

**8. CHIONOGRAPHIS** Maximowicz, Bull. Acad. Imp. Sci. Saint-Pétersbourg  
11: 435. 1867, nom. cons.

白丝草属 bai si cao shu

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*Siraitos* Rafinesque, nom. rej.

Herbs perennial, often hermaphroditic or andropolygamous, sometimes gynodioecious, rarely androdioecious, with a short, stout rhizome, glabrous. Leaves basal, rosulate, petiolate, spatulate to elliptic, evergreen, margin entire or minutely undulate. Scape arising from center of leaf rosette, erect, simple, with 3–30 small, bractlike leaves. Inflorescence a terminal spike, many flowered; bract absent. Flowers sessile, zygomorphic, small. Tepals free; upper 3 or 4 spatulate-linear to filiform; lower 2 or 3 much shorter or absent. Stamens 6, inserted at base of tepals, rather short; anthers basifixed, subcordate-ovate to subglobose, extrorse, with locules confluent or free. Ovary globose, 3-loculed; ovules 2 per locule. Styles 3, stigmatic adaxially. Fruit a capsule, ?septicidal. Seeds fusiform, winged at 1 end.

Four species: China, Japan, Korea; one species (endemic) in China.

**1. *Chionographis chinensis*** K. Krause, Notizbl. Bot. Gart. Berlin-Dahlem 10: 807. 1929.

白丝草 bai si cao

*Chionographis merrilliana* H. Hara; *Siraitos chinensis* (K. Krause) F. T. Wang & Tang.

Leaves several to more than 10; petiole 1–6 cm; leaf blade spatulate to elliptic, 1–6 × 1–3.5 cm, glabrous, margin slightly undulate, apex subacute. Scape 14–40 cm; bractlike leaves 4 or 5, lanceolate-ovate, 2–5 mm. Spike 3–14 cm, usually elongate after anthesis, rather densely many flowered. Flowers fragrant. Tepals white to pale yellow; upper 3 or 4 tepals 3–8 mm, 0.2–0.5 mm wide in distal part; lower 2 or 3 tepals 0.5–1.5 mm, sometimes absent. Stamens 1–1.5 mm, 3 longer than others; anthers subcordate-ovate, with locules confluent. Capsule subobovoid, ca. 4 × 2 mm, dehiscent distally. Seeds 1.8–2.8 × 0.6–0.9 mm. Fl. Apr–May, fr. Jun.

• Shady and damp places on slopes or hillsides; near sea level to 700 m. Fujian, Guangdong, NE Guangxi, Hunan.

