22. AGROSTEMMA Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 435. 1753.

麦仙翁属 mai xian weng shu

Lu Dequan (鲁德全); Magnus Lidén, Bengt Oxelman

Herbs annual. Stems erect. Leaves narrowly lanceolate to linear. Flowers in few flowered, lax dichasia. Calyx tube ovate or elliptic-ovate, with 10 longitudinal, raised veins; teeth 5, leaflike, linear, usually longer than tube. Androgynophore absent. Petals 5; limb usually shorter than calyx teeth, emarginate, gradually turning to claw; coronal scales absent. Stamens 10. Ovary 1-locular; styles 5, hairy, alternating with calyx lobes. Capsule ovoid, septicidally dehiscing by 5 teeth. Seeds numerous.

About three species: native to the Mediterranean region, native or naturalized in N Asia and Europe, naturalized in North America; one species in China.

1. Agrostemma githago Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 435. 1753.

麦仙翁 mai xian weng

Plants 60–90 cm tall, with long appressed grayish hairs. Stems unbranched, often with axillary dichasia above. Leaves linear or linear-lanceolate, 4–13 cm \times (2–)5–10 mm, midvein prominent, base slightly connate, apex acute. Pedicel very long. Calyx tube 1.2–1.5 cm, abaxially villous; teeth 2–3 cm. Petal limbs pink, 1.4–1.8 cm, shorter than calyx teeth; claw white, narrowly cuneate; limb dark red, obovate, emarginate. Stamens and styles exserted. Capsule ovoid, 1.2–1.8 cm, slightly longer than calyx. Seeds black, ovoid or reniform, 2.5–3 mm, with prominent acute tubercles. Fl. Jun–Aug, fr. Jul–Sep. 2n = 24, 48.

Weed of fields, wheat farmlands, roadside grasslands. Heilongjiang, Jilin, Nei Mongol, Xinjiang [native to the Mediterranean region, native or naturalized in N Asia and Europe; naturalized elsewhere].

This species is used medicinally. The stem, leaves, and seeds are poisonous.