

6. HALOCNEMUM Marschall von Bieberstein, Fl. Taur.-Caucas. 3: 3. 1819–1820.

盐节木属 yan jie mu shu

Subshrubs much branched. Branchlets opposite, jointed. Leaves opposite, undeveloped, scale-like. Inflorescences sessile, spicate; bracts peltate, opposite; bractlets absent. Flowers axillary, (2 or)3 per bract, bisexual. Perianth 3-parted; segments broadly ovate, apex obtuse. Stamen 1. Ovary compressed ovoid; ovule anatropous; stigmas 2, subulate, papillate. Fruit a utricle. Seed vertical; embryo semi-annular; perisperm present.

One species: N Africa, Asia, S Europe.

1. Halocnemum strobilaceum (Pallas) Marschall von Bieberstein, Fl. Taur.-Caucas. 3: 3. 1819–1820.

盐节木 yan jie mu

Salicornia strobilacea Pallas, Reise Russ. Reich. 1: 481. 1771.

Plants 20–40 cm tall. Stems branched from base; old branches nearly alternate, prostrate or ascending, brown-green, woody, bearing opposite, shortened, budlike, dwarf branchlets; young branchlets opposite, suberect, gray-green, jointed, glabrous. Leaves opposite, connate. Spikes borne on upper branches, decussate, 5–15 × 2–3 mm. Perianth with 2 lateral segments incurved, outline obdeltoid. Seed brown, ovoid or globose, 0.5–0.75 mm in diam., densely finely papillate. Fl. and fr. Aug–Oct.

Salt-lake shores, other moist saline-alkaline places. NW Gansu, Xinjiang [Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Russia (SE European part, SW Siberia); N Africa, SW Asia, SE Europe].

