

Notes on the identity of seed LG23/14 listed as *L. brownii* var.

Prof. Gao writes: This one is correctly named from your source, and it is *L. brownii* var. *viridulum* in my opinion. I have only this species left in my writing of all profiles. The reason that I still not finished it is because of the complicated history and wide distribution of this species, which results in lots of names and variations. The yellow form, which I have seen in the wild in the past several years is mainly distributed in central China. As you mentioned, your photos are from Qinling. I also found it nearby in Daba Mountains, as in Chongqing and Shaanxi. The yellow form and white forms are mixed and it seems there are no boundaries for both colour types, and they should be conspecific. I collected one population in 2022 in Chongqing, and the genetic results also shows no differences between the yellow and white forms. The segments of both forms are the result of different amount of anthocyanin and carotene, a quite common phenomenon.”

However, Jamie Compton argues the form shown in the photos on our website are of *L. brownii*

“There are three different varieties recognised in *L. brownii*. The one from Qinling Mts in Shaanxi Prov. photographed for the Seed List (LG23/14) and which has deep plum colouration on the tepals externally and long lanceolate leaves is I believe *L. brownii* var. *brownii*.”

L. brownii var. *chloraster* (synonym: *L. wenshanense*) also has long lanceolate leaves but with pale yellowish-green external colouration.

L. brownii var. *viridulum* has very short apical leaves and even the lower ones are usually significantly oblanceolate i.e. much broader than the wild, this plant clearly has long, lanceolate leaves that do not taper significantly towards the apex.

Key to the varieties of *Lilium brownii*

1a	Leaves linear to lanceolate, reducing only slightly in length towards the apex of the inflorescence axis	2
1b	Leaves oblanceolate to obovate, reducing markedly in length towards the apex of the inflorescence axis; corollas tinged externally with only a faint dash of claret-brown on outer tepals	<i>Lilium brownii</i> var. <i>viridulum</i>
2a	Corollas ivory white tinged externally with claret-brown with a pronounced dark streak along the midribs of each outer tepal	<i>Lilium brownii</i> var. <i>brownii</i>
2b	Corollas ivory white tinged greenish externally especially along tepal midribs	<i>Lilium brownii</i> var. <i>chloraster</i>