

30. DIANELLA Lamarck, Encycl. 2: 276. 1786.

山菅属 shan jian shu

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Herbs perennial, sometimes subshrubby, evergreen. Rhizome generally branched, stout. Stem simple or branched. Leaves sub-basal, distichous, basally often equitant, grasslike, rigid, midvein raised abaxially. Scape usually relatively tall, to 2 m, with few linear-lanceolate cauline leaves and a terminal panicle. Panicle laxly branched, usually large, with several to many racemes or smaller panicles; bracts rather small. Flowers usually nodding, rather small; pedicel articulate apically. Tepals 6, free, 3–7-veined. Stamens 6, inserted at base of tepals; filaments thickened; anthers basifixed, dehiscent by terminal pores. Ovary 3-loculed; ovules 4–8 per locule. Style slender; stigma small. Fruit a berry. Seeds black, often flattened.

About 20 species: mainly in tropical Asia, also in Africa (Madagascar), Australia, and Pacific Islands; one species in China.

Although Clifford et al. (in Kubitzki, Fam. Gen. Vasc. Pl. 3: 251. 1998) placed *Dianella* in the Hemerocallidaceae, Wu Zhengyi (editor's note) believes it should be treated in the segregate family Phormiaceae. Takhtajan (Diversity Classific. Fl. Pl. 512. 1997) recognized Phormiaceae but placed *Dianella* in the Dianellaceae.

1. *Dianella ensifolia* (Linnaeus) Redouté, Liliac. 1: t. 1. 1802.

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Dracaena ensifolia Linnaeus, Syst. Nat., ed. 12, 2: 246; Mant. Pl. 1: 63. 1767; *Dianella ensifolia* f. *albiflora* Tang S. Liu & S. S. Ying; *D. ensifolia* f. *racemulifera* (Schlitter) Tang S. Liu & S. S. Ying; *D. nemorosa* Lamarck; *D. nemorosa* f. *racemulifera* Schlitter.

Rhizome creeping, 5–8 mm thick. Leaves sword-shaped, gradually narrowed at both ends, 30–80 × 1–2.5 cm, leathery, midvein abaxially and margin usually scabrous, apex obtuse. Scape 1–2 m, with several bractlike stem leaves 3–8 cm. Panicle laxly branched, 10–40 cm, usually with flowers borne distally. Pedicel 0.7–2 cm, usually arcuate. Tepals spreading, white, greenish white, yellowish, or bluish purple, linear-lanceolate to narrowly oblong, 6–7 × 3–3.5 mm. Stamens shorter than tepals; filaments geniculate near middle, dilated distally. Style ca. 6 mm. Berries deep blue, subglobose, ca. 6 mm in diam., 5- or 6-seeded. Fl. and fr. Mar–Aug. $2n = 32^*$.

Forests, grassy slopes; near sea level to 1700 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hainan, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Taiwan, Yunnan [Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, S Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Africa (Madagascar), E Australia, Pacific Islands].

