

1. **SCAEVOLA** Linnaeus, Mant. Pl. 2: 145. 1771, nom. cons.

草海桐属 cao hai tong shu

*Lobelia* Miller (1754), not Linnaeus (1753).

Shrubs or small trees [or herbs]. Leaves alternate and spirally arranged, or opposite. Flowers in axillary cymes, or solitary and axillary; bracts opposite; bracteoles opposite. Calyx epigynous; tube adnate to ovary; limb cupular, short, 5-dentate or 5-lobed. Corolla zygomorphic, posterior side longitudinally divided to near base; lobes 5, subequal in size. Ovary 2-locular; each locule with 1 upright ovule on axile placenta [or 1-locular, with 1 or 2 ovules also on axile placenta]; stigma 2-cleft. Drupe often fleshy; endocarp hard; each locule with 1 seed.

About 80 species: pantropical but mainly in Australia; two species in China.

- 1a. Flowers in an inflorescence; leaf blade spatulate to obovate, 10–22 × 4–8 cm ..... 1. *S. taccada*  
1b. Flowers solitary, axillary; leaf blade linear-spatulate, 1–2.5 × 0.2–0.5 cm ..... 2. *S. hainanensis*

1. ***Scaevola taccada*** (Gaertner) Roxburgh, Hort. Bengal. 15. 1814.

草海桐 cao hai tong

*Lobelia taccada* Gaertner, Fruct. Sem. Pl. 1: 119. 1788; *Scaevola frutescens* Krause, nom. illeg. superfl.; *S. koenigii* Vahl; *S. sericea* Vahl.

Shrubs or small trees, to 7 m tall, erect or diffuse. Twigs 5–10 mm in diam., sometimes rooting, hollow, usually glabrous but axils with a tuft of dense white barbate trichomes. Leaves spirally arranged, mostly aggregated at apex of branches, sessile or shortly petiolate; leaf blade spatulate to obovate, 10–22 × 4–8 cm, slightly succulent, glabrous or abaxially sparsely villous, base cuneate, apex rounded, truncate, or emarginate. Cymes axillary; bracts and bracteoles small, with a tuft of barbate trichomes in axils. Pedicel with a joint at apex. Calyx glabrous; tube obovoid; lobes linear-lanceolate, ca. 2.5 mm. Corolla white to pale yellow or purple, ca. 2 cm; tube thinly tubular, posterior side divided to base, outside glabrous, inside densely white villous; limb patent; lobes lanceolate, thickened at center, each side with a wide membranous and induplicate wing above middle, margin sparsely ciliate. Anthers connivent into a tube with basal part of indusium, becoming free after anthesis; connective longer than cells, becoming lamellar at apex. Drupe white, ovoid-globose, 7–10 mm in diam., divided longitudinally by furrows into 2 parts each 4-ribbed, 2-locular; locules each with 1 seed. Fl. and fr. Apr–Dec.  $2n = 16$ .

Open coastal sands or rocks; near sea level. Dongsha Qundao, SE Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Nansha Qundao, Taiwan, Xisha Qundao [India, Indonesia, S Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; E Africa, tropical Australia, Indian Ocean islands, Madagascar, Pacific islands].

*Scaevola taccada* is naturalized in some coastal areas of tropical and subtropical America. It likely occurs in coastal Cambodia and the SE coast of Bangladesh, although these potential distributions need to be confirmed. For a discussion of the nomenclatural problems concerning the Indo-Pacific species *S. taccada* and the Indo-Atlantic species *S. plumieri* (Linnaeus) Vahl see P. S. Green (Taxon 40: 118–122. 1991), C. Jeffrey (Kew Bull. 34: 537–545. 1980), and R. K. Shannon et al. (Taxon 46: 801–802. 1997). The *Vienna Code*, Art. 33.3 Ex. 8, explains why the new combination as *S. taccada* was validly published by Roxburgh in 1814 due to reference to the published illustration by Rheede (Hort. Malab. 4: t. 59. 1683) which was also cited by Gaertner in his 1788 publication.

2. ***Scaevola hainanensis*** Hance, J. Bot. 16: 229. 1878.

小草海桐 xiao cao hai tong

Shrubs, small, diffuse. Old twigs elongate, glabrous; young shoots numerous, short, scaberulose, with a tuft of woolly trichomes in axils. Leaves spirally arranged, aggregated at apex of branches, sometimes branches undeveloped and becoming extremely short and thus leaves appearing fascicled, sessile or shortly petiolate; leaf blade linear-spatulate, 1–2.5 × 0.2–0.5 cm, succulent, glabrous, only 1 main vein visible on abaxial side, margin entire. Flowers axillary, solitary. Pedicel ca. 1 mm; bracteoles opposite, at apex of pedicels, broadly linear, 3–4 mm, with a tuft of woolly trichomes. Calyx glabrous; tube obovoid-oblong, ca. 2 mm; limb shallowly cupular, apex sinuously 5-lobed. Corolla pale blue, ca. 8 mm, posterior side divided to base, remaining parts divided to middle, outside glabrous, inside of tube densely villous; lobes linear-elliptic, patent into 1 direction, with broad and membranous wings; wing margin basally ± fimbriate. Connective exerted beyond anther cells. Ovary 2-locular. Fl. and fr. Mar–Dec.

Coastal salt marshes, mangroves; near sea level. Dongsha Qundao, SE Fujian, Guangdong, Hainan, Taiwan [Vietnam].

