

PHILYDRACEAE

田葱科 tian cong ke

Wu Guofang (吴国芳 Wu Kuo-fang)¹; Kai Larsen²

Herbs, perennial, erect. Rhizome short. Leaves radical or crowded at stem base, basal and proximal cauline ones distichous, others smaller and spirally arranged; leaf sheaths equitant; leaf blade linear or ensiform, veins parallel, stomata paracytic. Inflorescence a spike, often branched; bracts spathe-like. Flowers bisexual, sessile, zygomorphic. Perianth yellow or whitish; segments 4, in 2 whorls, petaloid, outer 2 larger than inner 2. Stamen 1, inserted at base of lower perianth segment; filament flattened, glabrous; anther basifixed, 2-loculed, dehiscent by longitudinal slits; pollen grains 2-nucleate. Ovary superior, 3-loculed and placentation axile or 1-loculed and placentation parietal; ovules numerous per locule, anatropous. Style simple; stigma capitate or obscurely 3-lobed. Fruit a 3-valved capsule, longitudinally dehiscent. Seeds numerous; testa helicoidally striate; endosperm developed; embryo straight.

Four genera and five species: mainly in Australia, some species extending to W Pacific Islands and mainland SE Asia; one species in China.

Wu Kuo-fang. 1997. Philydraceae. In: Wu Kuo-fang, ed., Fl. Reipubl. Popularis Sin. 13(3): 142–144.

1. PHILYDRUM Banks ex Gaertner, Fruct. Sem. Pl. 1: 62. 1788.

田葱属 tian cong shu

Leaves distichous, ensiform. Spikes usually simple, pubescent. Perianth yellow, thin, 2 outer segments free, 2 inner ones basally ± adnate to filament. Anther coiled; pollen grains in tetrads. Ovary superior, 1-loculed. Capsule usually loculicidal. Seeds narrowly ovoid; testa spirally striate.

One species: China, India, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Vietnam; N Australia.

1. *Philydrum lanuginosum* Gaertner, Fruct. Sem. Pl. 1: 62. 1788.

田葱 tian cong

?*Philydrum cavaleriei* H. Léveillé.

Herbs tufted. Basal leaves 12–25, 30–80 cm including sheath 1–1.5 cm × 2–3.5 mm; leaf blade soft, veins 7–9, apex tapering. Cauline leaves usually 2 or 3. Flowering stem scapose, slender, terete, glabrescent proximally, villous toward inflorescence. Spikes simple, sometimes branched, woolly; bracts ovate, 2–7 × 0.7–1 cm, abaxially woolly, apex abruptly acuminate and subulate. Outer 2 perianth segments subovate, 8–10 mm, abaxially woolly, base with 2 strong veins, margin undulate, apex acute; inner 2 segments smaller than outer 2, spatulate, membranous, veins 3, base adnate to filament for 1–2 mm, apex acute. Stamen 6–9 mm, glabrous; filament flattened; anther subglobose. Ovary 6–7 mm, densely long woolly. Style 3–4 mm, glabrous; stigma dark reddish, capitate, 0.7–0.9 mm, long papillose. Fl. Jun–Jul, fr. Sep–Oct.

Ponds, marshes, rice fields; rarely above 100 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Taiwan [India (Andaman Islands), Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Vietnam; N Australia].

¹ Herbarium, Department of Biology, East China Normal University, 3663 Zhongshan North Road, Shanghai 200062, People's Republic of China (Wu Guofang died April 20, 1998).

² Biologisk Institut, Aarhus Universitet, Nordlandsvej 68, DK-8240 Risskov, Denmark.