

63. CYNOSURUS Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 72. 1753.

洋狗尾草属 yang gou wei cao shu

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Annuals or perennials. Leaf blades linear, flat; ligule membranous. Inflorescence condensed, a narrowly spikelike or capitate panicle, \pm 1-sided, bearing paired dimorphic spikelets, the outer of each pair sterile and covering a fertile spikelet. Fertile spikelet with (1-)2-5 florets, laterally compressed, disarticulating above glumes and between florets; glumes subequal, narrow, thin, acute; lemmas leathery, rounded on back, 5-veined, scabrid upward, apex acute, narrowly obtuse or bidenticulate, mucronate or awned. Sterile spikelet flattened, reduced to distichously pectinate glumes and sterile empty lemmas, persistent on panicle. Caryopsis elliptic or oblong, adherent to palea. $x = 7$.

Eight species: N Africa, SW Asia, Europe; introduced elsewhere; one species (introduced) in China.

1. *Cynosurus cristatus* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 72. 1753.

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Perennial, compactly tufted. Culms wiry, erect or decumbent at base, 20-70 cm tall, 1-2 mm in diam., unbranched, 3-4-noded. Leaf sheaths smooth, glabrous; leaf blades up to 15 cm \times 1-4 mm, soft, smooth, glabrous, apex finely acute; ligule 0.5-1.5 mm, rounded. Panicle linear-oblong, spikelike, 5-10 \times 0.5-0.7 cm, erect or slightly curved; branches very short. Fertile spikelet oblong or wedge-shaped, 3-6 mm, florets 2-5; glumes lanceolate, shorter than florets, 3-4.5 mm, margins membran-

ous, back keeled, keel scabrid, apex acuminate or mucronate; lemmas narrowly ovate-oblong, lowest ca. 4 mm, spinescent, apex mucronate; palea slightly shorter than lemma, keels scabrid. Anthers ca. 2 mm. Caryopsis oblong, ca. 2 mm, apex glabrous. Sterile spikelet ovate, composed of up to 18 stiff, narrowly linear, shortly awned empty lemmas with green ciliate keel. Fl. and fr. Jun-Aug. $2n = 14$.

Roadsides, forest margins, fields, adventive. Jiangxi (Lu Shan) [N Africa, SW Asia, Europe; introduced in North America and Australia].

This species is introduced in some temperate countries as a pasture and lawn grass and is adventive elsewhere.

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