

4. **ENHALUS** Richard, Mém. Cl. Sci. Math. Inst. Natl. France 1811(2): 64. 1814.

海菖蒲属 hai chang pu shu

Herbs, submerged marine; rhizome robust, with persistent fibrous remains of leaf sheaths. Leaves 2–6, narrowly linear or ribbon-shaped, sheathing at base, with many parallel veins, unequal at apex. Plants dioecious; flowers unisexual. Male inflorescence shortly pedunculate, enclosed by 2 spathe bracts; flowers numerous, minute, shortly pedicellate, breaking off just before anthesis, floating on surface of water at maturity; tepals reflexed; stamens 3; anthers subsessile, laterally dehiscent; pollen grains very large. Female inflorescence 1-flowered, with a long peduncle, enclosed by 2 overlapping, scarcely fused, strongly keeled spathe bracts; sepals narrowly elliptic; petals linear; carpels 6, fused; styles 6, bifid. Fruit irregularly dehiscent. Seeds few.

One species: widely distributed along the coasts of the Indian and W Pacific Oceans.

1. **Enhalus acoroides** (Linnaeus f.) Royle, Ill. Bot. Himal. Mts. 1: 377. 1839.

海菖蒲 hai chang pu

*Stratiotes acoroides* Linnaeus f., Suppl. Pl. 268. 1782;  
*Enhalus koenigii* Richard.

Roots robust, 10–20 cm, 3–5 mm in diam. Leaves 0.3–1.5 m × 1–2 cm, veins 13–19, margin entire, apex obtuse. Peduncle of male inflorescences ca. 5 cm; bracts sessile, slightly keeled,

midvein hairy; male flowers pedicellate; sepals white, oblong, ca. 2 mm; petals white, larger than sepals; stamens white, 1.5–2 mm. Peduncle of female flower to 50 cm, coiled and contracted after anthesis; bracts 4–6 × 1–2 cm, midvein keeled, apparently hairy; sepals reddish; petals white, strap-shaped, strongly folded, 4–5 cm × 3–4 mm, papillose; ovary ovoid, with long hairs. Fruit ovoid, 5–7 cm. Seeds angular, 1–1.5 cm in diam. Fl. May.

Submerged in shallow water along seacoasts. Hainan [Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Africa, Australia].

Fl. China 23: 97. 2010.