

• 中文名稱：酸藤

• 英文名稱：Sour Creeper

• 學名：*Ecdysanthera rosea* Hook. & Arn.

• 科名：夾竹桃科(Apocynaceae)酸藤屬(Ecdysanthera)

- 酸藤、鹽酸仔藤、白椿根、白漿藤、十八症、風藤、酸藤木、三酸藤、螞蝗藤、牛捲藤、乳藤、酸葉藤、麻骨風、緬榕、橡皮樹，酸葉膠藤（廣州植物志），頭林心（廣西思樂）；斑鳩藤、厚皮藤（廣東海南）；藤風、十八症、三酸藤、紅背酸藤、牛卷藤、傘風藤、黑風藤（廣西）；酸葉藤（雲南）；細葉榕藤、石酸藤（湖南）；乳藤（種子植物名稱）**Common Name: Sour Creeper**
- Descriptive Name: Rose-colored Ecdysanthera**
- Scientific Name: *Urceola micrantha* (or *Ecdysanthera rosea*)**

• 別名：

Terminology Breakdown

The many Chinese names you listed generally fall into three descriptive categories in English:

Category	Chinese Examples	English Meaning/Equivalent
Taste-based	酸藤, 鹽酸仔藤, 酸葉藤	Sour-leaf creeper (referring to the acidic taste of the leaves)
Physical traits	白漿藤, 乳藤, 紅背酸藤	Milky / Red-backed vine (referring to the latex sap or leaf color)
Medicinal/Utility	十八症, 風藤, 麻骨風	Healing / Wind-dispelling vine (referring to its use in traditional medicine)

• 原產地：中國、印度、馬來西亞 **Native Range:** China, India, and Malaysia.

• 分佈：台灣各地的中低海拔 200~900 公尺山林中，水溝旁等較濕潤之地。 **Distribution:** Found throughout Taiwan in **low-to-mid altitude** mountain forests (between **200 – 900 meters**). It typically grows in **moist environments**, such as near ravines, ditches, and stream banks.

1. 鹽的替代品：葉片帶有酸味，能生津解渴，早期原住民常摘它的嫩葉當作鹽的替代品。2. 藥用：酸藤可以入藥，味酸，具有清熱解毒，消腫的藥效。性味：全株：酸、微澀、涼。效用：全株：清熱解毒，利詩化滯，活血消腫，止痛。治咽喉痛，口腔破潰，牙齦炎，慢性腎炎，食滯脹滿，癰腫瘡毒，水腫，泄瀉，風濕骨痛，跌打瘀腫，疔瘡，蛇咬傷。 **Uses &**

Applications

1. Salt Substitute:

The leaves possess a distinct tartness and can promote salivation to quench thirst. Historically, indigenous people often harvested the **tender young leaves** to use as a **substitute for salt**.

2. Medicinal Use:

The plant is utilized in traditional medicine. It is sour in taste and possesses properties that **clear heat and detoxify** while **reducing swelling**.

Pharmacological Profile

• 用途：

- **Properties (性味):**

The entire plant is **Sour, Slightly Astringent**, and **Cool** in nature.

- **Primary Actions (效用):**

Clears heat and detoxifies, promotes diuresis to resolve stagnation, invigorates blood to reduce swelling, and relieves pain.

Indications (Clinical Applications)

The plant is traditionally used to treat the following conditions:

Category	Specific Ailments
Oral & Throat	Sore throat, mouth ulcers, and gingivitis (gum inflammation).
Internal / Organ	Chronic nephritis (kidney inflammation), indigestion/bloating, and diarrhea.
Systemic	Edema (water retention) and rheumatic bone pain.

External / Trauma	Bruising and swelling from falls/injuries, boils, carbuncles, and snakebites.
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藤本，小枝細長，幼嫩時呈淡紫紅色。 **Stem (Stems & Branches)**

- **莖：** A **climbing liana** (woody vine). The branchlets are slender and elongated, showing a **pale purplish-red** hue when young and tender.

葉具強烈酸味，單葉，對生，具葉柄，柄長 0.5~1 公分，紫紅色；葉片長約 3~5 公分，寬約 2 公分，橢圓形或橢圓狀倒卵形，先端銳，基部鈍，葉緣全緣，上表面濃綠而有光澤，背面綠白色，葉柄、中肋及側脈均略帶紫紅。 **Leaf (Leaves)**

The leaves possess a **strong acidic taste**.

- **葉：**
 - **Type:** Simple leaves, **opposite** arrangement.
 - **Petiole:** 0.5 – 1 cm long, purplish-red.
 - **Blade:** Approximately 3 – 5 cm long and 2 cm wide.
 - **Shape:** Elliptical or elliptic-obovate; the apex is acute (pointed), and the base is obtuse (blunt).
 - **Margin:** Entire (smooth edges).
 - **Color:** The upper surface is deep green and glossy; the underside is a greenish-white. The petiole, midrib, and lateral veins are all tinged with a slight purplish-red.

花序為聚繖狀圓錐花序，頂生，花數甚多；花淡紅色；花萼細小，長約 0.2 公分，深 5 裂；腺體 5 顆；花冠闊鐘形，徑 0.3~0.4 公分，深 5 裂或 4 裂，裂片倒披針形，淡紅色；雄蕊 5 枚，著生冠筒基部，不挺出於花外；花盤環狀，全緣不分裂；花柱先端膨大，子房 2 枚，有毛茸，2 室，每室胚珠多數。 **Flower (Inflorescence & Floral Parts)**

- **花：**
 - **Inflorescence:** A **terminal cyme-like panicle** featuring numerous flowers.
 - **Calyx:** Minute, about 0.2 cm long, with 5 deep lobes and 5 glands.
 - **Corolla:** Broadly bell-shaped (urceolate-campanulate), 0.3 – 0.4 cm in diameter, with 4 or 5 deep, oblanceolate lobes in **pale red**.
 - **Stamens:** 5, attached to the base of the corolla tube and not protruding (included).
 - **Pistil:** The disc is ring-shaped and entire. The style is enlarged at the tip; there are 2 pubescent (hairy) ovaries, each containing numerous ovules.

果實為蓇葖果，肥厚，銳尖形，長 10~15 公分，寬 0.3~0.5 公分，青綠色；蓇葖果 2 枚，又開成一直線，外果皮有明顯斑點。種子長圓形，先端具絹質種毛。(s/book5/61.htm) Fruit (Follicles & Seeds)

Type: Follicles, which are fleshy and acuminate (tapering to a point).

• 果實：

Dimensions: 10 – 15 cm long and 0.3 – 0.5 cm wide.

Appearance: Green when young; the follicles typically grow in pairs (divergent), spreading out to form a nearly straight line. The exocarp (outer skin) has distinct lenticels or spots.

Seeds: Oblong in shape, featuring a silky coma (tuft of hairs) at the apex to assist in wind dispersal.

常綠藤本，小枝細長，木質藤本，長達 10 公尺，以纏繞的方式來進行攀爬，全株具乳汁。幼嫩時呈淡紫紅色，葉對生，橢圓形或橢圓狀倒卵形，先端銳，基部鈍，表面濃綠而有光澤，背面綠白色，長約 4~5 公分，寬約 2 公分，葉柄、中肋及側脈均略帶紫紅，聚繖花序呈圓錐狀排列，花數甚多，花萼細小，花冠潤鐘形，深五裂，淡紅色，雄蕊 5 枚，生於冠筒上，子房 2 室，蓇葖果銳尖，種子有毛。酸藤產臺灣低海拔山麓森林或荒地中，甚為普遍，常形成大藤本纏繞樹冠上。 **General Characteristics**

An **evergreen woody liana** reaching lengths of up to **10 meters**. It climbs by **twining** around supports and contains a **milky latex** throughout the entire plant.

• 特性：

• **Morphology:**

- **Stems:** Branchlets are slender and elongated, showing a pale purplish-red color when young.
- **Leaves:** Opposite arrangement; elliptical or elliptic-obovate in shape. The apex is acute, and the base is obtuse. The upper surface is deep green and glossy, while the underside is greenish-white. Measuring approximately 4 – 5 cm long and 2 cm wide, the petioles, midribs, and lateral veins are all tinged with a slight purplish-red.
- **Flowers:** Arranged in numerous **cymose panicles**. The calyx is minute, and the corolla is broadly bell-shaped (urceolate), featuring five deep lobes in a pale red hue. There are 5

stamens attached to the corolla tube.

- **Fruit & Seeds:** The ovaries are 2-celled. The **follicles** are acuminate (sharply pointed), and the seeds possess a tuft of hairs (coma) for wind dispersal.
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Habitat & Ecology

- **Native Range:** Extremely common in the **foothill forests** and **wastelands** at low altitudes across Taiwan.
 - **Growth Habit:** It frequently develops into large, robust vines that **entwine the forest canopy**, often forming dense covers over the tops of trees.
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Botanical Terminology Summary

Chinese Term	English Translation
常綠藤本	Evergreen liana / woody vine
纏繞	Twining (climbing method)
乳汁	Latex (milky sap)
山麓	Foothills / Base of a mountain
樹冠	Canopy