

## 2. GLINUS Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 463. 1753.

星粟草属 xing su cao shu

Herbs annual, diffuse, procumbent, often much branched, with stellate or simple hairs or glabrous. Leaves alternate, or in pseudowhorls, margin entire or with sparse teeth. Inflorescences in seemingly axillary cymes. Flowers pedicellate or sessile. Tepals 5, persistent, free, usually with white scarios margin, often yellowish on inner surface, often unequal. Petals absent or 1–8(–20), linear, often split at tips. Stamens (3–)5(–20), free or fascicled when numerous. Carpels 3(–5), connate; ovary ovate or oblong, 3(–5)-loculed; ovules numerous. Stigmas 3(–5), persistent, erect, spreading, or curved, linear or oblong-elliptic. Capsule ovoid or ellipsoid, 3–5-valved. Seeds numerous, reniform, each with a short funicle with a long filiform appendage, the strophiole, coiled around the seed; testa finely granulate or smooth.

About ten species: tropical, subtropical, and warm-temperate regions; two species in China.

*Glinus herniarioides* (Gagnepain) Tardieu (Fl. Cambodge, Laos & Vietnam 5: 97. 1967), described from Vietnam, might occur within the Flora area. It is most similar to *G. oppositifolius* but differs by the sessile flowers with tepals only ca. 2 mm. Wu Zhengyi (editor's note) adds that it indeed occurs in Mengla Xian, in the extreme south of Yunnan.

1a. Plant densely stellate tomentose; styles 5; capsule 5-valved; pedicel to 4 mm ..... 1. *G. lotoides*  
1b. Plant subglabrous or pilose with simple hairs; styles 3 or 4; capsule 3- or 4-valved; pedicel 5–14(–18) mm .... 2. *G. oppositifolius*

### 1. *Glinus lotoides* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 463. 1753.

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*Mollugo hirta* Thunberg; *M. lotoides* (Linnaeus) Kuntze.

Herbs sturdy, densely stellate tomentose. Stems decumbent, 10–40 cm, much branched. Petiole very short; basal leaves in a rosette, drying soon; upper leaves verticillate or opposite, obovate to oblong-spatulate, 6–24 × 5–15 mm, base attenuate, decurrent, margin entire, apex obtuse, rounded, or acute. Flowers several, in groups, sessile or subsessile. Tepals elliptic or oblong, 4–6(–10) mm. Stamens usually 3–15, free. Ovary ovoid, 5-loculed; styles 5, free, linear, short, curved outward. Capsule ovoid, ca. as long as persistent tepals, 5-valved. Seeds numerous, chestnut-brown, reniform, granulose; strophiole scrotiform, ca. 2/3 as long as seed or longer. Fl. and fr. spring–summer.  $2n = 36$ .

Open sands, riversides, cultivated fields, waste places; sea level to 500 m. Hainan, Taiwan, Yunnan [Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka; N and tropical Africa, S to SE Asia, S Europe, tropical America, Oceania].

### 2. *Glinus oppositifolius* (Linnaeus) Aug. Candolle, Bull. Herb. Boissier, sér. 2, 1: 559. 1901.

长梗星粟草 chang geng xing su cao

*Mollugo oppositifolia* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 89. 1753; *M. spergula* Linnaeus.

Herbs 10–40 cm, much branched, pilose or subglabrous. Leaves in pseudowhorls of 3–6 or opposite; leaf blade spatulate-oblongate or elliptic, 1–2.5 cm × 3–6 mm, base attenuate, margin with sparse teeth, apex obtuse or acute. Pedicel 5–14(–18) mm, slender. Flowers usually 2–7 in a cyme. Tepals greenish white, yellowish, or milky-colored, oblong, 3–4 mm, margin membranous, 3-veined. Stamens 3–5. Styles 3(or 4). Capsule ellipsoid, slightly shorter than persistent tepals, 3- or 4-valved. Seeds chestnut-brown, subreniform, granulose; strophiole ca. 1/5 as long as seed, claviform. Fl. and fr. almost year-round.  $2n = 36$ .

Riversides, open sands of seashores, rice fields; low elevations. Hainan, S Taiwan [tropical Africa and Asia, N Australia].

