
川苔草属  chuan tai cao shu

*Lawiella* Koidzumi.

Herbs, perennial. Roots flat, cylindric to flattened, branched. Stems arising laterally from root margins, simple. Sterile stem leaves in a rosette, simple or digitate, with 3–9 segments. Fertile stems to 1 cm tall; leaves densely imbricate, digitate. Flowers solitary, terminal, zygomorphic, pedicellate, enclosed in spathella before anthesis; spathella ovoid, apex nipple-shaped, usually irregularly dehiscent, sometimes by a lateral slit. Tepals 2, at both sides of filament base, narrowly triangular to linear, membranous. Stamen 1, rarely 2, filament curved, anther basifixcd, 2-loculed. Ovary 2-loculed. Stigmas 2. Capsule smooth, 2-valved; largest valve persistent.

Five species: E and SE Asia; two species (one endemic) in China.

1a. Flowering stem 5–6 mm tall; stigmas linear.............................................................................................................................. 1. *C. nymanii*

1b. Flowering stem 3–4 mm tall; stigmas rhombic ........................................................................................................................... 2. *C. chinensis*


飞瀑草  fei pu cao

*Cladopus fukienensis* (H. C. Chao) H. C. Chao; *Lawiella fukienensis* H. C. Chao.

Roots dark green, usually turning reddish, flattened, 1–3 mm wide. Leaves on sterile stems simple or digitate with linear segments, 2–4 mm. Fertile stems 5–6 mm tall; leaves with 3–7(–9) segments, 1–2 × 1–3 mm. Spathella ca. 2 mm, irregularly dehiscent. Tepals linear, ca. 1 mm. Stamen 1 or 2; filament ca. 1.8 mm, basally united when 2; anther elliptic, ca. 1 mm. Ovary obovoid to ± globose, ca. 1.5 mm. Stigma lineur, 0.5–0.7 mm. Capsule ± globose, 1.5–2 mm; stipe 1.5–3 mm. Fl. and fr. Sep–Feb.

Swift-running streams and cascades, clinging to rocks; near sea level to 600 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Hainan [Indonesia, S Japan, Thailand].


川苔草  chuan tai cao


Roots dark green to yellowish green, flattened, 1–3 mm wide. Leaves on sterile stems simple or digitate with linear segments, 2–4 mm. Fertile stems 3–4 mm tall; leaves with 6–9 segments, 1–2 × 1–3 mm. Spathella ca. 2 mm, apically and transversely dehiscent. Tepals linear, ca. 0.8 mm. Stamens 1 or 2; filaments 0.8–1.3 mm, basally united when 2; anther ovoid to globose, ca. 0.5 mm. Ovary ± globose, 1–1.5 mm. Stigma rhombic, ca. 0.5 mm. Capsule ± globose 1–2 mm; stipe 1.5–2.5 mm. Fl. Sep–Dec, fr. Jan–Mar.

● 200–400 m. Fujian, E Guangdong.