

32. METAERITRICHIMUM W. T. Wang, Acta Phytotax. Sin. 18: 514. 1980.

颈果草属 jing guo cao shu

Herbs annual. Flowers solitary, axillary. Calyx 5-parted nearly to base; lobes lanceolate, slightly elongated in fruit. Corolla campanulate-tubular; tube somewhat longer than limb; limb 5-parted; lobes overlapping, suborbicular, with small appendages. Stamens inserted at middle of corolla tube, included; anthers ovate-triangular; filaments short. Ovary 4-parted. Style reaching middle of corolla; stigma depressed globose. Gynobase flat. Nutlets 4, horizontally rotate spreading from gynobase, dorsiventrally compressed, ovoid, marginal rib with triangular glochids, margin with smaller glochids; large prickles confluent into a broad wing; attachment scar apical.

One species: endemic to China.

Flower construction, nutlet morphology, and marginal glochids indicate that *Metaeritrichium* is closely related to *Eritrichium*, but it differs in having a flat gynobase and rotate-spreading nutlets with apical attachment scars. The gynobase, habit, and pollen grain morphology are similar to those of *Microula*, but *Metaeritrichium* differs in having nutlets with prickly marginal ribs and apical attachment scar.

1. *Metaeritrichium microuloides* W. T. Wang, Acta Phytotax. Sin. 18: 515. 1980.

颈果草 jing guo cao

Herbs annual. Stems branched from base, diffuse, fleshy, depressed, to 3 mm in diam., 3–5 cm tall. Petiole complanate, 1–1.5 cm; leaf blade spatulate, broadly elliptic to ovate-lanceolate, 1–2 cm × 5–8 mm, abaxially sparsely short hispid, adaxially glabrous or sparsely pubescent. Flowers solitary, axillary or extra-axillary. Pedicel short, to 2 cm in fruit. Calyx blue-green; lobes lanceolate, ca. 1.5 × 0.5 mm, to 2 × 1.2 mm in fruit, appressed pubescent above inside, sparsely pubescent or glabrous outside. Corolla purple-blue, campanulate-tubular; tube 0.8–1 mm; lobes suborbicular, ca. 0.5 mm; appendages transversely half elliptic, ca. 0.1 × 0.4 mm. Anthers ovate-triangular, ca. 0.3 mm. Gynobase flat. Nutlets dorsiventrally compressed, sparsely pubescent or glabrous, ca. 2 × 1.2 mm excluding marginal glochids, abaxial disc ovate; marginal glochids triangular, 0.8–1 mm, base confluent into a broad wing, apex anchorlike. Fl. and fr. Jul-Aug.

• Sand flats along streams and marshes, alpine meadows, talus slopes near mountain summits, alluvial terraces; 4300–5000 m. Qinghai, Xizang.

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