

67. **DACTYLIS** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 71. 1753.

鸭茅属 ya mao shu

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Perennial. Leaf sheaths closed to middle; leaf blades linear, flat or folded. Inflorescence a lobed, 1-sided panicle, open or contracted; spikelets sessile, densely clustered in compact fascicles on the panicle branches. Spikelets strongly laterally compressed, florets 2–5, disarticulating above glumes and between florets; glumes lanceolate, subequal, shorter than lemmas, strongly keeled, 1–3-veined; lemmas lanceolate to oblong in side view, papery or thinly leathery, strongly keeled, 5-veined, scabrid or ciliate along keel, apex cuspidate to briefly awned; palea slightly shorter than lemma, narrow, ciliolate along keels. Caryopsis oblong or slightly triangular; hilum round; endosperm soft.

One species: N Africa, temperate Asia, Europe; widely introduced elsewhere as a pasture grass.

One widespread, variable species is recognized here. There are many different races and ecotypes throughout its range, the more widespread being generally tetraploid with local diploid races particularly in the Mediterranean region. These forms are seldom clear-cut, and intermediates are common.

1. **Dactylis glomerata** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 71. 1753.

鸭茅 ya mao

Dactylis altaica Besser; *D. glomerata* subsp. *altaica* (Besser) Domin; *D. glomerata* var. *altaica* (Besser) Keng; *D. glomerata* subsp. *sinensis* A. Camus; *D. glomerata* subsp. *himalayensis* Domin.

Perennial, coarse. Culms solitary or tufted, erect or geniculate at base, 40–140 cm tall. Leaf sheaths strongly keeled; leaf blades flat, (6–)10–30 cm × 4–9 mm, abaxial surface scabrid along midrib and margin; ligule 4–8 mm. Panicle oblong to ovate in outline, 5–15 cm; branches single or rarely paired at base, (3–)5–15 cm, horizontal or ascending, lower part naked, upper part with dense fascicles of spikelets. Spikelets oblong to wedge-shaped, 5–9 mm, florets closely overlapping, green or purplish; glumes 4–5(–6.5) mm, scabrid or ciliolate along keel, margins membranous, apex acute to acuminate; lemmas 4–7 mm, lowest subequal to spikelet, scabrid or flanks short-pilose, apex with stout awn up to 1.5 mm. Anthers ca. 2.5 mm. Fl. and fr. May–Aug. $2n = 14, 28, 42$.

Mountain slopes, light forest shade, other grassy places; 1400–3600 m. Gansu, Guizhou, Hubei, Ningxia, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Taiwan, Xinjiang, Xizang, Yunnan, Zhejiang; cultivated in Hebei, Henan, Jiangsu, Shandong [Bhutan, N India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkestan, Uzbekistan; N Africa, SW Asia, Europe].

This is an important pasture and forage grass that has been widely introduced into temperate and subtropical regions throughout the world (Cocksfoot, Orchard Grass).

The typical form, subsp. *glomerata* ($2n = 28$), has a relatively compact panicle, broad spikelet fascicles, and conspicuously ciliate lemma keels. Other forms, widespread in China and the Himalayas, have a looser panicle with long flexuose branches, narrower spikelet fascicles, and only minutely ciliolate lemma keels. The names subsp. *sinensis*, subsp. *himalayensis*, and the European name subsp. *slovenica* (Domin) Domin have been applied to these forms. A chromosome count of $2n = 14$ has been recorded for subsp. *himalayensis*. The basis of this variation, the correct application of these names, and their relationship to similar variants from outside China are not yet understood.

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