
39. DIURANTHERA Hemsley, Hooker’s Icon. Pl. 28: t. 2734. 1902.

鹭鸶兰属 lu si lan shu

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Herbs perennial, rhizomatous. Rhizome vertical, very short. Roots numerous, thickened, fleshy. Leaves several, all basal, tufted or arranged in a lax rosette, narrowly linear to linear-oblancoleate. Scape simple or few branched, longer than leaves, proximally with a few sterile bracts, terminating in a lax raceme. Bracts ovate to linear-lanceolate, usually shorter than flowers, membranous or ± so, veined. Flowers bisexual, usually paired, shortly pedicellate; pedicel articulate or not. Tepals 6, spreading or ± so, free, linear, 3–20-veined; outer ones slightly narrower or sometimes shorter than inner ones. Stamens 6, slightly shorter than tepals; filaments filiform; anthers dorsifixed at base, linear, base with 2 prominent, caudate appendages 1–3 mm. Ovary 3-loculed. Style filiform, long; stigma very small. Fruit a capsule, obovoid or ellipsoid, 3-angled, loculicidal. Seeds black, orbicular, flattened, base cordate.

- Four species: China.

Except for its prominently appended anthers, *Diuranthera* is very similar to *Chlorophytum*, the similarity extending to the karyotypes, and some authors treat the former genus as a highly specialized member of the latter. However, the two are here distinguished at generic level.

1a. Leaves densely white powdery abaxially; tepals yellow, ca. 20-veined, inner ones much longer than outer ....  2. *D. chinglingensis*  

1b. Leaves glabrous abaxially; tepals white, 3–5-veined, inner ones nearly as long as outer.

2a. Pedicels not articulate ................................................................. 1. *D. inarticulata*  

2b. Pedicels articulate.

3a. Leaves linear-oblancoleate, 15–65 × 0.7–3 cm, margin often somewhat undulate; tepals 3(–5)-veined; basal appendages of anthers 2–3 mm, apex acute .................................................. 3. *D. major*  

3b. Leaves usually narrowly linear, 8–40 × 0.3–1 cm, margin flat; tepals 5-veined; basal appendages of anthers 1–1.5 mm, apex obtuse-rounded .................................................. 4. *D. minor*


南川鹭鸶兰 nan chuan lu si lan

Leaves linear-oblancoleate, 30–50 × 1.5–3 cm, glabrous, margin serrulate, apex acuminate. Scape 33–40 cm. Bracts 1–2 cm. Flowers usually paired; pedicel 0.8–1.1 cm, not articulate. Tepals white, linear, membranous; outer ones ca. 2 × 0.2 cm, 5-veined; inner ones ca. 2.2 × 0.2 cm, 3-veined. Filaments white, 0.8–0.9 cm. Anthers ca. 1.3 cm; basal appendages ca. 3 mm, apex acute. Style 1.4–1.6 cm. Fl. Jul–Aug.

- Grassy slopes; ca. 1800 m. SE Sichuan (Nanchuan Xian).


秦岭鹭鸶兰 qin ling lu si lan

Leaves linear-oblancoleate, 40–60 × 1.5–2.6 cm, abaxially densely white powdery, margin sparsely serrulate, apex long acuminate. Scape 70–85 cm. Raceme 25–30 cm; bracts 0.7–2.2 cm. Flowers solitary or paired; pedicel 1.7–2 cm, not articulate. Tepals yellow, membranous, ca. 20-veined; outer ones narrowly ovate, ca. 1.7 × 0.4 cm; inner ones linear, ca. 4 × 0.5 cm. Filaments pale yellow, ca. 0.35 cm. Anthers ca. 0.8 cm; basal appendages ca. 1.5 mm, apex acute. Style longer than stamens. Fl. Jun.

- About 1200 m. S Shaanxi (Ningshan Xian).

3. **Diuranthera major** Hemsley, Hooker’s Icon. Pl. 28: t. 2734. 1902.

鹭鸶兰 lu si lan

*Chlorophytum majus* (Hemsley) Marais & Reilly.

Leaves linear-oblancoleate, 15–65 × 0.7–3 cm, soft, glabrous, margin often somewhat undulate, minutely serrulate, apex acuminate. Scape 20–80 cm. Raceme sometimes few branched; bracts ovate to linear-lanceolate, 0.4–2.5(–5) cm, apex acuminate. Flowers usually paired, cylindric in bud; pedicel 0.5–1.8 cm, articulate proximally. Tepals white, linear, 1.5–3 × 0.1–0.3 cm, 3(–5)-veined; outer ones generally slightly narrower than inner. Filaments 0.5–1.2 cm. Anthers 1.1–1.6 cm (including appendages); basal appendages 2–3 mm, apex acute. Style 1.1–2.4 cm. Capsule ellipsoid or obovoid, 6–10 × 5–8 mm. Fl. and fr. Jun–Oct.

- Forests, grassy slopes, hillsides, ledges of cliffs, moist hard-packed red soil, gardens, sometimes cultivated and naturalized; 1200–3000 m. Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan.

4. **Diuranthera minor** (C. H. Wright) C. H. Wright ex Hemsley, Hooker’s Icon. Pl. 28: t. 2734. 1902.

小鹭鸶兰 xiao lu si lan


Leaves usually narrowly linear, sometimes linear-oblancoleate, 8–40 × 0.3–1 cm, soft, glabrous, margin flat, minutely serrulate, apex gradually long acuminate. Scape 30–85 cm. Raceme usually simple; bracts ovate to linear-lanceolate, 0.3–1.8 cm, apex acuminate. Flowers usually paired, narrowly ellipsoid to cylindric in bud; pedicel 0.5–1 cm, articulate proximally. Tepals white, linear, 1.5–2 × 0.2–0.4 cm, 5-veined. Filaments 0.5–1.2 cm. Anthers 0.8–1.2 cm (including appendages); basal appendages 1–1.5 mm, apex obtuse-rounded. Style 1.4–2 cm. Capsule ellipsoid or obovoid, 0.8–1 × 0.7–0.9 cm. Fl. and fr. Apr–Oct.
• Pinus and Quercus forests, plantations, grasslands, hillsides; 1100–3200 m. Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan.

Diuranthera minor is somewhat similar to Chlorophytum nepalense, but the latter species differs as follows: leaves longer, often linear-oblancoolate; flowers smaller, often ellipsoid in bud; anthers with small, rounded basal lobes ca. 0.5 mm.