5. DRYMARIA Willdenow ex Schultes in Roemer & Schultes, Syst. Veg. 5: 31. 1819.

荷莲豆草属 he lian dou cao shu

Lu Dequan (鲁德全); Michael G. Gilbert

Herbs annual or perennial. Stems creeping or suberect, with dichotomous branching. Leaves opposite, shortly petiolate; leaf blade orbicular or ovate-cordate, 3–5-veined; stipules small, bristly, often fugacious. Inflorescence a cyme, terminal. Flowers (4-or)5-merous, pedicellate, small. Sepals free, green, herbaceous. Petals absent or (1–)3–5, 2-lobed, occasionally appendiculate in sinus and/or auriculate at top of claw. Stamens (2–)5, opposite sepals; filaments joined at base. Ovary with few ovules; styles (2 or)3, joined at base. Fruit a capsule, (2-or)3-valved, 1- to many seeded. Seeds ovate or reniform, small, flat; testa tuberculate.

About 48 species: native to Central and South America from Mexico to Patagonia, also widely distributed as weeds in the Old World tropics; two species in China.

1a. Stems and often also leaves villous or hirsute1. D. villosa1b. Stems and leaves glabrous or minutely papillose2. D. cordata

1. Drymaria villosa Chamisso & Schlechtendal, Linnaea 5: 232. 1830.

毛荷莲豆草 mao he lian dou cao

Plants annual. Stems diffuse, slender, rarely rooting at lower nodes, pilose or hirsute, Stipules 0.5–1.5 mm, slender, scarious. Leaf blade ovate or reniform, 0.5–1(–1.5) cm, pilose or glabrous. Peduncle 1–5 cm. Pedicel 0.2–2 cm, pilose. Sepals ovate-elliptic, ca. 3 × 1 mm, glabrous or pilose, margin membranous, apex acute. Petals white, subequaling sepals, 2-parted. Stamens 5, shorter than sepals, 2–3.5 mm. Ovary ovoid; styles 3, connate to below middle. Capsule ovoid, 2–3 mm. Seed reniform, tuberculate.

Grasslands between forests; 1700–1900 m. S Xizang [native to Central and South America].

This plant is much more delicate than the more common, following species.

2. Drymaria cordata (Linnaeus) Schultes in Roemer & Schultes, Syst. Veg. 5: 406. 1819.

荷莲豆草 he lian dou cao

Holosteum cordatum Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 88. 1753; Dry-maria cordata subsp. diandra (Blume) J. A. Duke; D. diandra Blume.

Plants annual. Stems straggling, sometimes subscandent, usually rooting at lower nodes, 60–90 cm, mostly glabrous, minutely papillose toward inflorescence. Stipules membranous, splitting into few whitish setae. Petiole poorly defined, 3–7 mm; leaf blade ovate-cordate, $(0.5-)1-3(-3.5)\times0.6-3$ cm, prominently 3–5-veined from base. Bracts lanceolate, scarious. Pedicel 3–5 mm, slender, glandular hairy. Sepals lanceolate-ovate, 2–3.5(–5) mm, margin membranous, 3-veined, glandular hairy, apex subacute. Petals white, obovate-cuneate, ca. 2.5 mm, deeply 2-cleft; segments narrow, apex \pm acute. Stamens 2–3(–5), shorter than sepals. Styles 3, connate at base. Capsule ovoid, (1.5-)2-3 mm in diam., 3-valved. Seed dark brown, suborbicular, ca. 1.5 mm, regularly densely tuberculate. Fl. Apr–Oct, fr. Jun–Dec.

Damp shaded sites, often near streams or under shrubs, disturbed areas; 200–1900(–2400) m. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou,

Hainan, Hunan, Sichuan, Taiwan, Xizang, Yunnan, Zhejiang [native to Central and South America].

This species is used medicinally and is a widely distributed, noxious