

155. **ICHNANTHUS** P. Beauvois, Ess. Agrostogr. 56. 1812.

距花黍属 ju hua shu shu

Chen Shouliang (陈守良); Sylvia M. Phillips

*Navicularia* Raddi (1823), not Heister ex Fabricius (1759).

Perennial or rarely annual. Culms varying from tall and canelike to rambling and decumbent. Leaf blades linear to ovate but usually lanceolate and asymmetrically narrowed at the base. Inflorescence a panicle or the primary branches simple and racemelike. Spikelets lanceolate, laterally compressed, florets 2; glumes prominently keeled, 3–7-veined, acuminate; lower glume usually more than half spikelet length; upper glume equaling or longer than lower glume; upper floret with a semicircular to oblong callus, this laterally expanded into 2 membranous wings adnate to the lemma base, these often represented in dried material by scars, upper lemma dorsally compressed, smooth and shiny, the margins flat or inrolled.

About 30 species: New World tropics and subtropics, one species pantropical including China.

**1. *Ichnanthus pallens*** (Swartz) Munro ex Bentham var. **major** (Nees) Stieber, Syst. Bot. 12: 207. 1987 [*“majus”*].

大距花黍 da ju hua shu

*Panicum pallens* Swartz var. *majus* Nees, Fl. Bras. Enum. Pl. 2: 138. 1829; *Ichnanthus vicinus* (F. M. Bailey) Merrill; *Panicum vicinum* F. M. Bailey.

Rambling perennial. Culms long, slender, decumbent and rooting at the lower nodes, ascending to 15–50 cm. Leaf sheaths pubescent or only margins ciliate; leaf blades ovate-lanceolate to ovate, tessellate, 3–8 × 1–2.5 cm, glabrous or puberulous on both surfaces, apex sharply acuminate; ligule ca. 1 mm, a ciliate membrane. Panicles terminal and axillary from upper nodes, 5–10 cm, usually with soft hairs in the axils, the branches spaced, loosely ascending, subracemose with laxly

arranged spikelets. Spikelets 4–5 mm; glumes with obvious veins, lower glume 3–3.5 mm, 3-veined, apex usually long attenuate; upper glume 5-veined, acuminate; lower lemma herbaceous, 5-veined; upper floret much shorter than lower lemma, 2–2.5 mm, shiny white to light brown, oblong, obtuse, scars at base ca. 1 mm. Fl. and fr. Aug–Nov.  $2n = 40$ .

Damp places in forests, along shady streamsides. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hainan, Hunan, Jiangxi, Taiwan, Yunnan [India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; W Africa, Australia (Queensland), Pacific Islands (Polynesia), South America].

*Ichnanthus pallens* var. *pallens* is distinguished by its smaller (2.5–4 mm), plumper spikelets, lower glume without a long attenuate apex, and more compact panicle. It mostly occurs in America, from Mexico to Argentina, and in the Caribbean, but a few specimens with these spikelet dimensions are known from W Africa and Malaysia.

Flora of China 22: 504. 2006.