

Table S1. Main Plants in the Study Area.

Family name	Lifestyle	Latin scientific name
Plantaginaceae Juss.	Biennial or	
	perennial	Plantago asiatica L.
	herb	
Euphorbiaceae Juss.	Annual herb	Euphorbia humifusa Willd.
	Annual herb	Euphorbia thymifolia L.
Fabaceae Lindl.	Perennial	
	herb	Astragalus laxmannii Jacq.
	Perennial	
	herb	Medicago sativa L.
	Biennial herb	Melilotus officinalis (L.) Pall.
	Perennial	
	herb	Astragalus scaberrimus Bunge
	Perennial	
	herb	Oxytropis coerulea (Pall.) DC.
Poaceae Barnhart.	Perennial	
	herb	Leymus chinensis (Trin.) Tzvel.
Apocynaceae Juss.	Grassy or	
	subshrub-like	Cynanchum thesioides (Freyn) K. Schum.
	vines	
Asteraceae Bercht. & J. Presl.	Perennial	
	herb	Inula britannica Linnaeus
	Perennial	
	herb	Taraxacum mongolicum Hand.-Mazz.
	Perennial	Takhtajaniantha mongolica (Maxim.) Zaika,
	herb	Sukhor. & N. Kilian
	Perennial	
	herb	Artemisia mongolica (Fisch. ex Bess.) Nakai
	Perennial	
	herb	Artemisia integrifolia L.
	Annual herb	Parthenium hysterophorus L.
	One or two	
	years of	Artemisia sieversiana Ehrhart ex Willd.

	herbs	
	Perennial	Artemisia lavandulifolia Candolle
	herb	
	Perennial	
	herb or	
	one/two year	Artemisia scoparia Waldst. et Kit.
	herb	
	Perennial	Crepis crocea (Lam.) Babcock
	herb	
	Perennial	Leibnitzia anandria (Linnaeus) Turczaninow
	herb	
	Perennial	Artemisia desertorum Spreng.
	herb	
	Perennial	Saussurea hieracioides Hook. f.
	herb	
	Perennial	Ixeris chinensis (Thunb.) Nakai
	herb	
	Perennial	Cirsium arvense var. integrifolium C. Wimm.
	herb	et Grabowski
Polygonaceae Juss.	Annual herb	Rumex maritimus L.
	Biennial or	
Orobanchaceae Vent	perennial	Orobanche pycnostachya Hance
	parasitic herb	
	Perennial	Geranium albiflorum Ledeb.
	herb	
Geraniaceae Juss.	Perennial	Geranium sibiricum L.
	herb	
	One or two	
	years of	Potentilla supina L.
	herbs	
Rosaceae Juss.	Perennial	
	herbaceous	Sibbaldianthe bifurca (L.) Kurtto & T. Erikss.
	or subshrub	
Apiaceae Lindl.	Perennial	Bupleurum smithii Wolff

	herb	
Brassicaceae	One or two years of herbs	Lepidium apetalum Willd.
Amaranthaceae Juss.	Annual herb	Chenopodium bryoniifolium Bunge
	Annual herb	Chenopodium album L.
	Annual herb	Bassia scoparia (L.) A.J.Scott
	Annual herb	Kali collinum (Pall.) Akhani & Roalson
	Annual herb	Oxybasis glauca (L.) S. Fuentes, Uotila & Borsch
Convolvulaceae Juss.	Perennial herb	Convolvulus arvensis L.
Boraginaceae Juss.	Perennial herb	Trigonotis radicans (Turcz.) Stev.