

14. ISOLEPIS R. Brown, Prodr. 221. 1810.

细莞属 xi guan shu

Liang Songyun (梁松筠 Liang Song-jun); A. Muthama Muasya, David A. Simpson

Herbs, annual or rarely perennial. Rhizomes present or absent. Culms tufted, terete. Leaves all basal; sheath green to straw-colored, sometimes nearly reddish; ligule absent; leaf blade often much reduced. Involucral bract leaflike, spreading to erect. Inflorescences capitate, with few to many spikelets or reduced to a single spikelet, rarely an anthela. Spikelets with few to many spirally arranged mostly deciduous glumes. Glumes each subtending a flower but basalmost sometimes empty. Flowers bisexual. Perianth bristles absent. Stamens 1–3. Style linear, persistent, base not or slightly thickened, apex 2- or 3-cleft. Nutlet mostly obovoid, biconvex or 3-sided, papillose or longitudinally ribbed.

About 70 species: worldwide, especially Africa and Australia; one species in China.

1. *Isolepis setacea* (Linnaeus) R. Brown, Prodr. 222. 1810.

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Scirpus setaceus Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 49. 1753; *Schoenoplectus setaceus* (Linnaeus) Palla.

Rhizomes creeping. Culms 3–12 cm tall, ca. 5 mm thick, terete, grooved. Leaves sometimes with only a sheath; leaf blade linear, usually shorter than culm, 0.2–0.5 mm wide, sometimes very short and deltoid or absent. Involucral bract 1(or 2), ovate-lanceolate, 3–10(–12) mm, spreading to erect, both surfaces dark red at base, apex long awned or mucronate. Inflorescence a pseudolateral head with 1–3 spikelets. Spikelets ovoid, 2.5–4 mm, many flowered. Glumes ovate to subelliptic, ca. 1.5 mm, both surfaces dark purple to purple, midvein greenish to

straw-colored, apex rounded to obtuse. Perianth bristles absent. Stamens 2; filaments short, thick, with brown minute spots; anthers oblong, 0.3–0.5 mm; connective apex evident beyond anthers. Style short; stigmas (2 or)3, slender. Nutlet pale brown to orangish brown, broadly obovoid to subspherical, ca. 0.5 mm, plano-convex to compressed 3-sided, each surface prominently longitudinally ribbed, with many fine transverse ridges. Fl. and fr. Jun–Aug. $2n = 28$.

Stream margins, pond margins, moist grassy slopes, floodplains; 1800–4600 m. Gansu, Jiangxi, Ningxia, Qinghai, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Xinjiang, Xizang, Yunnan [Afghanistan, Bhutan, India (Sikkim), Kashmir, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan; Africa, SW Asia, Atlantic Ocean islands, Australia, Europe, North America].

