117. CORTADERIA Stapf, Gard. Chron., ser. 3, 22: 378. 1897, nom. cons.

蒲苇属 pu wei shu

Chen Shouliang (陈守良); Sylvia M. Phillips

Moorea Lemaire, nom. rej.

Perennial, tussock-forming, gynodioecious (bisexual and female plants). Culms often tall. Leaf blades mainly basal, linear, flat or convolute; ligule a line of hairs. Inflorescence a large plumose panicle. Spikelets laterally compressed, with 2 to several florets, disarticulating above glumes and between florets; rachilla villous; glumes longer than lowest lemma, sometimes as long as spikelet, narrow, membranous, 1-veined; floret callus linear, hairy; lemmas lanceolate to ovate, hyaline, 3–7-veined, villous on back, entire or 2-dentate, awnless or with a terminal awn; palea glabrous or sometimes pilose; female plants with sterile anthers present. Lodicules hairy.

Twenty-seven species: mainly South America, also New Zealand and New Guinea; one species (introduced) in China.

1. Cortaderia selloana (Schultes & J. H. Schultes) Ascherson & Graebner, Syn. Mitteleur. Fl. 2: 325. 1900.

蒲苇 pu wei

Arundo selloana Schultes & J. H. Schultes, Mant. 3: 605. 1827.

Perennial forming large tussocks. Culms robust, 2–3 m tall. Leaf blades stiff, 50–200 cm, 4–10 mm wide, glaucous, margins sharply serrulate, apex acuminate; ligule 2–4 mm. Panicle 30–100 cm, silvery or sometimes pinkish; branches erectopatent in bisexual, patent in female plants. Spikelets dimorphic, florets 2–5; glumes linear or lanceolate, acuminate; lemmas 3-veined, gradually tapering to an entire apex continuing into a slender awn. Female spikelets: glumes 8–9 mm; lemmas 8–14 mm, densely silky villous; palea 2.5–3 mm; minute staminodes present. Male spikelets: glumes 9–18 mm; lemmas 11–17 mm, sparsely pilose; palea 4–6 mm.

Cultivated. Jiangsu, Taiwan, Zhejiang [native to South America].

This species is widely cultivated as an ornamental (Pampas Grass). The sharply serrulate leaf margins cut skin very easily.

Flora of China 22: 450. 2006.