

60. **VULPIA** C. C. Gmelin, Fl. Bad. 1: 8. 1805 [“1806”].

鼠茅属 shu mao shu

Lu Shenglian (卢生莲); Sylvia M. Phillips

Annuals. Culms tufted, slender. Leaf blades linear, usually involute; ligule membranous. Inflorescence a contracted, narrow, somewhat 1-sided panicle. Spikelets laterally compressed, florets several to many with the uppermost reduced, widely spaced; rachilla scabrid or pubescent, disarticulating below each floret; glumes narrow, very unequal, persistent; lower glume small, sometimes minute, 0–1-veined; upper glume much longer, 1–3-veined; lemmas narrowly lanceolate, membranous becoming firm at maturity, rounded or occasionally keeled, faintly 3–5-veined, back smooth, scabrid or pubescent, margins inrolled over palea, apex narrowed into an awn; awn straight or curved, usually longer than lemma; callus short, glabrous or bearded; palea slightly shorter than lemma, keels ciliolate. Stamens 1–3. Ovary glabrous. Caryopsis narrow, tightly enclosed by lemma and palea; hilum linear.

Twenty-six species: mainly temperate regions of the N hemisphere, extending into tropical uplands, also a few species in South America; a few species widely adventive; one species in China.

Vulpia is closely related to *Festuca* and is distinguished mainly by the annual habit.

1. **Vulpia myuros** (Linnaeus) C. C. Gmelin, Fl. Bad. 1: 8. 1805 [“1806”].

鼠茅 shu mao

Festuca myuros Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 74. 1753.

Culms erect or geniculately ascending, 20–70 cm tall, 3–4-noded, smooth. Leaf sheaths loosely overlapping, shorter or lower longer than internodes, smooth, glabrous; leaf blades involute, 7–11 cm × 1–2 mm, adaxial surface pubescent, abaxial surface smooth; ligule 0.2–0.5 mm, truncate. Panicle linear, 10–20 × 0.5–1 cm, loose to somewhat dense, mostly curved or nodding, base enclosed by uppermost leaf sheath or just exerted from it. Spikelets oblong or wedge-shaped, 8–10 mm (excluding awns), florets 4–7; lower glume minute, 1–3 mm, upper glume linear-lanceolate, 3–8 mm, apex acute; lemmas 5–7 mm, back scabrid, 5-veined, margins scabrid or ciliolate, apex acuminate; awn 1.3–1.8 cm. Stamen 1; anther 0.4–1 mm. Caryopsis reddish brown, ca. 4 mm. Fl. and fr. Apr–Jul. $2n = 42$.

Mountain slopes, roadsides, especially in sandy places. Anhui, Fujian, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Taiwan, Xizang, Zhejiang [Afghanistan, Bhutan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, S Russia, Tajikistan, Turkestan, Uzbekistan; Africa (N and on mountains), SW Asia, Europe].

This species is adventive in most temperate parts of the world. *Vulpia alpina* L. Liu (Fl. Reipubl. Popularis Sin. 9(2): 405. 2002), based on a single specimen from Xizang (Lhasa), may be simply a depauperate form of this species. The type has not been seen.

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