

2. BRASENIA Schreber, Gen. Pl. 1: 372. 1789.

菹菜属 chun cai shu

Plants with young vegetative parts heavily mucilaginous. Leaves all floating, long petiolate; leaf blade broadly elliptic, venation radiate, margin entire. Flowers anemophilous, usually long pedunculate; perianth not showy. Sepals linear-oblong to narrowly ovate. Petals narrowly oblong, lacking basal auricles. Stamens 12–36(–51), opposite both sepals and petals. Pistils 6–18; ovules (1–)2; stigmas linear-decurrent. Fruit slightly to strongly fusiform; seeds ovoid, lacking tubercles.

One species: temperate and montane tropics, mainly in the N hemisphere, but absent from W Asia and Europe.

1. *Brasenia schreberi* J. F. Gmelin, Syst. Veg. 1: 853. 1791.

菹菜 chun cai

Brasenia purpurea Caspary.

Stems to 1–2 m, glabrous, base rhizomatous. Petiole 25–40 cm; leaf blade 5–10 × 3.5–6 cm, glabrous.

Flowers 1–2 cm in diam.; peduncle 6–10 cm. Perianth dull purple; segments 10–15(–20) × 2–7 mm; petals

slightly longer and narrower than sepals, apex obtuse.

Stamens 1/2 as long as petals, anthers linear, ca. 4 mm.

Fruit 6–10 mm. Seeds 1–2, 2.5–4 × 2–3 mm. Fl. Jun., fr.

Oct. $2n = 72, 80$.

In ponds, lakes, or swamps. Anhui, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Taiwan, Yunnan, Zhejiang [India, Japan, Korea, Russia (Far East); Africa, Australia, North America, South America].

