 cm**).
- **Calyx:** Features **5 narrow, triangular lobes**, about 0.3–0.4 cm long.
- **Corolla (Petals):** The petals are white with a **purple tint**, measuring 0.5–1.2 cm. They are **hairy on one side** and split into **5 unequal lobes** that all shift to one side of the flower.
- **Reproductive Organs:**
 - **Stamens:** There are **5 stamens** fused together (0.6–0.8 cm long). Interestingly, **2 anthers have a tuft of hairs** at the tip, while the other 3 are smooth.
 - **Structure:** The stamens and pistil are fused into a **cylindrical style**.
 - **Stigma:** 3-lobed.
 - **Ovary: Inferior** (positioned below the attachment of the petals).
- **Flowering Season:** A very long blooming period from **April to November**.

果實為蒴果，倒圓錐狀棍棒形，基部尖，長 0.5~0.7 公分，寬約 0.25 公分；頂端 2 瓣開裂；種子紅褐色，長約 0.03 公分，扁圓狀略扁平，平滑，被細點。

• 果實：

- **Type:** The fruit is a **capsule** (蒴果).
- **Shape & Size:** It is shaped like an **inverted cone or a club** (obconical-clavate), tapering to a point at the base. It is tiny, measuring only **0.5–0.7 cm long** and about **0.25 cm wide**.
- **Dehiscence (Opening):** When mature, the capsule splits open at the **apex (top) into 2 valves** to release the seeds.
- **Seeds:**
 - **Color: Reddish-brown.**

- **Size:** Extremely minute, only about **0.03 cm long**.
- **Texture:** The seeds are elliptical and slightly flattened, with a **smooth surface** covered in **microscopic dots** (fine punctate).

多年生矮小草本，高 5~15 公分，全株光滑無毛，有乳汁。根細圓柱形，淡黃白色。莖細弱匍匐，節處著地生多數鬚根，上部直立。葉互生，無柄，條形或條狀披針形，長 1.2~2.5 公分，寬 0.25~0.6 公分，全緣或有疏齒。夏季葉腋開單生淡紫色或白色小花；花冠基部合成管狀，上部向一邊 5 裂展開，中央 3 裂片較淺，兩側裂片深裂至基部；雄蕊 5 個，花絲基部分離，花藥彼此連合，圍抱柱頭，花藥位於下方的兩個有毛，上方的 3 個無毛。子房下位。蒴果頂端 2 瓣開裂。種子細小，紅褐色，平滑，橢圓形，多數。

Botanical Traits & Characteristics: *Lobelia chinensis* (Half-side Lotus)

This summary provides a professional overview of the plant's biological structure, highlighting its unique "milky sap" and specialized reproductive system.

1. Growth Habit & Structure

- **Form:** A **perennial, diminutive herb**, reaching a height of only **5–15 cm**.
- **Surface:** The entire plant is **glabrous** (smooth and hairless).
- **Exudate:** A key identifying feature is that the plant contains **milky sap (latex)** when broken.
- **Roots:** The primary root is a **slender cylinder**, pale yellowish-white in color.
- **Stem:** The stems are **weak and prostrate** (creeping along the ground). They produce numerous **fibrous roots at the nodes** where they touch the soil, while the upper parts grow upright.

2. Foliage & Flowers

- **Leaves:**
 - **Arrangement:** Alternate and **sessile** (stalkless/no petiole).
 - **Shape:** Linear or linear-lanceolate (1.2–2.5 cm long).

• 特性：

- **Edges:** Entire or with sparse, tiny teeth.
 - **Flowers:**
 - **Season:** Blooms in **summer**, appearing singly in the leaf axils.
 - **Structure:** The base of the corolla forms a tube, but the top **splits and unfolds to one side in 5 lobes**.
 - **The "Half-side" Detail:** The middle 3 lobes are shallowly split, while the 2 side lobes are deeply split all the way to the base.
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3. Reproductive Organs & Fruit

- **Stamens (The "Guardian" Structure):** There are 5 stamens. The filaments are free at the base, but the **anthers are fused together**, forming a ring that encircles the stigma.
 - The **bottom 2 anthers** are hairy at the tip.
 - The **top 3 anthers** are smooth (hairless).
- **Ovary:** Positioned below the flower parts (**inferior ovary**).
- **Fruit & Seeds:**
 - A **capsule** that opens into 2 valves at the top.
 - Contains numerous **tiny, reddish-brown, smooth, and elliptical seeds**.