

BUTOMACEAE

花蔺科 hua lin ke

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Herbs, perennial, aquatic or of swamps, rhizomatous, usually with milky juice. Leaves usually emersed, basal, alternate, linear to orbicular, sheathing at base, sessile, triquetrous. Flowers hermaphroditic, in terminal, long pedunculate umbels within erect scapes, long pedicellate, with 3 free bracts. Perianth segments in 2 series, outer 3 usually sepal-like, inner 3 petal-like and usually thin and deciduous. Stamens 9, free; anthers basifixed, 2-celled, opening by longitudinal slits. Carpels 6, connate at base; ovules numerous. Fruit a whorl of follicles; follicles with apical long beak. Seeds numerous, without endosperm; embryo straight.

One genus and one or two species: best represented in tropical areas of the Americas, also in S Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America; one species in China.

Zhou Lingyun. 1992. Butomaceae (excluding *Butomopsis* and *Limnocharis*). In: Sun Xiangzhong, ed., Fl. Reipubl. Popularis Sin. 8: 146–147.

1. BUTOMUS Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 372. 1753.

花蔺属 hua lin shu

Morphological characters and geographical distribution are the same as those of the family.

1. *Butomus umbellatus* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 372. 1753.

花蔺 hua lin

Leaves twisted, 30–120 cm × 3–10 mm, apex acuminate. Scapes terete, ca. 70 cm; bracts ovate, apex acuminate. Flowers numerous; pedicels 4–10 cm. Sepals pinkish white, greenish outside along midvein. Petals pinkish white. Filaments flattened, broadened toward base. Styles curved. Seeds small. Fl.

and fr. Jul–Sep. $2n = 20$ or 40, with aneuploid counts of 16, 22, 24, 26, 28, 39, 42.

Still or slow-moving water of lakes, ponds, and channels. Anhui, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Jiangsu, Nei Mongol, Shaanxi, Shandong, Shanxi, Xinjiang [Afghanistan, India, Kashmir, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan; SW Asia, Europe; introduced in North America].

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