

167. **ERIOCHLOA** Kunth, Nov. Gen. Sp. 1: 94. 1816.

野黍属 ye shu shu

Chen Shouliang (陈守良); Sylvia M. Phillips

Annuals or perennials. Leaf blades linear, flat; ligule ciliate. Inflorescence of racemes along a central axis, spikelets pedicellate, single, paired or clustered on a narrow rachis, adaxial. Spikelets lanceolate to elliptic, thinly biconvex, subcartilaginous, acute to aristate, a little globose swelling at spikelet base, florets 2; lower glume vestigial; upper glume equaling spikelet, facing outward, often awn-pointed; lower lemma similar but usually slightly shorter, neuter or staminate, with or without palea; upper lemma crustaceous, papillose, margins inrolled, apex obtuse and often mucronate. $x = 9$.

About 30 species: tropical and warm-temperate regions of the world, especially tropical Africa and America; two species in China.

The main diagnostic feature of *Eriochloa* is the beadlike swelling at the spikelet base. This is formed by the swollen lowest rachilla internode and adnate lower glume. The lanceolate, pointed spikelets are also characteristic.

- 1a. Racemes densely pilose; spikelets single, 4.5–5 mm; upper lemma subacute to acute 1. *E. villosa*
1b. Racemes glabrous or almost so; spikelets paired or in threes, 3–4 mm; upper lemma with ca. 0.5 mm mucro 2. *E. procera*

1. *Eriochloa villosa* (Thunberg) Kunth, Révis. Gramin. 1: 30. 1829.

野黍 ye shu

Paspalum villosum Thunberg in Murray, Syst. Veg., ed. 14, 105. 1784; *Eriochloa villosa* var. *stenantha* Ohwi; *Panicum tuberculiflorum* Steudel.

Annual. Culms erect or geniculately ascending, branching, 30–100 cm tall, nodes pubescent. Leaf sheaths loose, glabrous, pubescent or ciliate along one margin; leaf blades broadly linear, 5–25 × 0.5–1.5 cm, pubescent, margins firm, wavy, scaberulous, apex acute. Inflorescence axis 7–15 cm; racemes 4–8, 1.5–4 cm, erect or only slightly diverging; spikelets single, closely overlapping in 2 rows; axis and rachis densely pubescent, rachis margins and pedicels villous with spreading hairs. Spikelets ovate-elliptic, plump, thinly cartilaginous, dully shining, 4.5–5(–6) mm, acute, basal swelling ca. 0.5 mm; free portion of lower glume a ca. 0.2 mm truncate frill; upper glume and lower lemma 5–7-veined, puberulous, lower palea absent; upper lemma weakly rugulose, subacute. Fl. and fr. Jul–Oct. $2n = 54$.

Mountain slopes, moist places. Anhui, Fujian, Guangdong, Guizhou, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Jiangxi, Jiangsu, Jilin, Nei Mongol, Shaanxi, Shandong, Sichuan, Taiwan, Tianjin, Yunnan, Zhejiang [Japan, Korea, Russia (Far East), Vietnam].

2. *Eriochloa procera* (Retzius) C. E. Hubbard, Bull. Misc. Inform. Kew 1930: 256. 1930.

高野黍 gao ye shu

Agrostis procera Retzius, Observ. Bot. 4: 19. 1786; *A. ramosa* (Retzius) Poirlet; *Eriochloa annulata* (Flüggé) Kunth; *E. hackelii* Honda; *E. ramosa* (Retzius) Kuntze; *Milium ramosum* Retzius; *Paspalum annulatum* Flüggé.

Annual or short-lived perennial. Culms erect or geniculately ascending, branching, 30–150 cm tall, nodes pubescent. Leaf sheaths keeled, glabrous; leaf blades linear, 8–20 × 0.2–0.8 cm, glabrous, apex acuminate. Inflorescence axis 10–20 cm; racemes several, 3–7 cm, loosely ascending, bare of spikelets

proximally; spikelets mostly paired, single toward raceme apex; axis and rachis very slender, puberulous, pedicels usually without setae, those of a pair often partially connate. Spikelets lanceolate, 3–4 mm, herbaceous, sharply acute, basal swelling ca. 0.3 mm and often purplish; lower glume minute; upper glume and lower lemma 5-veined, pilose with appressed silky hairs, lower palea absent; upper lemma rugulose-punctulate, mucro 0.3–0.5 mm. Fl. and fr. summer–autumn. $2n = 36$.

Streams, moist places. Fujian, Guangdong, Hainan, Taiwan [India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Australia; introduced in Africa, tropical America].

This species is a good forage grass.

Flora of China 22: 524–525. 2006.