

• 中文名稱： 珍珠蓮

• 英文名稱： Sarmentose Fig , Japanese Fig , Alishan Fig

• 學名： *Ficus sarmentosa* Buch.-Ham. ex J. E. Sm. var. *henryi* (King. ex D.Oliver) Corner  
*Ficus sarmentosa* B. Ham. ex J. E. Sm.  
*Ficus sarmentosa* B. Ham. ex J. E. Sm. var. *nipponica* (Fr. & Sav.) Corner  
*Ficus sarmentosa* var.*henryi*

• 科名： 桑科(Moraceae)榕屬(Ficus)

珍珠蓮，冰粉樹、阿里山珍珠蓮、崖石榴、木蓮葛、崖荔子、崖荔枝、磨草、拎壁藤、爬崖藤、風不動、匍匐榕、白背爬藤榕、石彭子、小木蓮、牛奶蒲，匍莖榕（西藏植物誌）

- **Primary Name:** 珍珠蓮 (Zhēn Zhū Lián) — "Pearl Lotus."

- **Regional & Descriptive Names:**

- **Taiwan Focus:** 阿里山珍珠蓮 (Alishan Pearl Lotus).
  - **Fruit-based:** 崖石榴 (Cliff Pomegranate), 崖荔子 / 崖荔枝 (Cliff Lychee), 小木蓮 (Small Wood Lotus), 牛奶蒲 (Milk Pu — referring to the milky sap).
  - **Growth Habit (Climbing/Creeping):** 拎壁藤 (Wall-climbing Vine), 爬崖藤 (Cliff-climbing Vine), 風不動 (Wind-won't-move — referring to its strong grip on surfaces), 匍匐榕 / 匍莖榕 (Creeping Fig).
  - **Technical/Botanical:** 木蓮葛, 白背爬藤榕 (White-back Climbing Fig), 石彭子, 磨草.
- 別名：

大陸陝西、江蘇、安徽、湖北、浙江、江西、湖南、四川、福建、廣東、廣西、貴州、雲南等省區。

- **Central China:** Shaanxi (陝西), Hubei (湖北), Anhui (安徽).
  - **Eastern China:** Jiangsu (江蘇), Zhejiang (浙江), Jiangxi (江西), Fujian (福建).
  - **Southern/Southwestern China:** Guangdong (廣東), Guangxi (廣西), Hunan (湖南), Sichuan (四川), Guizhou (貴州), Yunnan (雲南).
- 原產地：

• 分布： 分佈於臺灣全島暖溫帶林 600~2,700 公尺山區山坡灌木叢中或溝邊岩石上。台北、高雄、

阿里山、巒大山山地闊葉林內。

- **Elevation Range:** It thrives in **warm-temperate forests** between **600 and 2,700 meters**. This is a much higher elevation range than the *Half-side Lotus* we just discussed, which stays in the lowlands.
- **Specific Habitats:**
  - **Shrublands** on mountain slopes.
  - **Rocky surfaces** along stream banks and ditches.
  - **Broadleaf forests** (climbing up the trunks of large trees).
- **Key Locations:** Frequently documented in the mountains of **Taipei, Kaohsiung, Alishan, and Luandashan**.

1. 莖皮纖維可制人造棉或造紙；全藤可扭製繩索。2. 藥用：全株：甘、澀、平；根、莖：微辛、平。效用：全株：消腫止痛，止血。治睪丸偏墜，跌打損傷，內痔便血；根、莖：祛風濕，消腫，止痛，殺蟲。治風溼觀結痛，乳腺炎。

### 1. Industrial & Craft Uses

- **Textiles & Paper:** The **fibers from the stem bark** are strong and flexible. They can be processed to create **artificial cotton** or used as a raw material for **papermaking**.
- **Rope Making:** Because the vines are incredibly tough and pliable, the **entire vine** can be twisted and braided to create durable **ropes and cords** for agricultural or mountain use.

### 2. Medicinal Applications

The plant is categorized into different "tastes" and "energies" in traditional herbalism:

- **Whole Plant (全株):**
  - **Properties:** Sweet (甘), Astringent (澀), Neutral (平).
  - **Primary Actions:** **Reduces swelling, relieves pain, and stops bleeding.**
  - **Treats:** Testicular swelling/displacement (睪丸偏墜), traumatic injuries/bruises (跌打損傷), and bleeding from internal hemorrhoids.
- **Roots and Stems (根、莖):**
  - **Properties:** Slightly Pungent (微辛), Neutral (平).
  - **Primary Actions:** **Dispels "wind-dampness"** (rheumatism), anti-inflammatory, and insecticidal.

• 用途：

- **Treats: Rheumatic joint pain** (風溼關節痛) and **Mastitis** (乳腺炎).

藤本植物，長可達 15 公尺，枝暗紅褐色。

• 莖：

- **Growth Form:** It is a **woody vine or liana** (藤本植物).
- **Impressive Length:** This vine can grow to be quite massive, reaching lengths of up to **15 meters** (about 50 feet) as it climbs towards the canopy.
- **Coloration:** The branches and younger stems are a distinct **dark reddish-brown** (暗紅褐色).

葉革質或厚紙質，互生，卵狀橢圓形至長橢圓形，先端漸尖，基部圓或鈍，3 出脈，側脈 6~11 對，長 8~12 公分，寬 3.5~4.5 公分；葉柄長 1~2 公分，紫紅色。

### 1. Texture & Arrangement

- **Texture: Leathery** (革質) or **Thick Papery** (厚紙質). This thickness helps the plant retain moisture.
- **Arrangement: Alternate** (互生).

### 2. Shape & Size

- **Form: Ovate-elliptical to oblong-elliptical** (卵狀橢圓形至長橢圓形).
- **Dimensions: Roughly 8–12 cm long and 3.5–4.5 cm wide.**
- **Apex (Tip): Acuminate** (漸尖) — tapering to a long, sharp point.
- **Base: Rounded or Obtuse** (圓或鈍).

• 葉：

### 3. Venation (The Vein Pattern)

- **Primary Veins: 3-nerved** from the base (3 出脈).
- **Secondary Veins: Features 6–11 pairs** of lateral veins.

### 4. The "Colorful" Petiole (Stalk)

- **Stem Stalk:** The petiole is **1–2 cm long** and possesses a striking **purple-red** (紫紅色) color, which contrasts beautifully with the dark green leaf.

• 花：

全年均為花期，花黃白色，雌雄異株，隱頭花序，隱花果被毛疏密情形不一，寬約 1~1.5 公分，柄短，熟時暗棕色花托(隱頭花序)單生或成對著生葉腋。

## 1. The "Hidden" Flower (Syconium)

- **Type: Hypanthodium / Syconium (隱頭花序).** This is a "hidden" inflorescence where hundreds of tiny male or female flowers line the interior wall of a hollow receptacle.
- **Color:** The internal flowers are **yellowish-white (黃白色).**
- **Gender: Dioecious (雌雄異株),** meaning individual plants are either male or female. They rely on specialized tiny wasps to enter a small hole (ostiole) at the top to pollinate them.

## 2. Appearance & Season

- **Flowering Period: Year-round (全年均為花期).** Because it lives in warm-temperate forests, it can produce "figs" at any time.
- **Placement:** The receptacles (flower containers) grow either **singly or in pairs** from the **leaf axils (葉腋).**
- **Structure:**
  - **Width:** 1–1.5 cm.
  - **Stalk:** Very **short-stalked (柄短).**
  - **Surface:** The outer skin is covered in varying amounts of **fine hairs (被毛).**
  - **Maturity:** When the internal flowers "bloom" and the structure matures into a fruit, the exterior turns **dark brown (暗棕色).**

果為無花果，近無梗，長約 1.5 公分，直徑 1 公分，熟時果色由綠至暗紅棕色。

### • 果實：

- **Type: Syconium / Fig (無花果).**
- **Stalk: Nearly sessile (近無梗),** meaning it sits almost directly on the stem with a very short or non-existent stalk.
- **Dimensions:** Approximately **1.5 cm long** and **1 cm in diameter.**
- **Color Transformation:**
  - **Immature:** Bright green.
  - **Mature:** Turns from green to a **dark reddish-brown (暗紅棕色).**

桑科榕屬常綠攀援藤本植物，長可達 15 公尺，枝暗紅褐色。葉革質或厚紙質，互生，卵狀橢圓形至長橢圓形，先端漸尖，基部圓或鈍，3 出脈，側脈 6~11 對，長 8~12 公分，寬 3.5~4.5 公分；葉柄長 1~2 公分，紫紅色。全年均為花期，花黃白色，雌雄異株，隱頭花序，隱花果被毛疏密情形不一，寬約 1~1.5 公分，柄短，熟時暗棕色花托(隱頭花序)單生或成對著生葉腋。果為無花果，近無梗，長約 1.5 公分，直徑 1 公分，熟時果色由綠至暗紅棕色。長於中高海拔之森林中。前人根據隱花果上毛之疏密情形，而有 *var. japonica* 及 *var. henryi* 的區分。根據目前之標本證據，認為上述情形係屬於連續性變異，因此合併處理。

### 1. Physical Form & Habitat

- **Classification:** An **evergreen climbing woody vine** (常綠攀援藤本) belonging to the **Moraceae** (Mulberry) family, genus *Ficus*.
- **Scale:** Can reach lengths of up to **15 meters**, with characteristic **dark reddish-brown** branches.
- **Environment:** Specifically adapted to **mid-to-high altitude forests**, distinguishing it from lowland creeping figs.

• 特性：

### 2. Key Identification Markers

- **The Leaves:** Leathery or thick-papery texture with a **3-nerved base** and distinctive **purple-red petioles** (leaf stalks).
- **The "Fruits" (Syconia):** Nearly stalkless, 1.5 cm long, turning from green to **dark reddish-brown** when ripe. They appear year-round in the leaf axils.

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### 3. The Botanical "Mystery": Hairiness and Varieties

One of the most interesting parts of your notes is the taxonomic history of this plant. In the past, botanists tried to split this species into two different varieties based on how "hairy" the hidden fruits (syconia) were:

1. ***var. japonica***
2. ***var. henryi***

**The Modern Consensus:** After examining many specimens, researchers realized that the amount of

hair on the fruit isn't a fixed trait—it's a "**continuous variation**" (連續性變異). Some are very hairy, some are smooth, and many are in between. Therefore, these have been **merged** (合併處理) into a single variety.