

25. LONDESIA Fischer & C. A. Meyer, Index Sem. Hort. Petrop. 2: 15. 1836.

绒藜属 rong li shu

Herbs annual. Stem erect, much branched from base; branches ascending, slender, pubescent. Leaves alternate, sessile or shortly petiolate, lanceolate, oblong-lanceolate, oblong-ovate, or ovate, complanate. Flowers bisexual and female (plants polygamous), without bractlets. Perianth tubular, mostly 5-lobed, membranous, cottony, without appendages, adnate to pericarp. Stamens 5, exserted. Style short; stigmas 2 or 3. Seed vertical in bisexual flowers, horizontal in female flowers; embryo horseshoe-shaped.

One species: C and SW Asia extending to China and Mongolia.

1. *Londesia eriantha* Fischer & C. A. Meyer, Index Sem. Hort. Petrop. 2: 40. 1836.

绒藜 rong li

Plants 3.5–35 cm tall. Leaves 0.5–1.5 cm × ca. 2 mm, with purple-red veins, villous, base attenuate, margin entire, apex acute. Fl. and fr. Apr–Jun.

Sandy places, valleys, bottomlands. N Xinjiang [Mongolia; C and SW Asia].

This taxon has been regarded as a synonym of *Bassia eriophora* (Schrader) Ascherson. However, opinions differ (see Assadi, Iranian J. Bot. 8: 233–240. 2000), and thus the issue should be studied in more detail.

