

Table S1 Geographical distribution of forage plants and plant-associated lactic acid bacteria in the native grassland of western Inner Mongolia

Plant family	Natural forages	Geographic coordinates	Materials	
			Fresh material	60 d silage
<i>Leguminosae</i>	<i>Caragana stenophylla</i> Pojark	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°40'N, 107°04'E)	GI2	GI3, GI4
	<i>Ammopiptanthus mongolicus</i> (Maxim.) Cheng f.	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°14'N, 103°37'E)		GI5
	<i>Caragana microphylla</i> Lam.	Siziwang Banner, Wulanchabu (42°36'N, 111°50'E)		GI7, GI8
	<i>Caragana intermedia</i> Kuang et H.C. Fu	Siziwang Banner, Wulanchabu (41°71'N, 111°63'E)		GI9
	<i>Alhagi maurorum</i> Medic. var. <i>sparsifolium</i> (Shap.) Yakovl.	Ejin Banner, Alashan (40°04'N, 101°06'E)		GI10, GI11
	<i>Hedysarum scoparium</i> Fisch. Et Mey.	Hanggin Banner, Ordos (40°58'N, 108°74'E)		GI12
	<i>Hedysarum laeve</i> Maxim	Hanggin Banner, Ordos (40°00'N, 107°89'E)	GI13	GI14
	<i>Ammopiptanthus mongolicus</i> (Maxim.) Cheng f.	Alxa Left Banner, Alashan (39°62'N, 105°10'E)		GI15
	<i>Sophora alopecurides</i> L.	Ejin Banner, Alashan (41°93'N, 101°03'E)	GI16, GI17	GI18, GI19
<i>Chenopodiaceae</i>	<i>Salsola passerina</i> Bunge	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°16'N, 106°49'E)	GI20	
	<i>Anabasis brevifolia</i> C.A. Mey.	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°72'N, 106°37'E)		GI21
	<i>Zygophyllum pterocarpum</i>	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°16'N, 106°49'E)		GI22
	<i>Eurotiac eratoides</i> (L.) Mey.	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°40'N, 107°04'E)		GI23, GI24
	<i>Haloxylon ammodendron</i> (C. A. Mey.) Bunge	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°40'N, 107°04'E)	GI25	GI26, GI27
	<i>Nitraria tangutorum</i> Bobr	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°14'N, 103°37'E)	GI28	GI29
	<i>Nitraria tangutorum</i> Bobr	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°16'N, 106°49'E)	GI39	

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<i>Chenopodiaceae</i>	<i>Nitraria tangutorum</i> Bobr	Urat Central Banner, Bayannur (42°36'N, 107°77'E)	GI30	GI31
	<i>Zygophyllum pterocarpum</i>	Urat Central Banner, Bayannur (42°36'N, 107°77'E)	GI32	GI33
	<i>Kalidium gracile</i> Fenzl.	Urat Central Banner, Bayannur (42°36'N, 107°78'E)	GI34	GI35, GI36
	<i>Anabasis brevifolia</i> C.A. Mey.	Urat Central Banner, Bayannur (42°36'N, 107°78'E)	GI37	GI38
	<i>Haloxylon ammodendron</i> (C. A. Mey.) Bunge	Alxa Left Banner, Alashan (39°30'N, 105°70'E)		GI40, GI41
	<i>Atriplex patens</i> (Litv.) Iljin.	Alxa Right Banner, Alashan (38°99'N, 101°77'E)		GI42, GI43
<i>Asteraceae</i>	<i>Ajania achilleoides</i> (Turcz.) Poljak. Et Grub	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°40'N, 107°04'E)		GI44
	<i>Echinops gmelinii</i> Turcz.	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (42°36'N, 107°77'E)	GI45	GI46
	<i>Artemisia sieversiana</i> Ehrhart ex Willd.	Darhan Muminggan Joint Banner, Baotou (42°61'N, 110°28'E)	GI47, GI48	GI49, GI50
	<i>Artemisia frigida</i> Willd.	Siziwang Banner, Wulanchabu (42°39'N, 111°37'E)		GI51
	<i>Karelinia caspia</i> (Pall.) Less.	Ejin Banner, Alashan (40°04'N, 101°06'E)	GI52	GI53
	<i>Asterothamnus centrali-asiaticus</i> Novopokr.	Alxa Left Banner, Alashan (39°04'N, 105°99'E)	GI54	GI55
	<i>Heteropappus altaicus</i> (Willd.) Novopokr.	Alxa Left Banner, Alashan (39°04'N, 105°99'E)		GI56, GI57
<i>Zygophyllaceae</i>	<i>Peganum harmala</i> L.	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°14'N, 103°37'E)	GI58	GI59
<i>Lamiaceae</i>	<i>Lagochilus ilicifolius</i> Bunge	Urat Back Banner, Bayannur (41°40'N, 107°04'E)	GI60	GI61, GI62
<i>Cruciferae</i>	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i> L.	Urat Central Banner, Bayannur (42°36'N, 107°77'E)	GI63	GI64, GI65

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<i>Liliaceae</i>	<i>Allium polyrhizum</i> Turcz. ex Regel (florescence)	Siziwang Banner, Wulanchabu (42°36'N, 111°50'E)		GI66
	<i>Allium polyrhizum</i> Turcz. ex Regel (vegetative period)	Siziwang Banner, Wulanchabu (42°39'N, 111°37'E)		GI67, GI68
<i>Iridaceae</i>	<i>Iris lactea</i> Pall. Var. <i>chinensis</i> (Fisch.) Koidz.	Darhan Muminggan Joint Banner, Baotou (42°61'N, 110°28'E)		GI69, GI70
<i>Rosaceae</i>	<i>Prunus mongolica</i> Maxim.	Dengkou, Bayannur (40°58'N, 106°32'E)	GI71, GI72	GI73
<i>Caryophyllaceae</i>	<i>Gymnocarpos przewalskii</i> Maxim.	Alxa Right Banner, Alashan (38°99'N, 101°77'E)	GI74	GI1