Forage Plants in Mongolia


Sodnomdarjaa Jigjidsuren and Douglas A. Johnson’s Forage plants in Mongolia, 1st edition, is among the most complete and modern guides to forage plants in Mongolia. There are 6 colour habitat/scenery photos, which include some commonly distributed habitat types. The text is written in Mongolian and English languages and should be a useful aid for foreign and Mongolian researchers, botanists, students, herders and those interested in natural forage plants.

The book has seven chapters. The first two chapters are an especially valuable source of background information about geographic features, biological and ecological peculiarities of pasture vegetation. The remaining chapters describe forage plant species belonging to different families. For example chapter three describes all forage species belonging to Poaceae (grasses) family. The text includes scientific name, local name, morphological features, development cycle, distribution, site preference, palatability, nutrient value and significance. Index 1 consists of over 100 pages with 267 colour photographs and illustrations of species mentioned in the text. About 323 species of forage plant are described. The book also contains information about seed features of forage plants. Forage plants in this book occur in the main pasture regions of Mongolia such as high mountain pasture, mountain taiga pasture, mountain forest steppe, grassland and desert pasture. Most of the photographs were taken when the plant was blooming, therefore the book is a very useful identification key. Index 2 shows photographic plates of reindeer forage plants, the first photos showing reindeer pasture vegetation. Index 3 is a table of Latin, Mongolian and local names referenced to the associated colour plates. Species are listed alphabetically by Latin name. It is a useful table making the book a quick and easy guide to use. The final Index 4 is an alphabetical list of Mongolian names with page and plate number. In summary, I would say that the book is an informative and well illustrated guide to the forage plants of Mongolia.

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In Mongolia’s recent history, institutional, political, and socioeconomic developments have had significant impacts on the functioning of traditional systems of grassland and livestock management and on their capacity for adaptation and resilience. In overgrazed grassland areas, plants with nutrient value for livestock have decreased in abundance. Snow melt followed by colder temperatures and ice-overs preventing access to forage lead to decreased productivity and higher mortality rates. The government regards climate change impacts on grassland and livestock so severe that the impacts are considered at the level of national security management (footnote 21). Jijigidsuren S, Johnson DA (2003) Forage Plants of Mongolia. Admon, Ulan Bator. Google Scholar. Li SG, Asanuma J, Eugster W, Kotani A, Liu JJ, Urano T, Okikawa T, Davaa G, Oyunbaatar D, Sugita M (2005) Net ecosystem carbon dioxide exchange over grazed steppe in central Mongolia. Global Change Biol 11: 1941–1955. CrossRef Google Scholar. Pyankov, VI, Gunin, PD, Tsoog, S, Black, CC (2000) C4 plants in the vegetation of Mongolia: their natural occurrence and geographical distribution in relation to climate. Oecologia (Berl) 123: 154–31. CrossRef Google Scholar. Rogosic J, Pfister JA, Provenza FD, Grvesa D (2006) Sheep and goat preference for and nutritional value of Mediterranean maquis shrubs. Map of Mongolia with investigation sites mentioned in the text. Map of Mongolia showing the investigation site of our study. Age-depth model of lake Orog Nuur. Fig. Forage plants in Mongolia. Ulaanbaatar: Admon Press. Jacoby, G., Pederson, N., D’Arrigo, R., 2003. Plants and gifts for the modern home. Whether you are bringing home your first houseplant or dreaming up a large-scale plant wall installation for your business, we’re rooting for you (bring on all the plant puns). We’re more than a plant shop. We are a community that believes that plants bring joy, healing and life into any space. Our mission is to create environments where plants aren’t just wanted, they are needed. Because we truly believe that plants are for every person. For thousands of years, Mongolian grasslands have provided habitat for many species of grassland animals and plants, and forage for livestock of Mongolian herders. In recent years, mineral and oil development, and the construction of associated infrastructure, have increased in the region. Pastoral livestock husbandry is recovering from the collapse during transition, and livestock numbers have increased dramatically. (National Statistical Oce of Mongolia, 2008). This has lead to overgrazing, particularly in areas near rural population centers and water sources. Mineral resources exploration and exploitation has also increased dramatically.