
单性滨藜属 dan xing bin li shu

Herbs annual. Leaves opposite or alternate, petiolate; leaf blade flattened, slightly succulent, with unicellular, inflated trichomes, margin serrate. Flowers unisexual (plants monoecious). Male flowers in interrupted, ebracteate spikes at apex of branchlets; perianth 5-parted; segments membranous, slightly succulent abaxially near apex, veinless; stamens 5, inserted on disk. Female flowers borne below male inflorescences, attached to base and petiole of bracts; bracts leaflike, shortly petiolate or subsessile, smaller than leaves; perianth 3- or 4-parted; segments with midvein, slightly enlarged in fruit; ovary obovoid, smooth; style inconspicuous; stigmas 2. Fruit a utricle, slightly compressed, papillate; pericarp membranous, adnate to seed. Seed laterally compressed, lenticular; testa crustaceous; embryo annular; radicle inferior; perisperm copious.

● One species.


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Plants to 1.2 m tall. Stem erect or ascending, branched, slightly 4-angled, striate; branches ascending; branchlets 1–5 cm, usually slender. Petiole 0.5–8 cm; leaf blade abaxially light green, adaxially dark green, broadly ovate or triangular-hastate, 2–10 cm, nearly as broad as long, base cordate, margin irregularly coarsely serrate, apex shortly acuminate. Male flowers several glomerulate in slender, sometimes shortly branched inflorescences; perianth segments obovate or oblanceolate, ca. 1 mm, slightly succulent, basally connate, apically somewhat cucullate; stamens 5; filaments filiform, flattened, nearly equaling perianth; anthers broadly oblong or broadly ovate, ca. 0.3 mm. Female flowers 4–7 per glomerule, inserted at base and petiole of bracts; bracts ovate or cordate, 4–20 mm, margin entire or serrate; perianth segments (in fruit) patent, linear-elliptic or obovate, 0.7–1 mm, basally connate, margin entire or slightly lacerate; stigmas ca. 0.2 mm. Utricle obliquely ovoid; pericarp membranous, papillate. Seed red-brown or black, ca. 1–1.5 mm in diam.

● Beneath shrubs, shrubby slopes, river banks, near farm houses; ca. 2100 m. N Sichuan (Naping).