

CENTROLEPIDACEAE

刺鳞草科 ci lin cao ke

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

Herbs annual or perennial, tufted, small. Stems branched, short. Leaves crowded or densely distichous; leaf sheath open, broadly membranous, often with ligule adaxially at juncture with leaf blade; leaf blade narrowly lanceolate, linear, or filiform, stomata paracytic. Inflorescence a terminal head or spike, rarely 1-flowered; bracts 2 to many, distichous. Flowers unisexual or bisexual. Perianth absent. Stamens 1(or 2); filaments filiform; anthers dorsifixed, versatile, 1-loculed, dehiscent longitudinally; pollen grains 3-nucleate, 1-porate. Carpels 1 to many, superior, connate or free. Styles free or connate at base; stigmas linear. Fruit small, dehiscent longitudinally; pericarp membranous. Seeds minute; albumen farinaceous; embryo small.

About five genera and ca. 35 species: mainly in Australia, a few in SE Asia, Pacific Islands, and South America; one species in China.

Wu Kuo-fang. 1997. Centrolepidaceae. In: Wu Kuo-fang, ed., Fl. Reipubl. Popularis Sin. 13(3): 8–10.

1. CENTROLEPIS Labillardière, Nov. Holl. Pl. 1: 7. 1804.

刺鳞草属 ci lin cao shu

Alepyrum Hieronymus; *Devauxia* R. Brown; *Pseudalepyrum* Dandy.

Herbs annual or perennial. Leaves radical or distichous; leaf blade linear to filiform. Inflorescence a head subtended by 2 opposite, inequilateral bracts, flowering in a centrifugal sequence. Flowers usually bisexual, 1–13, in 1 or 2 rows when several, sessile. Bracteoles 1–3 per flower, unequal, hyaline, apex erose. Carpels 3–20 per carpophore, in 1 or 2 rows, free or connate. Style 1 per carpel, free or connate at base; stigma papillose. Mature carpels dehiscent longitudinally.

About 25 species: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam; Australia, Pacific Islands (New Zealand); one species in China.

1. *Centrolepis banksii* (R. Brown) Roemer & Schultes, Syst. Veg. 1: 44. 1817.

刺鳞草 ci lin cao

Devauxia banksii R. Brown, Prodr. 253. 1810; *Centrolepis asiatica* Merrill ex Gagnepain; *C. hainanensis* Merrill & Metcalf; *C. miboroides* Gagnepain.

Herbs annual, 2–5 cm tall, densely tufted. Leaf sheath hyaline at margin; leaf blade linear to filiform, 0.7–2.5 cm, apex acute. Scapes thin, 1.2–5 cm, base surrounded by reduced, sheathlike leaves. Inflorescences 6–13-flowered; bracts ciliate at margin, apex obtuse, outer one sessile, ovate, 3–3.5 mm, inner one shortly stalked, suborbicular, 2.5–3 mm. Bracteoles 2, opposite, oblong or linear, ca. 2 mm. Stamen 1; filament 2–3 mm; anther ovoid. Carpels 14, free, adnate laterally to carpophore. Styles free, unequal, 1–3 mm, basal longest. Fruit small, membranous. Seeds yellowish brown, ovoid. Fl. and fr. Nov–Feb.

Grasslands, dry rice fields, sandy soil by rivers; near sea level to 100 m. Hainan [Cambodia, ?Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam; Australia (Queensland)].

In addition to occurring at low elevations, this species is found at ca. 1500 m on mountainous plateaus in Thailand.

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