

2. **TRIANTHEMA** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 223. 1753.

假海马齿属 *jia hai ma chi shu*

Herbs annual to perennial. Stems procumbent to ascending, often much branched. Leaves opposite, entire, those of a pair unequal, terete to flat, petiole broadening at base forming a sheath around stem. Inflorescences of solitary or clustered flowers subtended by scarious bracts and bracteoles. Flowers sessile or pedicellate. Perigone tube campanulate, short to long, smooth to hairy; lobes 5, inside white, green, or pink to purple, outside fleshy. Stamens 5 to many, adnate with perigone. Perigynous, ovary with a truncate or impressed apex, 1-loculed; stigma 1. Capsule terete or turbinate, operculum with 1 or 2 seeds falling off as a whole. Seeds globose-reniform to lentil-shaped.

About 28 species: Africa, tropical Asia, Australia, two species in tropical South America, two species pantropical; one species in China.

1. **Trianthea portulacastrum** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 223. 1753.

假海马齿 *jia hai ma chi*

Trianthea monogyna Linnaeus.

Herbs perennial. Stems procumbent, subterete or slightly angular, glabrous or sparsely hairy when young. Petiole 4–30 mm, base expanded into sheath 2–2.5 mm; leaf blade elliptic to ovate, obovate, or obcordate, 8–50 × 4–45 mm, thinly fleshy, base cuneate, apex obtuse, retuse, truncate, or slightly acute.

Flowers solitary, sessile. Perigone lobes usually 5, inside mostly pale pink, rarely white, 4–5 mm; perigone tube fused with basal sheath of pedicel, forming a funnel; lobes rather obtuse, with an apical spur. Stamens 10–25. Stigma 1, ca. 3 mm. Capsule truncate at apex, 2-lobed, operculum fleshy, base thinly walled. Seeds several, black, reniform, 1–2.5 mm, broad, with low crests. Fl. summer. $2n = 26, 28, 56$.

Open sunny dry sands, usually near sea or as weeds in fields. Guangdong, Hainan (including Nanhai Zhudao), Taiwan [pantropical].

