

ment, terminated by roundish summits; the empalement of the female flowers are permanent; they are cut into five oval concave segments. The flowers have no petals or stamina, but a roundish germen, having three furrows, supporting an erect style, crowned by a trifid spreading stigma. The germen afterward turns to roundish three-lobed capsules having three cells, each containing one globular seed. This genus of plants is ranged in the third section of Linnæus's twenty-first class, which includes those plants which have male and female flowers on the same plant, and the male flowers have three stamina.

The SPECIES are,

1. TRAGIA (*Volubilis*) foliis cordato-oblongis, caule volubili. Lin. Sp. Plant. 980. *Tragia with oblong heart-shaped leaves, and a twining stalk.* *Tragia scandens, longo betonica folio.* Plum. Gen. Nov. 14. *Climbing Tragia with a long Betony leaf.*
2. TRAGIA (*Involucrum*) fæmineis pentaphyllis pinnatifidis. Lin. Sp. Plant. 980. *Tragia with five-leaved involucri to the female flowers, which are wing-pointed.* *Ricinocarpos Zeylanica hirsuta, foliis lanceolatis serratis.* Burm. Zeyl. 202. *Hairy Ricinocarpos of Ceylon, with spear-shaped sawed leaves.*

The title of this genus was applied to it by Father Plumier, who constituted the genus to the honour of Hieronymus Bock, an ancient botanist, who was commonly called *Tragus*.

The first sort grows plentifully in the savannahs in Jamaica, and the other warm parts of America, where it twines round whatever plants or trees it grows near, and rises seven or eight feet high, having tough woody stems. The leaves are oblong and heart-shaped; they are an inch and a half long, and three quarters of an inch broad toward their base, ending in acute points, and are deeply sawed on their edges, standing alternately upon pretty long foot-stalks. The male flowers come out from the wings of the stalk, in long bunches of about two inches in length; the female flowers are produced on separate foot-stalks, arising from the same point as the male; these are succeeded by roundish capsules with three cells, each inclosing one roundish seed. The whole plant is covered with burning spines like those of the Nettle, which renders it very unpleasant to handle.

The second sort grows naturally in India; this rises with an erect ligneous stalk about three feet high, which rarely sends out any side branches; it is garnished with oblong spear-shaped leaves, which run out in very long acute points, and are sharply sawed on their edges; these are ranged alternately on the stalk, and are closely covered with yellowish stinging hairs. The flowers are produced in small clusters from the wings of the stalk, standing several together upon the same foot-stalk; the upper are all male, and the under female, and the latter are succeeded by roundish capsules with three cells, each inclosing one seed.

As these are plants of no great beauty, they are seldom preserved in this country, except in some botanic gardens for the sake of variety; they are propagated by seeds, which must be sown on a hot-bed early in the spring, and must afterward be transplanted into pots, and plunged into a hot-bed of tanners bark, and treated in the same manner as other tender plants which require to be kept in the bark-stove.

TRAGOPOGON. Tourn. Inst. R. H. 477. tab. 270. Lin. Gen. Plant. 810. [*Τραγοπιώνων*, of *τράγος*, a goat, and *πίωνων*, a beard, because the pappous seed, while it is included in the calyx, resembles a goat's beard.] *Goats-beard*; in French, *Barbe de Bouc*.

The CHARACTERS are,

*The common empalement of the flower is single, and composed of eight acute-pointed leaves, which are alternately large, and joined at their base. The flower is composed of many hermaphrodite florets, which are uniform; they are of one petal, stretched out like a tongue, indented at their points in five parts, and lie over each other like the scales of fish; these have five short hair-like stamina terminated by cylindrical summits, and an oblong germen situated under the floret, supporting a slender style the length of the stamina, crowned by two revolving stigmas. The empale-*

*ment of the flower afterward swells to a belly, inclosing many oblong, angular, rough seeds, slender at both ends, crowned by a feathery down.*

This genus of plants is ranged in the first section of Linnæus's nineteenth class, which contains those plants whose flowers are composed of only hermaphrodite florets, and their summits are connected with the style.

The SPECIES are,

1. TRAGOPOGON (*Pratense*) calycibus corollæ radium æquantibus, foliis integris strictis. Lin. Sp. Plant. 789. *Goats-beard with an empalement equal to the rays of the flower, and entire closed leaves.* *Tragopogon pratense luteum majus.* C. B. P. 274. *Greater yellow Meadow Goats-beard.*
2. TRAGOPOGON (*Minus*) calycibus corollæ radiis longioribus, foliis linearibus strictis. *Goats-beard with the empalement longer than the rays of the flower, and linear closed leaves.* *Tragopogon pratense luteum minus.* Hort. R. Blæf. *Smaller yellow Meadow Goats-beard.*
3. TRAGOPOGON (*Porrifolium*) calycibus corollæ radiis sesqui longioribus, foliis integris strictis, pedunculis supernè incrassatis. Hort. Upsal. 243. *Goats-beard with the empalement longer than the rays of the flower, entire closed leaves, and the foot-stalk thicker at the upper part.* *Tragopogon purpureo-cæruleum porri folio, quod artiâ vulgò.* C. B. P. 274. *Goats-beard of a purple blue colour, and a Leek leaf, commonly called Salsafy.*
4. TRAGOPOGON (*Picroides*) calycibus corollâ brevioribus aculeatis, foliis pinnato-hastatis. Hort. Cliff. 382. *Goats-beard with prickly empalements which are shorter than the petals, and arrow wing-pointed leaves.* *Sonchus asper, laciniatus Creticus.* C. B. P. 124. *Rough Sow-thistle of Crete with jagged leaves.*
5. TRAGOPOGON (*Dalechampii*) calycibus monophyllis corollâ brevioribus inermibus, foliis runcinatis. Hort. Upsal. 224. *Goats-beard with an empalement of one leaf, shorter than the petals of the flower, and plain shaped leaves.* *Hieracium magnum Dalechampii.* Hist. 569. *Greatest Hawkweed of Dalechamp.*

The first sort grows naturally in the meadows of Austria and Germany; this is very different from the sorts which grow naturally in England, for I have sown the seeds of both sorts several years in the same bed of earth, and have always found the plants have retained their difference. The lower leaves are three quarters of an inch broad at their base, where they embrace the stalk; they are more than a foot long, and are closed together, ending in acute points. The stalk rises near three feet high, which is garnished at each joint with one leaf of the same shape with those below, but are smaller; it is terminated by one large yellow flower composed of hermaphrodite florets, which lie over each other like the scales of fish; these are included in one common simple empalement, which is equal in length to the rays of the flower. Each floret is succeeded by an oblong seed which is larger at the base than at the point, where it is crowned with a large feathery down. The seeds of the border or ray are crooked and rough, but those of the disk are strait and smooth. It flowers in June, and the seeds ripen about a month after.

The second sort grows naturally in moist pastures in many parts of England; it is by the common people titled *Sleep-at-noon*, or *Go-to-bed-at-noon*, because the flowers are generally closed up before that time every day. The lower leaves of this sort are almost as long as those of the first sort, but are not more than a third part so broad; they are of a deep green colour, and end in acute points. The stalks rise about a foot high, and sustain one yellow flower at the top, not more than half so large as those of the first; the empalement of these flowers are longer than the rays; the seeds of this are much smaller. It flowers about the same time with the former.

When this sort is shot up in stalk four inches high, the common people gather it out of the fields, and boil it in the same way as *Asparagus*, and some give it the preference.

The third sort is cultivated in gardens by the title of *Salsafy*. The roots of this are dressed in different ways,