4. ESCHSCHOLZIA Chamisso in Nees, Horae Phys. Berol. 73. 1820.

花菱草属 hua ling cao shu

Zhang Mingli (张明理); Christopher Grey-Wilson

Herbs, perennial to annual, glabrous, slightly hyaline lactiferous. Leaves alternate, generally tripinnatipartite; lobules mostly linear, narrow. Flowers solitary on long pedicels, yellow or orange, occasionally white or cream, large; receptacles cupular-inflated, flowers perigynous. Sepals 2, fused, usually herbaceous in one piece, oblong or conical, in bud margins joined to caplike, at flowering pushed off in one piece due to expanding corolla, apically acute or acuminate. Petals 4, broad, from margin of cupular receptacle, imbricate or contorted in bud. Stamens many, from margin of cupular receptacles; filaments short; anthers linear or oblong, usually longer than filaments, basifixed, 2-celled, introrse. Ovary linear, 1-loculed, 2-carpellate, from bottom of cupular receptacles; styles very short; stigmas 2 or more, almost broadly linear. Capsule narrowly terete, 10-ribbed, 2-valved, dehiscing from base to apex, later usually curved. Seeds many, spherical, tessellate, tuberculate, not carunculate. Cotyledons linear, entire or 2-incised, lobes linear.

About 12 species: widely distributed in the Pacific region of North America in deserts and grasslands; one species (introduced) in China.

1. Eschscholzia californica Chamisso in Nees, Horae Phys. Berol. 73. 1820.

花菱草 hua ling cao

Herbs, annual or short-lived perennial, glaucous, glabrous. Stems erect to spreading, 30–60 cm, obviously longitudinally costate, with many branches spreading, dichotomous. Basal leaves several, 10–30 cm, petiolate; blade tripinnatipartite; lobes various, acutely linear, acutely oblong, or obtusely spatulate-oblong, with 3 terminal lobes, middle mostly broad and short. Cauline leaves similar to basal leaves, but progressively smaller and shortly petiolate. Flowers solitary, terminal. Pedicel 5–15 cm. Receptacles concave, funnelform or nearly tubular, 3–4 mm in diam., cupular after flowering, margin undulately re-

flexed. Calyx ovoid, ca. 1 cm, apically shortly conical, caplike. Petals 4, yellow, sometimes with orange flecks at base, deltoid-flabellate, 2.5-3 cm. Stamens many, more than 40; filaments filliform, basally inflated, ca. 3 mm; anthers orange, linear, 5-6 mm. Ovary long, narrow; styles short; stigmas 4, subulate-linear, unequally long. Capsule narrowly terete, 5-8 cm. Seeds spherical, 1-1.5 mm in diam., obviously tessellate. Fl. Apr–Aug, fr. Jun–Sep. 2n=12.

Widely introduced as courtyard ornamentals in China [native to United States (California)].

This species is widely cultivated in temperate and Mediterraneantype gardens. Cultivated forms include those with single and semidouble flowers in a wide range of colors from white and cream to yellow, orange, red, pink, and purple. Flora of China 7: 281. 2008.