2. HYDROBRYUM Endlicher, Gen. Pl. 1375. 1841.

水石衣属  shui shi yi shu

Herbs, perennial. Roots expanded, thalloid, rarely branched. Leaves scale-like, distichous, equitant, sometimes linear or partly linear. Flowers solitary, terminal, shortly pedicellate, enclosed in a spathella before anthesis; spathella longitudinally dehiscent. Tepals (1 or)2–4, at both sides of filament base. Stamens 2; filaments basally united; anther 2-loculed. Ovary 2-loculed. Stigmas 2. Capsule 2-valved, equal, prominently 5- or 6-ribbed.

Four species: E and S Asia; one species in China.


水石衣  shui shi yi


Small herb. Roots green, many branched, ca. 2.5 cm in diam., leathery when dry. Stems short, with 4–6 leaves. Sterile stem leaves in a rosette, linear, 3–4 mm; leaf blade 1–2 mm. Spathella ca. 2.5 mm. Tepals 2, linear, membranous, ca. 1.5 mm. Stamens 2, filaments connate to middle, ca. 1.5 mm; anther ca. 0.3 mm. Ovary ellipsoid, ca. 2 mm. Stigmas bluntly subulate. Capsule ellipsoid, ca. 2.2 mm, stipitate; valves delicately ribbed. Fl. Aug–Oct, fr. Mar–Apr.

900–1900 m. S Yunnan [Bhutan, E India, Myanmar, Nepal, N Vietnam].
PODOSTEMACEAE