

204. SEHIMA Forsskål, Fl. Aegypt.-Arab. 178. 1775.

沟颖草属 *gou ying cao shu*

Sun Bixing (孙必兴 Sun Bi-sin); Sylvia M. Phillips

Perennial or annual. Culms tufted, simple or sparingly branched. Leaf blades narrowly linear; ligule a line of hairs. Inflorescence a single terminal raceme, spikelets paired, dissimilar; rachis internodes and pedicels subinflated, stoutly linear to subclavate, densely white-ciliate along margins. Sessile spikelet bisexual, narrow, compressed between internode and pedicel; callus rounded, inserted into shallowly hollowed internode apex; lower glume leathery, back concave or longitudinally grooved, strongly veined on either side of groove but midvein absent, 2-keeled, keels lateral or becoming dorsal toward base, barely winged, apex elongate, scarious, 2-toothed; upper glume boat-shaped, finely awned; lower floret staminate, well developed with palea; upper lemma 2-lobed, awned from sinus; awn geniculate, column glabrous or ciliolate. Pedicelled spikelet large, conspicuous, usually staminate, lanceolate, strongly dorsally compressed, distinctly veined, midvein present, awnless.  $x = 10$  and  $20$ .

Five species: E Africa through India to SE Asia and Australia; one species in China.

1. *Sehima nervosum* (Rottler) Stapf in Prain, Fl. Trop. Africa 9: 36. 1917.

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*Andropogon nervosus* Rottler, Ges. Naturf. Freunde Berlin Neue Schriften 4: 218. 1803 [“*nervosum*”]; *Ischaemum laxum* R. Brown; *I. nervosum* (Rottler) Thwaites.

Perennial. Culms erect, wiry, 30–100 cm tall, nodes bearded or glabrous. Leaf sheaths glabrous or hispid with tubercle-based hairs; leaf blades linear, flat, tough, pale green, 10–45 × 0.2–0.7 cm, scabrid, tapering to a filiform apex; ligule 2–3 mm. Raceme 3–12(–18) cm, straight or gently curved;

rachis internodes and pedicels stoutly linear, 3.5–5 mm. Sessile spikelet yellowish green, 7–9 mm; lower glume narrowly oblong, deeply grooved between keels in lower part, with 6 prominent laterally placed intercarinal veins, inner veins anastomosing toward apex, apex scarious, 1/4–1/3 glume length, shortly 2-toothed; upper glume with straight, 7–13 mm awn; awn of upper lemma stout, 1.7–3.5 cm, column brown, ciliolate along spiral, limb pallid. Pedicelled spikelet usually flushed purple, 7–10 mm, lower glume conspicuously 7-veined, margins ciliate. Fl. and fr. Jul–Oct.

Dry grasslands; at low elevations. Hainan, Yunnan [India, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, New Guinea, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; E Africa, SW Asia, Australia].

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