

47. THEROPOGON Maximowicz, Bull. Acad. Imp. Sci. Saint-Pétersbourg 15: 89. 1870.

夏须草属 xia xu cao shu

Liang Songyun (梁松筠 Liang Song-jun); Minoru N. Tamura

Herbs perennial, shortly rhizomatous, with several membranous sheaths surrounding leaf bases. Roots thick, densely hairy. Leaves basal, tufted, sessile, grasslike. Scape erect, angled and narrowly winged. Inflorescence a terminal raceme, many flowered; bracts 2 at base of each pedicel. Flowers solitary or rarely paired; pedicel usually curved, articulate apically. Tepals 6, free. Stamens 6, inserted at base of tepals; filaments flattened, membranous, slightly connate basally; anthers basifixed. Ovary ovoid, 3-loculed; ovules 6–10 per locule. Style slender, elongate; stigma small. Fruit a berry. Seeds several, subglobose, thinly coated.

One species: Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, Sikkim.

1. Theropogon pallidus Maximowicz, Bull. Acad. Imp. Sci. Saint-Pétersbourg 15: 90. 1870.

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Rhizome ca. 1 cm thick. Leaves 6–10, suberect or arching, abaxially glaucous, 15–40 cm × 4–12 mm, glabrous, midvein conspicuous, apex acuminate. Scape 30–35 cm, usually shorter than leaves. Raceme 4.5–7 cm, 9–14-flowered; bracts green, lanceolate-linear to linear, larger one 0.7–1.3 cm, smaller one 3.5–6 mm. Pedicel 0.8–1.5 cm, usually very narrowly winged. Perianth white, campanulate; tepals oblong-ovate, 5–8 × 3–4 mm, 1-veined, apex obtuse. Filaments 1.5–2 mm; anthers subcordate, 2–2.5 mm. Ovary ca. 2.5 mm. Style ca. 5 mm. Fl. May–Jun. $2n = 40^*$.

Thickets, shady rocky slopes; 2300–2600 m. S Xizang, W Yunnan [Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sikkim].

