

**42. POTANINIA** Maximowicz, Bull. Acad. Imp. Sci. Saint-Pétersbourg 27: 465. 1882.

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Shrublets with thick, subterranean stock. Stems much branched; branchlets spinelike. Stipules adnate to petiole, ovate, hyaline; petiole hard, persistent, spinelike; leaf blade (1 or)3- or palmately 5-foliolate; leaflets minute. Flowers solitary, axillary, bracteate, bisexual, minute. Hypanthium funnellform. Sepals 3, deltoid, persistent. Petals 3, ovate, scarcely larger than sepals, deciduous. Stamens 3, opposite petals; filaments shorter than petals, inserted at glabrous margin of swollen disk; anthers dorsifixed, not exerted, introrse, ovoid. Carpel 1, central, ovoid; ovule inserted laterally next to style, ascending; style basal, persistent; stigma capitate. Achene cylindrical. Seed cylindrical, thickened proximally.

One species: China, Mongolia.

**1. *Potaninia mongolica*** Maximowicz, Bull. Acad. Imp. Sci. Saint-Pétersbourg 27: 466. 1882.

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Shrublets 30–40 cm tall, long sericeous throughout. Stems gray-brown. Stipules 1.5–2 mm; petiole 1–1.5 mm; leaflets ca. 2 × 0.5 mm, base narrowed, margin entire, apex acute. Flowers ca. 3 mm in diam.; pedicel 3–5 mm; bracts ovate, ca. 1 mm.

Hypanthium densely sericeous adaxially. Sepals ca. 1.5 mm, apex acute. Petals white or tinged pink, ca. 1.5 mm. Filaments adaxially densely sericeous. Carpel densely sericeous. Achene tinged yellow, ca. 2 mm, hairy, enclosed by persistent sepals. Fl. Jun–Sep, fr. Aug–Oct.

Gravelly deserts. Nei Mongol [Mongolia].

This species is used for forage.

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