

### 13. GOMPHRENA Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 224. 1753.

千日红属 qian ri hong shu

Herbs or subshrubs. Leaves opposite, rarely alternate. Flowers perfect, clustered in heads. Bracteoles with distal crest. Tepals 5, equal or not, long hairy or glabrous. Stamens 5; filaments united into a tube or cup at base, lateral appendages present, 3-parted at apex, pseudostaminodes absent; anthers 1-loculed. Ovary 1-loculed, with a pendulous ovule; stigmas 2 or 3, linear, or stigma 2-parted. Utricles globose or oblong, compressed, indehiscent. Seeds shiny, lenticular.

About 100 species: mainly in North and South America and Pacific Islands, naturalized elsewhere; two species (one introduced) in China.

- 1a. Stem gray strigose; tepals not rigid after anthesis; inflorescences purplish red, light purple, or white ..... 1. *G. globosa*  
1b. Stem white villous; tepals rigid after anthesis; inflorescences silvery ..... 2. *G. celosioides*

#### 1. *Gomphrena globosa* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 224. 1753.

千日红 qian ri hong

Herbs annual, erect, 20–60 cm tall. Stem stout, branched; branches slightly quadrangular, gray strigose, slightly inflated at nodes. Petiole 1–1.5 cm, long gray hairy; leaf blade oblong or oblong-obovate, 3.5–13 × 1.5–5 cm, papery, long white hairy and ciliate, narrowing toward base, margin undulate, apex acute or obtuse. Heads terminal, 1–3, usually purple, sometimes light purple or white, 2–2.5 cm in diam. Bracts 2, opposite, green, ovate or cordate, 1–1.5 cm, gray hairy; bracts white, purple at apex, ovate, 3–5 mm; bracteoles purple, triangular-lanceolate, much longer than bracts, 1–1.2 cm. Tepals not rigid after anthesis, lanceolate, 5–6 mm, outside densely white lanose, apex acuminate. Filaments connate into a tube, 5-parted at apex. Styles linear, shorter than tube of stamens; stigmas 2, furcate. Utricles subglobose, 2–2.5 mm in diam. Seeds brown, shiny, reniform. Fl. and fr. Jun–Sep.

Widely cultivated. Fujian, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hebei, Hubei, Shanxi, Sichuan, Xinjiang, Zhejiang [native to neotropics; cultivated and naturalized throughout tropical Asia].

#### 2. *Gomphrena celosioides* C. Martius, Nov. Actorum Acad. Caes. Leop.-Carol. Nat. Cur. 13(1): 301. 1825.

银花苋 yin hua xian

Herbs annual, erect. Stem white villous. Petiole 1–1.5 cm, long gray hairy; leaf blade oblong or oblong-obovate, papery, long white hairy and ciliate, narrowing toward base, margin undulate, apex acute or obtuse. Heads silvery; bracteoles purple, triangular-lanceolate, much longer than bracts. Tepals rigid after anthesis. Filaments connate into a tube, 5-parted at apex. Styles linear, shorter than tube of stamens; stigmas 2, furcate. Utricles subglobose. Fl. and fr. Feb–Jun.  $2n = 26$ .

Roadsides, waste places. Hainan, Taiwan [pantropical].

One of us (Clemants) questions whether this is the same as *Gomphrena serrata* Linnaeus.

