136. PODOCHILUS Blume, Bijdr. 295. 1825.

柄唇兰属 bing chun lan shu

Chen Xinqi (陈心启 Chen Sing-chi); Jeffrey J. Wood

Epiphytes or lithophytes, small, rather delicate, often forming dense mats. Stems tufted, erect to spreading, slender, with many nodes, completely enclosed in tubular sheaths of leaves, leafy. Leaves distichous, alternate, lying in one plane by twisting of sheathing bases, usually small, short, sheaths tubular, articulate. Inflorescences terminal, lateral, or both, rarely exceeding 2 cm, few to many flowered; floral bracts persistent. Flowers resupinate, white or green, often with purple markings, minute or small, often not opening widely. Sepals adnate at base, or free; lateral sepals broad at base and adnate to column foot forming an often spurlike mentum. Petals often slightly smaller than dorsal sepal; lip attached to end of column foot, entire or obscurely 3-lobed, narrow, with a simple or bilobed basal appendage. Column short, foot long and often curved upward; anther erect, anther cap long acuminate; pollinia 4, waxy, separate, on 1 or 2 caudicles, often narrowly obovoid, commonly attached to a solitary viscidium.

About 60 species: from India and Sri Lanka to China, south and east through Indonesia and New Guinea to the Pacific islands; two species (one endemic) in China.

1. Podochilus oxystophylloides Ormerod, Taiwania 48: 143. 2003

云南柄唇兰 yun nan bing chun lan

Epiphytes. Stems terete, densely leafy, to 15.5 cm, ca. 2 mm in diam. Leaves erect-patent, folded longitudinally, Vshaped in cross section, ensiform in lateral view; blade to 13.5 × 4.5 mm, not articulate at base, acute. Inflorescence pseudoterminal, zigzag, successively in total 3-flowered, 3-5 mm; floral bracts ovate, ca. 4.5 × 2 mm, acute. Flowers white; pedicel and ovary terete, clavate, ca. 3.2 mm. Dorsal sepal ovate-elliptic, ca. 4.2 × 2 mm, subacute; lateral sepals with lower basal half dilated-saccate to form a ca. 2-mm-long pseudomentum, midvein slightly carinate externally, obliquely broadly ovate, ca. 3.8 × 3 mm, subacute. Petals with a short claw connate to column, free part obliquely ovate, ca. 3.5 × 2 mm, 1-veined, obtuse; lip ca. 4.2 × 2.5 mm; claw ligulate, ca. 1 mm; blade 3-lobed, constricted in basal third; basal lobe concave-saccate, transversely elliptic or subcordate; terminal lobe ovate, shortly retuse, ca. 3 \times 2.5 mm. Column 2–2.5 \times ca. 1.5 mm; anther cap ovate-lanceolate, ca. 2 × 0.5 mm, apex shortly bifurcate. Fl. May-Aug.

• Epiphytic in thickets. SW Guangxi (Shiwan Dashan).

Material of this species was first identified as *Podochilus cultratus* Lindley (Seidenfaden, Bot. Tidsskr. 68: 57. 1973).

2. Podochilus khasianus J. D. Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 6: 81. 1890

柄唇兰 bing chun lan

Podochilus chinensis Schlechter.

Stems tufted, ascending, subterete, 4–12 cm, internodes 3– 4 mm, completely enclosed in sheaths. Leaves many, distichous; blade often slightly dark brown when dried, narrowly oblong or narrowly oblong-lanceolate, often \pm falcately curved, $6-7 \times 1.5-2.5$ mm, somewhat fleshy, with amplexical tubular sheaths at base, articulate, margin incurved, apex acuminate or acute. Inflorescence terminal or lateral, 3-5 mm, usually 2-4flowered; floral bracts ovate-lanceolate, 1.5-2 mm, 3-5-veined. Flowers white or tinged with green, very small; pedicel and ovary 0.5–1 mm. Dorsal sepal ovate-lanceolate, $2-2.2 \times 1-1.2$ mm, acuminate; lateral sepals ovate-triangular, 2.2-2.5 mm. Petals suboblong, ca. 1.6×0.7 mm; lip oblong, $1-2.4 \times 0.8-0.9$ mm, slightly contracted at middle, both basal sides dilated, slightly thickened and incurved, attached at base to column foot by a distinct claw. Column short, both sides with conspicuous arms, foot ca. 0.7 mm. Capsule ellipsoid, $2.5-3 \times \text{ca.} 1.8 \text{ mm.}$ Fl. and fr. Jul-Sep.

Epiphytic on trees in forests or along streamsides; 400–1900 m. Guangdong, SW Guangxi, Hainan, S Yunnan [Bangladesh, Bhutan, NE India, N Vietnam].