
*Petrusia* Baillon.


- One species: China.

B.-A. Beier et al. (Pl. Syst. Evol. 240: 11–39. 2003) proposed a new phylogenetic system in the subfamily of Zygophylloideae based on molecular and morphological data. This treatment recognized 40 species under the genus *Tetraena*, most of which were new combinations transferred from the genus *Zygophyllum*. According to this concept, *Tetraena* is distributed from Africa to Asia in a very wide range, which contrasts with the traditional concept that recognizes *Tetraena* as a unispecific genus endemic to Nei Mongol.


*si he mu*

Shrubs 40–80 cm tall, much branched. Old branches dark purple to brownish red, glabrate; current branchlets yellowish white, with T-shaped trichomes. Stipules white, ovate, membranous. Leaves on old branches fascicled and on current branchlets nearly opposite, sessile; leaflet blades grayish blue, oblanceolate, 5–7 × 2–3 mm, both surfaces with T-shaped trichomes, margin entire, apex acute with short sharp tip. Flowers axillary, solitary. Pedicel 2–4 mm. Sepals 4, grayish, ovate to elliptic, ca. 3 × 2.5 mm, with T-shaped trichomes. Petals 4, white, elliptic to rotund, ca. 2 × 1.5 mm. Stamens 8, in 2 whorls, outer ones shorter; filament with white membranous appendages at base. Ovary 4-carpellate. Fruit pendulous, 4-valved. Schizocarp linear-ovoid to crescent-shaped, 5–6 mm, with 4 carpels. Seeds oblong-ovoid, muriculate. Fl. May–Jan, fr. Jul–Oct.

- River terraces, low mountains in steppes, desert areas. Nei Mongol.