

# 1. BERGIA Linnaeus, Mant. Pl. 2: 152, 241. 1771.

田繁缕属 tian fan lü shu

Herbs annual, perennial, or subshrubs, erect or prostrate, richly branched. Leaves opposite, petiolate; leaf blade margin serrulate. Flowers numerous, arranged in axillary cymes or clustered in leaf-axils, rarely solitary, very small. Sepals 5, free, leathery, with conspicuous midrib, margin membranous, apex long acuminate. Petals 5, free, membranous. Stamens 5–10. Ovary ovoid-globose or subglobose, 5-loculed, many-ovuled, apex subacute; styles short; stigmas capitate. Capsule sub-bony, 5-septical. Seeds oblong, slightly curved, reticulate with elliptic pits.

About 25 species: tropical and warm-temperate regions; three species in China.

- 1a. Plants glabrous; stem thick and juicy; flowers numerous in axillary cymes ..... 1. *B. capensis*  
1b. Plants glandular hairy and puberulous; stem neither thick nor juicy; flowers clustered in leaf axils.  
2a. Herbs annual; flowers numerous per leaf axil, pedicel 1–2 mm; stamens 5 ..... 2. *B. ammannioides*  
2b. Herbs perennial or subshrubs; flowers 4 or 5 per leaf axil, pedicel 3–8 mm; stamens (5–)10 ..... 3. *B. serrata*

## 1. *Bergia capensis* Linnaeus, Mant. Pl. 2: 241. 1771.

大叶田繁缕 da ye tian fan lü

Herbs annual, 15–30 cm tall. Stem prostrate and rooting in lower part, terete, slightly fleshy, glabrous; branches erect. Stipules ovate-triangular, membranous, margin dentate-sinuate; petiole 1–5 mm, flattened; leaf blade elliptic-lanceolate, obovate-lanceolate, or obovate, 1–4 × 0.2–1 cm, papery, base acuminate, margin minutely serrulate or subentire, apex acute or attenuate. Flowers arranged into small, axillary cymes, subsessile or with short pedicel 1–5 mm, very small. Sepals erect, narrowly lanceolate, 1–2 mm. Petals pink, oblong or subspatulate, subequaling or slightly exceeding sepals. Stamens 10, free; filaments filiform, base slightly widened. Ovary subglobose; styles straight or curved. Capsule subglobose, ca. 1.8 mm in diam., longitudinally 5-grooved, 5-septical. Seeds oblong, minute, angular or transversely striate.

Paddy fields, moist places along ditch sides. Guangdong [India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand; Africa, SW Asia (Iran), Europe; introduced in tropical America].

## 2. *Bergia ammannioides* Roxburgh ex Roth, Nov. Pl. Sp. 219. 1821.

田繁缕 tian fan lü

branched at base, reddish, glandular hairy and white villous; branches often prostrate on ground in lower part. Leaves subsessile; stipules 2-fid, ca. 3 mm, submembranous, lobes lanceolate, margin lacinate-denticulate; leaf blade papery, oblong to oblong-lanceolate, 1–3 cm, both surfaces subglabrous or abaxially slightly puberulous, base attenuate, decurrent, margin serrulate, apex acute or acuminate. Flowers usually 4 or 5 clustered in leaf axils; pedicel slender, 3–8 mm, puberulous or glandular hairy. Sepals green, narrowly elliptic or lanceolate, ca. 3 mm, apex acute or acuminate. Petals reddish, obovate or elliptic, ca. 2.5 mm, apex acute. Stamens (5 or 7–)10. Ovary ovoid; styles 5; stigmas capitate. Capsule ovoid, 2–2.5 mm, 5-septical. Seeds ovoid, minute, reticulate-striate.

Grasslands on mountain slopes, dry fields, roadsides. Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Taiwan [Philippines].

Herbs annual, 8–30 cm tall. Stem richly branched at base; branches erect or obliquely ascending, densely glandular hairy and puberulous. Stipules 2-fid, ca. 2 mm, submembranous, lobes lanceolate, margin lacinate-denticulate; leaf blade oblanceolate, obovate-lanceolate, or narrowly elliptic, 0.6–2 cm × 2–8 mm, abaxially puberulous and sparsely glandular hairy on veins, adaxially sparsely puberulous or glabrous, base oblique or attenuate, margin serrate, apex acute. Flowers numerous and clustered in leaf axils, small; pedicel 1–2 mm. Sepals narrowly ovate, 1–2 mm, abaxially often villous and glandular hairy, margin membranous, apex acuminate. Petals reddish, narrowly ovate or elliptic, subequaling sepals, apex mucronate. Stamens 5; filaments filiform, base slightly widened. Ovary ovoid; styles 5; stigmas capitate. Capsule subglobose, ca. 2 mm in diam., 5-septical. Seeds brown, narrowly ovoid, ca. 0.5 mm, inconspicuously reticulate-striate.

Grassy places along streams, paddy field margins, roadsides. Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Hunan, Taiwan, Yunnan [Laos, Indonesia, Nepal, Tajikistan, Thailand, Vietnam, and probably elsewhere in tropical Asia; tropical Africa, Australia].

## 3. *Bergia serrata* Blanco, Fl. Filip. 387. 1837.

倍蕊田繁缕 bei rui tian fan lü

Herbs perennial or subshrubs, 10–30 cm tall. Stem richly

ELATINACEAE