

141. LEPTURUS R. Brown, Prodr. 207. 1810.

细穗草属 xi sui cao shu

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Perennial, rarely annual. Culms stoloniferous or decumbent. Leaf blades linear or linear-lanceolate; ligule membranous, margin ciliate. Inflorescence a single cylindrical bilateral raceme; spikelets alternate, sessile, borne edgewise and sunken in hollows on opposite sides of articulated rachis, falling with adjacent rachis internode; rachis terminating in a spikelet. Spikelets dorsally compressed, florets 1 or 2, disarticulating above glumes and between florets, rachilla extension with apical rudimentary floret present; lower glume minute or suppressed; upper glume leathery, appressed to rachis, exceeding and covering the sunken florets, closely 5–12-veined, apex acute to caudately awned; lemma much shorter than upper glume, rounded on back, cartilaginous to hyaline, 3-veined, apex obtuse to acute; palea membranous, usually equal to lemma. Caryopsis ellipsoid, pericarp free. $x = 9$. Leaf anatomy: Kranz PS type, with short stout microhairs.

Eight to fifteen species: shores of Indian and W Pacific Oceans; one species in China.

Lepturus has characteristic, sunken spikelets within a fragile rachis, unique in the tribe, but the leaf anatomy is typically chloridoid. Its precise affinities are uncertain, and it is sometimes placed in its own tribe, *Leptureae*.

1. *Lepturus repens* (G. Forster) R. Brown, Prodr. 207. 1810.

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Rotboellia repens G. Forster, Fl. Ins. Austr. 9. 1786; *Monerma repens* (G. Forster) P. Beauvois.

Perennial, stoloniferous, often very widely spreading. Culms tough, 20–50 cm tall, much branched. Leaf sheaths usually keeled, glabrous; leaf blades stiff, flat or involute, glaucous, 3–20 cm, 2.5–5 mm wide, glabrous or adaxially pilose near ligule, margins scabrous, apex acuminate; ligule 0.3–0.8 mm. Raceme erect, 5–15 cm; spikelets sometimes paired on each internode toward raceme base; rachis scabrous-hispidulous, internodes 3–5 mm. Spikelets 10–12 mm, florets often 2; lower glume membranous, triangular, up to 0.8 mm or absent; upper glume narrowly lanceolate, as long as spikelet, leathery, scabrous, apex caudate-aristate; lower lemma broadly lanceolate, 3.7–4.5 mm, puberulous near base, cartilaginous in lower two-thirds, thinner and scabrous above, apex acute. Anthers 1.5–2 mm. Caryopsis strongly dorsally compressed, plano-convex, 1.6–2 mm. $2n = 54$.

Rocky and sandy seashores, especially coral sand. Taiwan [Japan (Ryukyu Islands), Indonesia, Malaysia, New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; E Africa, N Australia, Indian Ocean Islands, Pacific Islands (Polynesia)].

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