

**2. OLIGOMERIS** Cambessèdes in Jacquemont, *Voy. Inde* 4(Bot.): 23. 1839, nom. cons.川犀草属 *chuan xi cao shu**Dipetalia* Rafinesque, nom. rej.; *Ellimia* Nuttall, nom. rej.

Herbs annual, biennial, or perennial. Leaves alternate or fasciculate, linear, entire. Flowers borne in terminal spikes, whitish. Sepals 4-parted. Petals 2, free or connate at base. Stamens 3–8, free or connate at base; disc absent. Ovary 4-angled; placentas 4, parietal; ovules numerous. Capsule angled. Seeds numerous.

Three species: two in S Africa, the other in N Africa, S Asia, N Atlantic Islands, and SW North America; one species in China.

**1. *Oligomeris linifolia*** (Vahl) Macbride, *Contr. Gray Herb.*, n.s., 53: 13. 1918.

川犀草 *chuan xi cao*

*Reseda linifolia* Vahl in Hornemann, *Hort. Bot. Hafn.* 2: 501. 1815; *Oligomeris glaucescens* Cambessèdes.

Herbs annual, biennial, or perennial, 10–40 cm tall, glabrous. Stem erect, branched from base. Leaves alternate or fasciculate, linear, entire, 1–5 cm × 0.5–2 mm, apex obtuse or acute. Flowers sessile or nearly so, light greenish white, minute;

bract lanceolate, ca. 1.8 mm. Sepals 4-parted; lobes lanceolate. Petals slightly shorter than sepals. Stamens 3; filaments connate at base. Capsule sessile or subsessile, light yellow, subglobose, ca. 2 mm diam., angled, apically 4-cleft. Seeds black or light green, shiny, numerous. Fl. and fr. Jun–Jul.  $2n = 30, 32$ .

Beaches of the Jinsha Jiang; ca. 2100 m. Sichuan, Yunnan [W India, Pakistan; N Africa, SW Asia, Atlantic Islands (Canary Islands), North America (NW Mexico, SW United States)].

The native status of the Chinese plants is perhaps doubtful; the nearest native populations are in NW India, representing a considerable disjunction.

