SCHIZOSTACHYUM FUNGHOMII

Schizostachyum funghomii

Poaceae

ECHO[®] PLANT INFORMATION SHEET

Description

From Bamboos of Thailand, Native and Introduced Species (Poaceae: Bambusoideae) — An Annotated Compilation, by D. Ohrnberger (Khun Dieter – คุณดีเทอร์)

Habit tight caespitose. Rhizome pachymorph, short, Culms straight, erect, bending outwards and widely arching, ca. 10 m long. Young shoots conical, sheaths green, turning yellowish from the margins; culm-leaf blades spreading to reflexed, green, not flat, rolled in sideways, and often longitudinally wrinkled, the blade base noticeably thick plumose; emerge from April to September. Culm-internodes terete, 60-92 cm long, almost dull blackish when young, turning into dull dark green with age, scabrous, covered with persistent soft whitish appressed fuzz (can be easily wiped off), not white powdery, easily splitting; diameter to 4.3 cm; walls thin to very thin, wall width 1 mm by 3 cm in diameter on the lower culm. Culm-nodes glabrous, smooth, not prominent; nodal line horizontal; sheath scar narrow, marginally or not protruding; supranodal line obscure, without a ridge; with a white persistent ring below the nodal line, the ring 7-10 mm high; aerial roots none. Branch-buds solitary, subrotund; apex cordately notched; present from the basal node up (or the first or the first two basal nodes without buds). Branches many, subequal, slender, short, ca. 1.5 m long, usually shorter, arching; unbranched on the basal and lower culm; branching intravaginal; rebranching. Culm-leaves deciduous on branched nodes of the mid-culm and upper culm, tardily deciduous or persistent on the unbranched lower culm. Culm-leaf sheaths broad parabolic, ca. 17 cm wide at the base, ca. 17 cm long, much shorter than the internode, usually one quarter to one-sixth of the internode length; thickly papery, rigid, light green to yellowish-green when fresh, whitish to yellowish straw-colored when dry, with an occasional orange tint when drying, light to medium straw-colored with dark gray patches when old; rough, scattered with short stiff rigid whitish, more or less long-persistent hairs, not white powdery; apex horizontally truncate or slightly concave; margins with deciduous 1 mm short pale ciliae, the overlapping margin densely ciliate, the overlapped margin sparsely ciliate or eciliate; basal margin initially with a dense ring of pale downwards directed, early caducous hairs. Culm-leaf auricles low erect rims, constantly ca. 1 mm tall, adnate to the margins of the blade base and extending along the whole sheath apex, dark green to blackish when young; margins with many 5-10 mm long erect, slightly undulated, pale to brownish bristles. Culm-leaf ligule ca. 1-1.5 mm high, irregularly denticulate, eciliate. Culm-leaf blades rigid, leathery, persistent, reflexed to strongly reflexed, linear-lanceolate, about half length compared to the sheath length on the lower culm, as long as the sheath length on the mid-culm, and one-fourth or shorter on the basal culm; width of the junction with the sheath ca. 1/3 of the sheath apex width; initially medium green, changing to dark green or blackish green while still young, straw-colored when dry; adaxially densely and thickly brownish villous or plumose near the base, abaxially glabrous; apex long pointed; margins eciliate, incurved from the beginning when fresh and when dry. Foliage-leaves (8) 9 (10) per branchlet. Foliage-leaf sheaths keeled on the back, medium green, glabrous or pale hispidulous; margins ciliolate or eciliate; apex truncate. Foliage-leaf auricles inconspicuous low and long rims, green, the margins with several early caducous erect pale bristles to ca. 5 mm long. Foliage-leaf ligule inconspicuous, low; margin subentire, cleft and denticulate; outer ligule an inconspicuous glabrous callus or membrane. Foliage-leaf blades lanceolate, (16) 20-34 (37) × 3-6 (6.5) cm; glabrous above, puberulent beneath when young, almost glabrous when old; medium green above, somewhat bluish-green beneath; base rounded to wedge-shaped; apex attenuate; margins antrorsely scabrous; midrib distinct, proximally prominent and yellowish beneath; pseudopetiole ca. 3-5 mm long, adaxially puberulent, abaxially glabrous. Flowers not seen, seeds known.

Synonym: Schizostachyum subvexorum Q. H. Dai & D. Y. Huang, J. Bamboo Res. 16 (3), 1997: 27.

Origin

THAILAND, introduced in 2011–2012, in cultivation. — CHINA (South): Yunnan, Guangdong, Guangxi, native. — VIETNAM (North), borderland areas with China.

Uses

Culms for making paper pulp, split culms for weaving (basketry, mats); plants as garden ornamentals, and for landscaping. Plants are very attractive for gardens and landscaping. Young shoots are edible but slightly bitter in taste.

Common Names

Cultivation

Easy and fast-growing; in part shade to full sun, sandy loam to clay loam, normal moisture-retentive to moist with good drainage. Can tolerate temporary flooding.

References

Bibliography of Bamboos of Thailand