2. PHYLLOSPADIX Hooker, Fl. Bor.-Amer. 2: 171. 1838.

虾海藻属 xia hai zao shu

Rhizome monopodial, with 2 vascular bundles in cortex. Erect stems absent or strongly abbreviated, with dense, persistent fibrous leaf bases. Leaves linear, usually leathery, with 3–7 parallel veins, margin irregularly minutely denticulate; sheaths with an auricle, ligulate. Spadix axillary, sessile, axis flattened, with a row of conspicuous flaplike projections (retinacula) on each side of axis. Plants dioecious; flowers unisexual, small. Anthers 2-celled. Female flowers consisting of 1 carpel, often with staminode; style short; stigmas 2, capillary. Fruit curved, with a short beak.

About five species: widely distributed along shores of the N Pacific Ocean; two species in China.

1. Phyllospadix japonicus Makino, Bot. Mag. (Tokyo) 11: 137. 1897.

黑纤维虾海藻 hei xian wei xia hai zao

Rhizomes creeping, 3–4 mm in diam. Stems abbreviated, internodes 3–5 mm; persistent fibrous leaf bases blackish brown. Leaves alternate, linear, 25–100 cm \times 1–2.5 mm, 3-veined, margin entire or irregularly denticulate toward apex, apex obtuse and retuse; sheaths 4–20 cm, amplexicaul. Spathe 1, with flattened stalk 1–3(–7.5) cm and shrimplike sheath; projections ovate-lanceolate, alternate with flowers. Anthers with 2 filliform thecae. Carpels sagittate to cordate at base. Fruit semilunate, 2–2.5 \times 4–5 mm; beak apical. Fl. and fr. Mar–Aug. 2n = 16, 20.

Fine gravel or sand near low tide mark; sea level to ca. 8 m. Coasts of Hebei, Liaoning, Shandong [coasts of Japan, Korea, and Russia (Far East)].

2. Phyllospadix iwatensis Makino, J. Jap. Bot. 7: 15. 1931.

红纤维虾海藻 hong xian wei xia hai zao

Rhizomes creeping, ca. 5 mm in diam. Stems abbreviated, internodes 4–5 mm; persistent fibrous leaf bases reddish brown. Leaves alternate, linear, 1–1.5 m \times 2–4.5 mm, 5-veined, rarely 3-veined, margin entire basally, but irregularly denticulate toward apex, apex obtuse; sheaths ca. 25 cm, amplexicaul. Spathe 1, with flattened stalk 1.2–5(–8) cm and shrimplike sheath; projections obliquely ovate to lanceolate, alternate with flowers. Anthers with 2 filiform thecae. Carpels sagittate at base. Fruit compressed, semilunate, 2.2–3 \times 4–5 mm; beak apical. Fl. and fr. Apr–Oct. 2n=16,20.

Fine gravel or sand near low tide mark; sea level to ca. 8 m. Coasts of Hebei, Liaoning, Shandong [coasts of Japan, Korea, and Russia (Far East)].