

133. HARPACHNE A. Richard, Tent. Fl. Abyss. 2: 431. 1850.

镰稈草属 *lian fu cao shu*

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Perennials. Culms tufted. Leaf blades linear or convolute; ligule a line of hairs. Inflorescence a single, cylindrical “bottle-brush” raceme, the spikelets on slender pedicels, reflexing, hanging from rachis. Spikelets strongly laterally compressed, florets several to many, often increasing in size up the spikelet, spikelet falling entire together with the pungent or hooked pedicel; glumes narrowly oblong, shorter than lemmas, 1-veined; lemmas lanceolate, papery with membranous margins, 3-veined, glabrous, strongly keeled, acute to setaceously acuminate; palea much shorter than lemma, gibbous, keels winged. Caryopsis laterally compressed, obliquely elliptic.

Three species: two in tropical Africa, the other endemic to SW China.

1. *Harpachne harpachnoides* (Hackel) B. S. Sun & S. Wang, Fl. Yunnan. 9: 456. 2003.

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*Eragrostis harpachnoides* Hackel, Oesterr. Bot. Z. 52: 306. 1902.

Culms 15–30 cm tall, ca. 1 mm in diam., 3–4-noded. Leaf sheaths pilose along margins and at mouth, otherwise glabrous; leaf blades stiff, narrowly linear or involute, 2–9 × 0.1–0.2 cm, glabrous, apex acute; ligule ca. 0.5 mm. Inflorescence 3–7 × ca. 1.5 cm; rachis pilose; pedicels 1.5–3 mm. Spikelets narrowly oblong to elliptic-oblong, 4–8 × 1.5–2.5 mm, florets 4–8, imbricate, slightly decreasing in length toward spikelet apex; glumes linear-oblong, keel scabrid; lower glume 1–1.5 mm, truncate; upper glume 2–2.5 mm, obtuse; lemmas lanceolate with straight keel, lowest ca. 2.5 mm, minutely puberulous, apex abruptly acute to apiculate; palea keels winged, wing margins ciliolate, apex obtuse. Anthers 0.5–1 mm. Fl. and fr. Jun–Nov.

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• Open places. Sichuan, Yunnan.

The other two species of *Harpachne* occur in tropical Africa and have longer spikelets (8–20 mm). The common *H. schimperi* A. Richard is clearly distinguished from *H. harpachnoides* by its wedge-shaped spikelets, in which the lemmas increase in length upward with acuminate-aristate tips.

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