

Ligustrum sinense

Chinese privet

Introduction

The genus *Ligustrum* contains approximately 45 species worldwide. Members of the genus are small trees or shrubs, growing primarily in warm regions of Asia, but also found in northwestern Europe, and southern Australia, Malaysia and New Guinea. In China, 28 native species, with two introduced species, two subspecies, nine varieties, and one form have been reported ^{[128][191]}.

Species and Some Varieties and Subspecies of *Ligustrum* in China

Scientific Name	Scientific Name
<i>L. amamanum</i> Koidz.	<i>L. morrisonense</i> Kanehira et Sasaki
<i>L. angustum</i> Miao	<i>L. obovatilimbum</i> Miao †
<i>L. compactum</i> (Wall. ex G. Don) Hook. f. et Thoms. ex Brandis	<i>L. obtusifolium</i> Sieb. et Zucc. subsp. <i>suave</i> (Kitag.) Kitag.
<i>L. confusum</i> Decne.	<i>L. ovalifolium</i> Hassk.
<i>L. delavayanum</i> Hariot	<i>L. pricei</i> Hayata
<i>L. expansum</i> Rehd.	<i>L. punctifolium</i> M.C. Chang
<i>L. gracile</i> Rehd.	<i>L. quihoui</i> Carr.
<i>L. gyirongense</i> P.Y. Bai	<i>L. retusum</i> Merr.
<i>L. henryi</i> Hemsl.	<i>L. robustum</i> (Roxb.) Blume
<i>L. ibota</i> Sieb. et Zucc. var. <i>microphyllum</i> Nakai‡	<i>L. sempervirens</i> (Franch.) Lingelsh.
<i>L. japonicum</i> Thunb.†	<i>L. sinense</i> Lour.
<i>L. lianum</i> Hsu	<i>L. strongylophyllum</i> Hemsl.
<i>L. longipedicellatum</i> H.T. Chang	<i>L. tenuipes</i> M.C. Chang
<i>L. longitubum</i> Hsu	<i>L. xingrenense</i> D.J. Liu
<i>L. lucidum</i> Ait.	<i>L. yunguiense</i> Miao
<i>L. molliculum</i> Hance	

† native to Japan and cultivated widely in China

‡ possible synonym of *Ligustrum obtusifolium* subsp. *microphyllum* (Nakai) P. S. Green^[191]

Taxonomy

Family: Oleaceae

Genus: *Ligustrum* L.

Description

Chinese privet is a deciduous shrub or small tree that grows to 2-4 m. Branchlets are cylindrical and glabrescent. Leaves are papery or thin leathery, sparsely pubescent or glabrescent. The leaf blade is ovate, oblong, elliptic to lanceolate



Fruits of *Ligustrum sinense*. (Photo by James H. Miller, USDA-FS.)

diameter and appear from September to December^[128].

Habitat

L. sinense occurs in mixed forests, valleys, scrublands, ravines and along streams at elevations of 200-2,600 m^[128].

Distribution

The native range of *L. sinense* includes Anhui, Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hainan, Henan^[26], Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Taiwan, Yunnan, and Zhejiang^[128]. It is cultivated in Shandong and Xi'an of Shaanxi^[128].

Economic Importance

Ligustrum sinense is grown nationwide as a hedge plant. The fruits are used in brewing. The oils extracted from the seeds are used in soap making. The bark and leaves are medicinally useful.

Related Species

With the exception of *Ligustrum sinense* var. *sinense*, *L. sinense* has seven varieties in China:

1. *L. sinense* var. *luodianense* M. C. Chiang is native to Luodian County, Guizhou Province, and occurs with other shrubs on hillsides and riversides at elevations of 150-300 m^[128].
2. *L. sinense* var. *coryanum* (W.

W. Smith) Hand.-Mazz. is native to eastern Yunnan Province and Jinshajiang valley areas of Sichuan Province and occurs in mountainous mixed forests, among hillside shrubs, in both dense or sparse forests, and at forest edges at elevations of 500-2,500 m [128].

3. *L. sinense* var. *rugosulum* (W. W. Smith) M. C. Chiang is native to Yunnan and southeastern Tibet and occurs in valleys, riversides, roadsides, sparse hillside forests, and thickets at elevations of 400-2,000 m [128].

4. *L. sinense* var. *opienense* Y. C. Yang is native to northwestern Guangxi, western and southern Guizhou, and southern and southeastern Sichuan and occurs in thickets, sparse forests, trenches, hillsides, roadsides, and dense forests of limestone mountains at elevations of 500-2,100 m [128].

5. *L. sinense* var. *myrianthum* (Diels) Höfk is native to Fujian, Gansu, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, southern Shaanxi, Sichuan, and Yunnan and occurs in thickets or sparse forests, trenches, hillsides, roadsides, and dense forests at elevations of 130-2,700 m [128].

6. *L. sinense* var. *concaum* M. C.



Chang is native to western Guangxi and eastern Yunnan and occurs in thickets, sparse or dense hillside forests, valleys, and streambanks [128].

7. *L. sinense* var. *dissimile* S. J. Hao is native to Guangxi, Guizhou, Yunnan and occurs in thickets on hillsides at elevations of 400-1,200 m [191].

Meliola mayapeicola, *Cercospora ligustri* and *Phyllosticta ligustri* appear to be host-specific to *L. sinense*, whereas the other four species can infect other *Ligustrum* species. Ninety-five species of arthropods in 39 families from seven orders are associated with members of the genus *Ligustrum*.

Natural Enemies of *Ligustrum*

Eleven species of fungi are reported to damage members of the genus *Ligustrum*. Seven of them have been found on Chinese privet. Of the seven,

Fungi

Phylum	Family	Species	H. R.	Ref.
Ascomycota	Chaetothyriaceae	<i>Chaetothyrium javanicum</i> (Zimm.) Boedijn	po	23 [†]
	Meliolaceae	<i>Meliola mayapeicola</i> F. Stevens	m	62
		<i>Meliola osmanthi</i> Syd. & P. Syd.	p	62
Basidiomycota	Incertae sedis	<i>Aecidium klugkistianum</i> Dietel	o	23
		<i>Aecidium ligustricola</i> Cummins	o	23
	Polyporaceae	<i>Trametes hirsuta</i> (Wulfen) Pilát	po	23
	Septobasidiaceae	<i>Septobasidium bogoriense</i> Pat.	po	23
Anamorphic <i>Guignardia</i>		<i>Phyllosticta ligustri</i> Sacc.	m	23
		<i>Phyllosticta ligustrina</i> Sacc. & Speg.	oo	23
Anamorphic <i>Mycosphaerella</i>		<i>Cercospora ligustri</i> Roum.	m	23
		<i>Cercospora ligustricola</i> T.L. Tai	o	23

[†]Recorded as *Phaeosaccardinula javanica* (Zimm.) Yamam

Arthropods

Order	Family	Species	H. R.	Ref.
Acariformes	Eriophyiidae	<i>Aculops longispinosus</i> Kuang et Hong	mo	85
		<i>Aculus ligustri</i> (Keifer)	mo	83
	Rhyncaphytopidae	<i>Diptilomiopus camerae</i> Mohanasundaram	po	83
	Tetranychidae	<i>Brevipalpus obovatus</i> Donnadieu	po	85
Coleoptera	Anobiidae	<i>Anobium</i> sp.	mo	85
	Cerambycidae	<i>Batocera horsfieldi</i> (Hope)	po	9
			po	85
		<i>Batocera lineolata</i> Chevrolat	po	85
			po	140
			po	85
	Cetoniidae	<i>Eutetrappa sedecimpunctata</i> (Motschulsk)	po	85
		<i>Trichoferus campestris</i> Faldermann	po	85
		<i>Clinteria ducalis</i> White	po	118
		<i>Euselates pulchella</i> (Gestro)	po	118
		<i>Euselates quadrilineata</i> (Hope)	po	118
		<i>Oxycetonia bealiae</i> (Gory et Percheron)	p	65
			po	118
			po	140
			po	158
			po	118
	Chrysomelidae	<i>Protactia fusca</i> (Herbst)	po	118
		<i>Taeniodera garnieri</i> (Bourgoin)	po	118
		<i>Thaumastopeus nigritus</i> (Fröhlich)	po	118
		<i>Argopistes hoenei</i> Maulik	mo	185
	Chrysomelidae	<i>Argopistes tsekooni</i> Chen	po	185
		<i>Linnaeidea adamsi adamsi</i> (Baly)	mo	85
		<i>Dyscerus cribripennis</i> Matsumura et Kono	po	2
	Curculionidae	<i>Platycorynus parryi</i> Baly	po	65
			po	85
			po	139
	Rutelidae	<i>Anomala corpulenta</i> Motschulsky	po	85
	Scolytidae	<i>Xyleborus rubricollis</i> (Eichhoff)	po	182
	Trichiidae	<i>Trichius dubernardi</i> Pouillaude	po	65
	Valgidae	<i>Dasyvalgus laliganti</i> (Fairmaire)	po	118
<i>Dasyvalgus sellatus</i> (Kraatz)			po	118
<i>Hybovalgus bioculatus</i> Kolbe			po	118
<i>Hybovalgus thoracicus</i> Moser			po	140
<i>Oreoderus crassipes</i> Arrow			po	118
<i>Oreoderus momeitensis</i> Arrow			po	118
<i>Oreoderus momeitensis</i> Arrow			po	118
Hemiptera	Pentatomidae	<i>Okeanos quelpartensis</i> Distant	o	65
		<i>Poeciocoris sanszesignatus</i> Yang	po	192
Homoptera	Aleyrodidae	<i>Aleurocanthus spiniferus</i> (Quaintance)	po	85
		<i>Dialeurodes citri</i> (Ashmead)	po	85
	Aphrophoridae	<i>Aphrophora obliqua</i> Uhler	mo	65
	Cicadidae	<i>Cryptotympana atrata</i> (Fabricius)	po	85
			po	158
	Coccidae	<i>Ceroplastes ceriferus</i> (Anderson)	po	85
			po	151
		<i>Ericerus pela</i> (Chavannes)	p	65
			oo	85
			po	151
oo			158	

	Diaspididae	<i>Chrysomphalus dictyospermi</i> (Morgan)	po	85	
		<i>Diaspidiotus perniciosus</i> (Comst)	po	140	
		<i>Dynaspidotus britannicus</i> (Newstead)	po	85	
			po	140	
		<i>Hemiberlesia lataniae</i> (Signoret)	po	85	
		<i>Lepidosaphes tubulorum</i> Ferris	po	85	
		<i>Parlatoria zizyphua</i> (Lucas)	po	158	
	<i>Pseudaulacaspis pentagona</i> (Targioni-Tozzetti)	po	85		
	Fulgoridae	<i>Lycorma delicatula</i> (White)	po	140	
			po	204	
Ricaniidae	<i>Ricania sublimbata</i> Jacobi	po	85		
Isoptera	Termitidae	<i>Odontotermes formosanus</i> (Shiraki)	po	85	
Lepidoptera	Arctiidae	<i>Callimorpha similis</i> (Moore)	po	40	
			po	41	
			po	141	
		<i>Lemyra phasma</i> (Leech)	po	40 ^l	
			po	41	
			po	65 ^l	
			po	141 ^l	
	po		141 ^l		
	Brahmaeidae	<i>Brahmaea certhia</i> Fabricius	mo	85	
			p	85	
		<i>Brahmaea hearseyi</i> (White)	po	65	
		<i>Brahmaea ledereri</i> Rogenhofer	po	65	
		<i>Brahmaea porphyrio</i> Chu et Wang	o	85	
		<i>Brahmophthalma hearseyi</i> (White)	p	85	
	<i>Brahmophthalma wallichii</i> (Grey)	o	85		
	Ctenuchidae	<i>Amata</i> sp.	po	85	
	Geometridae	<i>Acasis viretata</i> (Hübner)	po	177	
			<i>Ascotis selenaria dianaria</i> Hübner	po	85
			<i>Biston marginata</i> Matsumura	po	85
			<i>Garaeus parva distans</i> Warren	p	85
				po	138
			<i>Naxa seriaria</i> (Motschulsky)	po	85
				po	138
			<i>Problepsis superans</i> (Butler)	mo	158
	<i>Trichopteryx polycommata</i> (Denis et Schiffermüller)	po	177		
	Hesperiidae	<i>Pelopidas mathias</i> (Fabricius)	po	85	
	Lycaenidae	<i>Artopoetes pryeri</i> (Murray)	po	203	
	Lymantriidae	<i>Euproctis bipunctapex</i> (Hampson)	po	65	
			po	85	
			po	141	
po			158		
po			198		
Noctuidae	<i>Craniophora ligustri</i> (Schiffermüller)	po	12		
		po	141		
	<i>Euplexia lucipara</i> (Linnaeus)	po	85		
		po	209		
	<i>Ischyja manlia</i> Cramer	po	85		
<i>Pangrapta obscurata</i> (Butler)	mo	85			

	Notodontidae	<i>Clostera anachoreta</i> (Fabricius)	mo	85 ^{II}	
	Nymphalidae	<i>Athyma ranga</i> Moore	po	203	
	Papilionidae	<i>Papilio bianor</i> Sonan	po	85	
	Psychidae	<i>Chalioides kondonis</i> Matsumura	po	85	
		<i>Clania minuscula</i> Butler	po	85	
		<i>Clania variegata</i> Snellen	po	85	
	Pyralidae	<i>Diaphania nigropunctalis</i> (Bremer)	po	145	
			po	158	
		<i>Plodia interpunctella</i> Hübner	po	85	
	Saturniidae	<i>Syntherata loepoides</i> Butler	po	207	
	Sphingidae	<i>Acherontia lachesis</i> (Fabricius)	p	85	
		<i>Acherontia styx</i> Westwood	p	85	
		<i>Amorpha amurensis</i> (Staudinger)	po	85	
		<i>Dolbina tancrei</i> Staudinger		po	65
				p	85
				po	206
				po	206
				po	208
		<i>Herse convolvuli</i> (Linnaeus)	mo	85	
		<i>Kentrochrysalis streckeri</i> Staudinger		po	65
				po	85
				po	85
				po	206
				oo	206
				po	208
		<i>Oxyambulyx schauffelbergi</i> (Bremer et Grey)	po	65	
		<i>Psilogamma increta</i> (Walker)		po	65
				p	85
				po	206
				po	206
	<i>Psilogamma menephron</i> (Cramer)		po	208	
			p	85	
			po	85	
			po	141	
	<i>Psilogamma menephron</i> (Cramer)		po	206	
			po	206	
			po	208	
	<i>Sphinx ligustri constricta</i> Butler	po	206		
	Tortricidae	<i>Homona magnanima</i> Diakonoff	po	65	
				po	85
				po	158
		<i>Lozotaenia forsterana</i> (Fabricius)	po	113	
		<i>Pseudargyrotoza conwagana</i> (Fabricius)	po	113	
Orthoptera	Mecopodidae	<i>Mecopoda elongata</i> (Linnaeus)	mo	85	

^I Recorded as *Alphaea phasma* (Leech)^{II} Recorded as *Melalopha anachoreta* (Fabricius)