

4. HALOPEPLIS Bunge ex Ungern-Sternberg, Vers. Syst. Salicorn. 102. 1866.

盐千屈菜属 yan qian qu cai shu

Herbs annual or perennial. Stems branched; branches opposite; branchlets not jointed. Leaves alternate, lower ones sometimes opposite; leaf blade fleshy, ovoid or subglobose. Inflorescence spicate; bracts scale-like, spirally arranged. Flowers axillary, 3 per bract, bisexual. Perianth compressed, 3-lobed. Stamens 1 or 2; filaments very short. Fruit a utricle. Seed ovoid or globose; testa ± leathery, glabrous or papillate; embryo semi-annular; perisperm present.

Three species: N Africa, C and SW Asia, S Europe; one species in China.

1. Halopeplis pygmaea (Pallas) Bunge ex Ungern-Sternberg, Vers. Syst. Salicorn. 105. 1866.

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Salicornia pygmaea Pallas, Illustr. Pl.: 8. 1803.

Herbs annual, 5–15 cm tall. Stems erect, branched from base; branches ascending. Leaves gray-green, fleshy, subglo-

bose, 2–3 mm, basally decurrent. Spikes alternate, 1–2.5 cm × ca. 3 mm. Flowers 3-glomerulate, small, slightly connate basally. Stamens 2, longer than perianth. Ovary compressed ovoid; stigmas 2, subulate. Pericarp membranous. Seed globose, 0.5–1 mm in diam.; testa yellow-brown, densely finely papillate. Fl. and fr. Jul–Sep.

Salt-lake shores. Xinjiang [C and SW Asia].

