

27. FERROCALAMUS Hsueh & P. C. Keng, J. Bamboo Res. 1(2): 3. 1982.

铁竹属 tie zhu shu

Li Dezhu (李德铎); Chris Stapleton

Shrubby, self-supporting to scrambling bamboos. Rhizomes leptomorph. Culms pluricaespitose, erect; internodes terete, long, thick walled, with a ring of white hairs below nodes; nodes prominent. Branches at mid-culm solitary, erect, parallel to and nearly as thick as culm; at upper nodes 3–5. Culm sheaths persistent, leathery at base, thinner at apex; auricles small or absent; oral setae developed; blade reflexed, leaflike or small. Leaf blade large; auricles absent or present with oral setae; ligule short; transverse veins distinct. Inflorescence a large panicle on leafy flowering branches. Spikelets very many, slender, 3–10-flowered, followed by a sterile floret. Glumes 2, obtuse. Rachilla articulate; florets falling separately; lemma leathery with many veins and obscure transverse venation. Palea longer than lemma, 2-keeled, apex emarginate. Lodicules 3. Stamens 3; filaments free. Ovary glabrous; styles short; stigmas 2, plumose. Fruit berrylike, succulent with thickened, fleshy pericarp but without hardened endocarp, ovoid or subglobose. $2n = 48^*$.

• Two species: China.

In the past, the culms of *Ferrocalamus* were used for making arrows. This rare endemic genus is endangered by habitat destruction, as it is known only from a very limited number of localities.

- 1a. Culm sheath apically papery, drying but not split on culm, blade broadly lanceolate or oblong-lanceolate, leaflike ... 1. *F. strictus*
1b. Culm sheath apically leathery, drying and splitting on culm, blade tiny, drying when young 2. *F. rimosivaginus*

1. *Ferrocalamus strictus* Hsueh & P. C. Keng, J. Bamboo Res. 1(2): 3. 1982.

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Culms 5–7(–9) m, 2–3.5(–5) cm in diam.; internodes 60–80(–100) cm, glabrous, nearly solid; nodes prominent; branchlet internodes 1–2 cm at branch base, to 65 cm from 4th or 5th nodes. Culm sheaths drying entire on culms, initially yellow-green, leathery, densely brown or dark brown hairy, apex papery; auricles absent; ligule truncate, 2–3 mm; blade reflexed, initially green, turning brown in age, broadly lanceolate or oblong-lanceolate. Leaf sheath glabrous; auricles absent; oral setae deciduous, 1–2 cm; blade broadly lanceolate, 30–35 × 6–9 cm, base cuneate. Panicles 30–45 cm. Spikelets 1.4–1.8 cm; florets 3–10; rachilla internodes glabrous. Glumes 3–5 mm; lemma ca. 7 mm; lodicules ca. 3 mm. Stamens unknown. Style short; stigmas ca. 1.5 mm. Fruit dark brown, ca. 2 cm, ovoid or subglobose. New shoots Mar–May, fl. Apr.

• Montane broad-leaved forests; 900–1200 m. S Yunnan (Jinping, Luchun).

2. *Ferrocalamus rimosivaginus* T. H. Wen, J. Bamboo Res. 3(2): 26. 1984.

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Culms 5–7 m, 2–4 cm in diam.; internodes 50–70 cm, glabrous, nearly solid; nodes prominent; branchlet internodes 1–2 cm at branch base, to 65 cm from 4th or 5th node. Culm sheaths brown, leathery, papery and split at apex, densely brown or dark brown hairy; auricles small, oral setae present; ligule truncate, 1–2 mm; blade reflexed, tiny, narrow, drying when young. Leaf sheaths glabrous; auricles absent; oral setae deciduous, ca. 1 cm; blade broadly lanceolate, 25–30 × 5–6 cm, base cuneate. Inflorescence unknown. New shoots Mar–May.

• Montane broad-leaved forests; 900–1000 m. S Yunnan (Jinping).

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