PLAN AMARANTACEAE

AMARAMIACEA

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By Hsien-Wu Kung

Annual or perennial herbs, rarely undershrubs or climbers. Leaves opposite or alternate, extipulate, simple. Flowers small, usually in terminal simple or panieled spikes, cymes or clusters, sometimes in heads; bracts and 2 bracteoles scarious, the latter sometimes hooked. Sepals 3-5, rigid or scarious, free or nearly so, persistent, imbricate in bud. Petals absent. Stamens mostly 5, opposite with sepals, hypogynous; filaments free or connate below or united at the base into a short tube and often with staminodes between; anthers 1- or 2-celled, open by longitudinal slits. Ovary superior, 1-celled; style short or long; stigmata capitate or 2-3-fid, ovules 1 or more, on basal funicles. Fruit a utricle, rarely a berry or capsule, enclosed in or resting on the persistent perianth. Seed erect, globose or compressed, smooth; testa crustaceous; embryo horseshoe-shaped or-annular, surrounding the copious endosperm.

48 genera, chiefly in tropical and subtropical regions. 4 genera found in North Chins.

Key to Genera

1	Ovary 2-many-ovuled Celosia Ovary 1-ovuled 2
2	Leaves alternate; ovule erect
3	(Anthers 2-celled, with staminodes Achyranthes Anthers Leelled without staminodes Gomehrena

CELOSIA Linn. Gen. n. 289.

Annual herbs, glabrous or pilose, branches terete or angular. Leaves alternate, linear oblong, ovate or obovate, entire or few lobed. Flowers hermaphrodite, in dense terminal and axillary spikes, white or pink, shining. Braels and 2 bractlets equally large, scarious, subulate. Sepals 5, scarious, oblong or lanceolate, obbuse or acute, striate or ribbed. Stamens 5; filaments subulate or filiform, united below into a cup; anthers short or elongate, 2-celled; staminodes 0. Ovary ovoid,

subglobuse or lageniform; styles 0 or short or elongate; ovules 2 or many. Utricles included in sepals or exserted, ovoid or globose, circumscissile, rarely indehiscent or irregularly broken. Seeds usually erect, lenticular; testa crustaceous, shining black; embryo annular; cotyledons linear.

Species 30, tropical Asiatic, African and American; 1 species recorded in North China: Celosia argentea Linn.

AMARANTUS Linn. Gen. n. 1060.

Annual rarely perennial herbs, erect or decumbent, glabrous or pubescent, rarely pilose. Leaves alternate, petioled, ovate, lanceolate or linear, apex usually mucronate. Flowers small, in axillary clusters or in a panieled erect or drooping densely or laxly clustered spikes, unisexual, monoecious or polygamous, bracteate. Sepals 5 or 3 (rarely 1-4), oblong, ovate-lanceolate or spatulate-oblong, erect. Stamens 5, rarely 1-3, filaments subulate or filiform, free, rudimentary stamens 0; anthers oblong or linear-oblong, 2-celled. Ovarý ovoid, compressed; styles short or 0; stigmats 2-3, subulate or filiform; ovule 1, subsessile, erect. Utricles orbicular or ovoid, compressed, indehiscent or circumscissile, membranaceous or coriaceous, apex entire or 2-3-dentate. Seeds erect, orbicular, compressed; testa crustaceous, shining, margin acute or obtuse; embryo annular, cotyledons linear.

About 45 species, chiefly in tropical and subtropical regions; 8 species found from North China.

Key to species

1	Sepals 5
2	i Plant pubescent
3	{ Leaves acute; panicle erect; sepals lanceolate
4	$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{Bracts and sepals lanceolate, chiefly exceeding or subequalling the utricle} & 5 \\ \text{Bracts and sepals oblong, shorter than the utricle} & 7 \end{array} \right.$
5	Plant with terminal spikes; leaves large, broad-ovate, acute; clusters large and globose; usually cultivated

- 7 Flower-clusters all in slender spikes and forming a terminal panicle

 A. siridis
 Flower-clusters chiefly axillary, sometimes forming a robust terminal
 spike

 A. Blitum

ACHYRANTHES Linn. Gen. n. 288.

Herbs, erect, glabrous or tomentose. Stem articulate or subarticulate; branches opposite, subtrichotomous. Leaves opposite, petioled, ovate, chovate or lanceolate, entire. Flowers hermaphrodite, white or green, in terminal elongated simple or panicled spikes, at length deflexed; bracts and bractioles spinescent. Sepals 4.5, subequal, subulate or lanceolate, acuminate, erect, glabrous or pilose, shining, prominently nerved, coriaceous, at length hardened and strongly ribbed. Stamens 5, rarely 2 or 4; filaments connate below, with as many square staminodes, each of which toothed or with a toothed scale at its back; anthers 2-celled. Ovary oblong, glabrous; style filiform; stigma somewhat capitate; ovule 1, pendulous from a long basal funicle. Utricle included in sepals, ovoid or oblong, membranaecous; indehiscent. Seeds inverse, oblong; testa coriaceous; embryo annular; cotyledons linear, or lanceolate.

Species 15-20, mostly tropical or subtropical; 1 species found in North China: Achyranthes bidentata Blume.

GOMPHRENA Linn, Gen. n. 314.

Herbs erect or prostrate, many-branched, with usually thickened nodes. Leaves opposite, sessile or petioled, entire. Flowers capitate rarely spicate, white or coloured; bracts short or elongate, concave, keeled, alate or cristate on the back; sepals 5, within bracts, usually woolly especially at the lower part, lanceolate, acuminate, concave rarely flat and obtuse. Stamens 5; filaments linear, united below into a long tube, cleft at the top, bearing one-celled anther in each cleft, usually without interposed staminodes. Ovary turbinate or subglobose; styles short or long; stigmata 2, very rarely 3; ovule 1, pendulous from a long basal funicle. Utricle ovoid or oblong, compressed, sometimes hardened at base, indehiscent. Seed inverse, lenticular; testa corriaceous, shining; embryo annular.

About 120 species in tropic of America and Australia, of which one commonly cultivated in North China: Gomphrena globosa Linn.

莧 科

孔憲武

一年生成多句生章本,絕為小產未成學綠植物。業對生成互生、縣托素、單葉、花小形、通常頂生、 為學一或關業形之地於、榮維欽、簇狀等花序、又有助為獨談: 卷及二小包寫竟吸質、小包有助為 與默、每片三生五、關鍵成竟吸質狀、類生或立學生、水存。在專門為優克默、花開缺如、類盡大多數為 五、與為片對生、下生; 花絲維生成下部地於、又或基部結合為短談、高有恐化樓塞生於其間: 約一室或 二家。報製、子房上生,一室, 花柱地或長; 柱面須收或第二至三裝; 経球一個至多數、生於基部綠純上。 果實露輕黑、很少高類果成表果、包於花被內或安部於花被上。穩子在立、珠形或在右扁平、光帶; 種皮 經驗: 胚或與跨術形成短狀、內包多量胚乳。

本科共四十八團。多生熱帶及亞熱帶。在中國北部共募得四國。

剧之檢索表

1.	{ 子房內台 子房內台	六二至多数托珠····································
2.	{ 葉互生; 葉男生;	胚珠直生
3.	{ 药二室:	有进化增基

青 葙 屬

一年生年末,光滑成具稿毛、枝條關形或具角發,集后生、換長橢圓形、卵形或侧卵形。全線或具 少數裂片, 花用槽、霧面生成酸生之密排狀毛序。白色成淡紅,光光,卷片盂,為乾梗翼软, 装橢圓形成 核針形, 先端前成片距,有橡胶成助除,建造五幅; 花林細度形成体形,下部结合成样款; 終版或相談,二 蜜: 無混化傳義,子房卵形,亞球形或類子數; 花柱缺細或短叉或相談; 胚珠二面或多數, 短见包於花鏡 內或凸陷,星卵形或延球形。環狀用製, 很少露不裂開成不規則裂開; 種子通常直立,兩面凸形; 種皮梗 服,未必, 颜色; 胚寫形狀,子集線形。

节 国

一年生學本, 而立或制向上, 光清或具密核毛, 稀有其縣長毛者, 樂互生, 有案柄, 卵狀蝕針形或 線形, 外端通常具微步, 花小形, 簇生, 北花荔成而德生於葉酸, 或吸露直立或下乘或磷或毒之關難狀 化铑, 罪性, 釋維同核, 或為雜性, 有偿, 等片五或三(很少均一里四), 長鴨調和。 卵狀披針形或寬默長 明顯形, 直立, 零蒸五傷稀為一至三個; 花絲細葉形或帶形, 分離, 缺退化炸蒸; 药鸡及鸦圆形或鲱及精 圆形, 有二笔。子房卵形, 左右插平, 花柱短或缺如; 柱面二至三, 細葉形或絲形; 胚珠一瓣, 观燃精。 直立, 地風球形或卵形, 左右插平, 不開裂或如狀問裂, 脱質或革質, 先端全輪或具二至三個曲年。種子 直立, 珠形, 左右插平, 裙皮硬弧, 光亮, 造缘数或跳; 胚眼狀, 子葉綠那。

本屬約四十五種、多生於熱帶及亞熱雷;在中國北部採得八種。

租之檢索表

- - 牛 膝 屬

學本,直立,光滑成具教毛、並有節或近有節;枝對生、略呈三叉狀,葉對生,具葉柄、卵形、側卵

形成放射形,全棒 花期性,色白或棒、集寫而生相及單種成分核之種就花序,成長後側向外方成下塗; 位及小板呈針狀,每片四亚五、略相等,類狀或故針形,狭定,成立,光治或具稀毛,光途,有韻明之中 膝,冰質,成長後歷壁硬,增嘉玉僧,稀寫二或四個;光練下部結合,其即生问數之思化性塞;退化性素 方形,綠部耳小曲或具部狀裂片;與二室,子房長賴圓形,光治;花柱絲狀;柱面如狀;胚珠一個,倒懸於 基生之綠柄上,陷果包於每片內,辨形成長賴圓形,极質狀,不裂間,種子側生,長橢圓形;種皮革質; 胚質環狀,子素給形成檢針形。

本周有十五至二十種,多生於熱帶及亞熱帶;中與有二種,僅一種見於北部:牛膘。

千日紅 網

值立成初如草本,分校甚多。通常有肥大之密。業對生、無業所或且案例。各樣、花葉生堂頭款、 稀寫植飲花序,白色或卷彩色;卷短或附髮,內面凹陷。有機作。青部有短肢或雞冠以片;導片至。包 於包內,下源通常具基軟毛,披針形。按定,內面凹陷。稀有平面維鈍菌者,雄素至;花絲帶款,下部紋 合寫內,上部分裂。各型片頂端具一定之药。通常無恶化螺藻維於其間。子房側關維半或略學球形。花 柱短或長;柱湖二,其稀寫三; 耗珠一個, 歷於處生之咸桃上。施果卵形成長橢圓形。左右扁平。有時處 鄉便化,不開裂。積于倾生、霧兩面凸形;糊皮來質、光光; 延環狀。

本屬約有一百二十種。生於美洲及澳洲之熱帶。其中之一種普通栽培於中國各地:千日紅、



CELOSIA ARGENTEA Linn.

Celosia argentea Linn. Sp. Pl. 205; Moq. in DC. Prodr. XIII, 2, p. 242; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. IV. p. 714.

Celosia linearis Sweet Hort. Brit. 569.

Celosia margaritacea Linn. Sp. Pl. ed. 11. 297.

Annual erect herb, 60-80 cm. high; stem slender, usually with upright branches, rarely single, striate, green or tinged with red, glabrous; leaves lanceolate or oblong, acuminate at apex, narrowed into a long or short slender indistinct petiole at base, entire, green and glabrous on both sides, sometimes spoted with red, 5-7 cm. long, 1-2 cm. broad; veins pinnate, inconspicuous; flower-spikes cylindrical or pyramidal, generally 3-6 cm. long, solitary, terminating the stem and each branch, dense-flowered, long-peduncled; bract and 2-bractlets 3-4 mm. long, scarious, like sepals but much shorter; sepals 5, imbricate, lanceolate, scarious and hyaline, white, sometimes pink in young stage, glistening, 8-10 mm. long, upright after blooming; stamens 5; filaments filiform, united below, anthers oblong, usually pink; style elongate, filiform, sometimes pink; utricle globose, included in calyx, circumscissile; seeds many, lenticular, shining black, ripe in August and September.

Locality: among cultivated fields, not common in North China (Shantung).

Observation: In North China there is a commonly cultivated form, chiefly characterized by the expended and crested spikes. It may be referred to ear. cristata Kuntzo (Celosia cristata Linn.), for those characters of the spikes sometimes are reduced in half wild state.

Plate I: z, Entire plant (nat, size); z, A flower with bracts (\times 5); 3. A young utricle with 5 stamens (\times 5); 4. A sord (\times 5).

Plate Π : χ , A flowering branch (nat. size), 2, A flower with bracts (\times 5); 3. Stamens and postil (\times 5); 4, A pistil (\times 5); 5, Longitudinal section of a pistil (\times 5); 6, An utricle dehisced (\times 5).

番 葙

香菇(神農本草花),雞短菜(本草綱目)。

一年生在立収本,高六十至八十公分; 雲相弱,通常有向上之枝淡、稀寫不分枝、具雜核、核色 成帶紅、光滑; 至為飲計形或長溫彩。 先端組尖, 基端額矣, 延而為界限不清之葉柄、全線, 上下兩面 均核而無毛, 有時具紅色成點, 長五至七公分, 侧一至二公分; 整眼离射数, 不耗顯明, 花穗圆柱形成 顺维彩, 長約三至六公分, 那生於意頂及各小枝之未端; 花刻密。 具茎花暢; 但是二小香及三至四公师。 乾觀質狀, 仰事片而短; 毒片五, 是看天状排列, 被針形。乾瓶状, 透明, 色白。幼蜂盎帶粉紅色。 依 光光, 長八至十公师, 花核向上在定, 绿塞五; 花林綠形, 下部結合; 壽長溫形, 費通粉紅色; 花柱延 長, 綠形, 有時粉紅色; 跑果圖珠形, 色於等內, 祖狀開發; 種子多數。區正形, 光光布黑, 成熟在八 九月間。

產地: 生於農田內, 中國北部不常見(山東)。

註錄:中國北部有一般培稿,其花德獨張呈雜冠狀,普通名之曰雞冠,此可囂鳴青葙之變種,因 其在半野生狀態下其廣闊之花德有時被縮而不能。

關敬一: 1.植物全形(自然大); 2.具等之花(放大五倍); 3.幼嫩胞果及五個增雄(放大五倍); 4. 棘子(放大五倍)。

關徵二:1,具花之枝(自然大);2,具卷之花(放大五倍);3,增集及增嘉(放大五倍);4,幢嘉(放大五倍);5,幢是展削后(放大五倍);6,製即之租果(放大五倍)。

AMARANTUS RETROFLEXUS Linn.

Amarantus retroflexus Linn, Sp. Pl. ed. 1. p. 991; Moq. in DC. Prodr. XIII, 2, p. 258; Ledeb. Fl. Ross. III, p. 856.

Annual herb, about 1 m. high, robust; stem stout, branched or only with axillary branchlets, pubescent, light green, sometimes marked with purplish stripes; leaves 7-12 cm. long, 4-6 cm. broad, ovale or elliptic, apex acute or notched, apiculate, base cuneate, margin entire, slightly undulate, upper surface green, lower surface silvery-greenish, pubescent on both sides especially along the prominent veins beneath; petioles 3-5 cm. long, pubescent, grooved above; flower-clusters squarrose, in dense terminal and axillary panicles; bracts subulate, awned, much exceeding the sepals, margin hyaline, with a fleshy green keel at the back; sepals 5, somewhat unequal in length, oblong or oblanceolate, notched or apiculate or awned, hyaline, usually with a green keel along middle rib; stamens 5; stigmata 2 or 3; utricle orbicular, compressed, membranous, circumscissile; seed vertical, orbicular-ovate, lentiform, shining-black, about 1 mm. across, ripe in August and Septembtr.

Locality: Border of fields or waste places, very common in North China.

Observation: This weed is easily recognized by the erect stout form, the pubescent leaves and the squarrose spikes.

Plate III; r. Entire plant (out. size); z. A male flower (× 10); 3. Stamens (× 10); 4. A female flower (× 10); 5. An utricle (× 10); 6. A seed (× 10).

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反枝草(一)

一年生成本,高約一公尺、相社: 原健社,分歧或僅集跛內生小枝,有細毛. 淡綠色,有時具淡紫色條紋;葉長七至十二公分。園四至六公分,卵形或園園形,先端実故或四人,具小尖頭,基部呈模形。 全線、蜗是波狀,上面條色,下面灰綠色。兩面均有毛,下面尤其;葉柄及三至五公分,有毛,上面具 清潔;花裹多毛刺,雖沒砌密之頂生及腋生圆雞狀花穗;卷誰我具針芯,薄髮於每片,邊緣鄰無色邊明。 骨部具綠色多肉之躁起;帶片五,長如不其熱奔,長圓形或倒数針形,先端或四級或几小丈頭又或具針 芯,透碟狀,通常具綠色小陸之中前;類氮五價;柱頭二或三,應果圓形面隔。裝賣狀、頭狀開裝;種 子查宜,圓卵狀、兩面凸,先光而點。圓約一公便,或熱顆在八月及九月間。

走地: 生於農田之旁或廢地, 中國北部甚多.

註鍵: 此縱章由其粗壯直立之形, 有毛之葉及多毛刺之花穗, 極易與他種監別。

爾似三: 1.植物全形(自然大): 2.维花(放大十倍): 3.维蕊(放大十倍): 4.维花(放大十倍): 5. 租取(放大十倍): 6.稀子(放大十倍).

(一)整Moquie 氏云"Rami juniores retrocurvati, dein secendentes"数用此本.



AMARANTUS PANICULATUS Linn.

Amarantus paniculatus Linn. Sp. Pf. ed. II., p. 1406; Moq. in DC, Prodr. XIII, 2, p. 257; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. IV, p. 718.

Amarantus sanguineus Linn. Sp. Pl. ed. II. p. 1407.

Annual erect herb, 1-2 m. high; stem stout, branched or not, smooth or seabrous, somewhat pubescent when young, green, sometimes tinged with pink, striate; leaves ovate-oblong or ovate-lanceolate, acute at both ends, entire, light green, glabrescent, general 15 cm. long, 7 cm. broad, veins prominent and usually pinkish beneath; petioles about as long as the blade, light green or pinkish, glabrous; panicles large, composed of many spikes which are erect or becoming pendulous in later, squarrose, red or yellowish-green; bracts subulate, keeled, red or greenish, sharply pointed, subequal with sepals; sepals 5, oblong or oblong-obovate, with apex pointed-acute or rounded, slightly shorter than utricle; stamens 5; stigmata 3, serrulate; utricle elliptic, circumscissile; seeds vertical, lenticular, brown, slining, 1.2 mm. across, ripe in September.

Locality: Originating in North America; cultivated or half wild in North China.

Observation: This species is usually cultivated for its edible vegetation or seeds. It is easily recognized by its big form which is often taller than all the others in the genus of this countries.

This species may be divided into 2 forms in North China: 1, Red form, panicle and leaf-veins red; 2, Green form, panicle and leaf-veins green.

Plate IV: 1. Entire plant (nat. size); 2. A male flower (\times 10); 3. A female flower (\times 10); 4. An utricle (\times 10); 5. A seed (\times 10).

繁 穗 草

獨穀(四川俗)。西方穀(東三省俗)。

一年生在立枚本,高一至二分尺; 紫相把,分核成不分核,先滑成相面。 验時略有軟毛,積色,有時染有淺紅,具镶核,葉卵狀狀態形,成卵狀核針形,兩端的尖紋,全條,淡核色、近光清,滑運十五公分投,七公分寬,下面氣脈凸出且常帶凌紅色;葉柄約與業片同長,洗核色或凌紅,無毛;國業花樓該大,由多數在立成日核下原之小塘合放,多毛刺,紅色或黃綠色;色雞狀,具除脊,紅色或淡綠色,有故生,與每片略等長;等月五,長期形成長卵形,先端数丈或與腿,略短於氣能;即蟲五;柱頭三,具細齒;除果衛服形,環狀則裂;核子在之,局豆形,松陽色,光差。個一、二公厘,來明在九月間。

產地:原產北美,中國北部多栽植之或爲宇野生。

註錄:此機通常故站而食其並變或核子、中國北部所見之克閣植物以此或最高大、由此點易與他 權識別。

此種在中國北部見者可分為二變型; 一,紅色模型。其花種及素板的紅色; 二、輸色變型。其花 種及果族高輪色。

關敬四: 1,惟物金形(自然大); 2,雄花(放大十倍); 3,雌花(放大十倍); 4,秘栗(放大十倍); 5, 様子(放大十倍)。



AMARANTUS CAUDATUS Linn.

Amarantus caudatus Linn. Sp. Pl. p. 990; Moq. in DC. Prodr. XIII, 2, p. 255; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. IV, p. 719.

Annual erect, herb, tall to 1.5 m.; stem robust, striate, pubescent when young, becoming glabrescent, light green, usually tinged with pink, more or less branched; leaves variable in size, the larger ones about 12 cm, long and 7 cm. broad, elliptic or ovate, apex acute or obtuse, apiculate, cuneate at base, entire, light green above, whitish green beneath, glabrous on both surfaces, veins prominent beneath; petioles 3 as long as the blade, hairy or scabrous, usually pink; panicles terminal, composed of many or few slender spikes which always drooping; center spike much longer than the others, tail-shaped; bracts acicular, longer than the sepals, light pink; sepals 5, broad obovate, mucronate, pink, shorter than the utricle; stamens 5, free; stigmata 3, serrulate; utricles ovate. apex pink; seeds lenticular, vertical, white, center part subtransparent, ripe in September to October.

Locality: Originating in tropical regions; commonly cultivated in North China, usually used as ornament.

Observation: This species is related to A. paniculatus Linn., and in some states these two species are very difficult to distinguish. But in typical forms they may be differentiated by the following terms:

A. caudatus

A. paniculatus

- Spikes pendulous, not squarrose.
 Spikes erect, squarrose.
- 2. Leaves obtuse.

- 2. Leaves acute.
- 3. Sepals obovate, shorter than the utricle.
- 3. Sepals lanceolate, subequalling the utricle.

Plate V: 1, A branch (nat. size); 2, Flowers, center one male, lateral 2 female (x 10); 3, An utricle with sepals and bract (x 10); 4. An utricle (x 10); 5. A seed (x 10).

尼毯草

· 老爺鞍(惟沙杞略)。

一年生在立年本,高速一、五公尺;差相放,具ę柱、幼母具核毛、新曼风光滑、淡绿、跨条粉红 色、分枝或多成少;靠之大小不一、北大者县十二公分园七公分。椭圆形或柳形、先端大或锉,具微尖、基 级度形、全缘、上油淡转色、下面白绿色、南面均光滑;下面类似色出;复构丝露紫片三分之二。具毛成 机油、通常浸红色;脂质花序而生。由多数或少数之相桂合欢,向下项题。中心之地转移、显尾数;卷卧 形,较零片及、淡淡红色;卷片玉、圆卵形、具微大、淡红、如於腹壁;等塞在、分摊;柱面三。具细胞; 短见卵形、而端浸红色;卷片玉、圆帘形、具微大、淡红、如於腹壁;等塞在、分摊;柱面三。具细胞; 短见卵形、而端浸红色;卷片玉、似木、白色、中央半透明、或熟在九月至十月間。

產地:原產熱帶地方;華北各省多栽植之以點腦關景。

註錄: 此確實繁種夏相近似, 有時此二種區別甚難, 但在核範形下可用下列變點區別之。

關級五: 1, 植物之一枝(自然大); 2, 花, 中央之一路≇花, 兩個青路罐花(放大十倍); 3, 具務及 卷之框架。(放大十倍); 4, 瓶架(放大十倍); 5, 稀干(放大十倍)。



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AMARANTUS GANGETICUS Linn.

Amarantus gangeticus Linn. Syst. ed. X. 12 68; Moq. in DC. Prodr. XIII, 2, 261; Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. IV. p. 716.

Amarantus tristis Linn, Sp. Pl. 989; Moq. in DC. Prodr. XIII, 2, p. 260.

Amarantus tricolor Linn. Sp. Pl. 959.

Amarantus melancholicus Linu. Sp. Pl. 989; Moq. in DC. Prodr. XIII, 2, p. 262.

Annual erect herb, tall to 1.5 m; stem stout, striate, glabrous or slightly pilose, red or green, usually branched; leaves large, generally 15 cm. long, 10 cm. broad, ovate to broad ovate, sometimes triangular, acutish and slightly notched at apex, abruptly acute at base, margin entire or slightly undulate, thin, glabrous, rugose, variable in color; petioles glabrous, about 4 as long as the blade; flower-clusters large, globose, densely flowered, axillary and in terminal interrupted spikes; bracts subulate to ovate, hyaline, with a thick green or red keef at the back, awared, equal in length to sepals or slightly shorter; sepals 3, oblancelate or narrow-obovate, midrib thick, green or red, awned, margin hyaline; stamens 3; stigmata 3, reflexed, fillform and hairy; utricle ovate-oblong, membranous, circumseissile; seeds lenticular, shining black, 1.5 mm. across, margin obtuse, ripe in September.

Locality: Originating in tropical regions; widely cultivated in North China, used as vegetable for cooking, or grown for ornament.

Observation: There is a wild state of this species in Peiping. It is usually smaller in size, green in colour and seems to have escaped from cultivation.

Plate VI: z, A flowering branch (nat. size); 2, A male flower (\times 10); 3, A female flower (\times 10); 4. A seed (\times 10),

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