The Altai Mountains

Where Four Worlds Meet

A Greentours Trip Report

18th July to 2nd August 2002

Led by Paul Cardy and Vladimir Kolbintsev

Trip report by Paul Cardy

Day 1 Thursday 18th July Journey to Almaty

The flights were on time, with a good connection at Frankfurt. Entry formalities at Almaty were rather lengthy, and the arrivals hall was so hot we felt we were experiencing our first sauna. Vladimir met us and we transferred to the hotel. After settling in to our rooms we all met in the café on Floor 3 for beer, vodka and snacks.

Day 2 Friday 19th July Cimbulak and Journey to Ust-Kamenogorsk

We ate a welcome buffet breakfast before a mini-bus arrived to take us up to Cimbulak for the day. Several Banded Demoiselles were active around the 'pond' outside the hotel. Our flight to Ust-Kamenogorsk was not until the evening, so it was good to have the opportunity to visit the mountains above Almaty, the eastern end of the Tien Shan range. Today we were pleased to escape a little from the city heat, and retreat to the mountains. We drove up past the Medeo ice-rink, and the ski-centre. Common Mynahs were noted on the journey. We passed a great variety of flowers including *Sedum hybridum* and *Aconitum leucostomum*.

Our first stop was to explore some of the flower rich meadows. Nepeta pannonica, Mentha asiatica, Gentiana turkestanorum, and Parnassia palustris were all in flower. Several Apollos drifted over the hillside, and a few Cardinals sped past. Pedicularis dolichorhiza and Dactylorhiza umbrosa were going over but the Delphiniums were in good bloom. Mazarine and Large Blue were found, and several False Commas and Hungarian Gliders were seen. Some Salix bushes supported a large number of attractive grey caterpillars, with spikes, and an orange patch on each segment. These were Camberwell Beauties. A colony of the black-veined white relative Metaporia leucodice was active around Spiraea hypericifolia. Melanargia parce, Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow, Small Copper and Chazara enervata were also here. The rhubarb relative Rheum wittroecki was impressively large. Greenish Warblers and Common Rosefinch called. Codonopsis klematidea, Papaver croceum and a species of Thesium were also here. We ascended through the Tien Shan

Spruce covered hillsides, but were scuppered by the van breaking down. This didn't matter too much as we were more or less where we wanted to be. We made the best of the situation and prepared lunch. Our bad luck continued when the gas stove exploded rather impressively! We were not deterred however and we built a good small fire on which we could boil the water. Nothing would keep us from our tea and pot noodles! Hume's Yellow-browed Warbler was located nearby, and Black-throated Accentor sang from the conifers. The gorgeous *Erigeron aurantiacum* was in flower. *Proclossiana erubescens*, a Bog Fritillary relative, flew over the grassy hillside, in the company of *Erebia meta* subspecies *alexandra*.

After lunch we walked some way up towards the pass, in the direction of Kirghizstan. The track was lined with interesting plants. Here we recorded the Edelweiss, *Leontopodium fedschenkoanum*; *Rhodiola coccinea*; various *Alliums*; and *Potentilla fruticosa*. Among the butterflies were *Erebia turanica*, Queen-of-Spain Fritillary, *Coenonympha sunbecca*, Peacock, Brimstone, and Orange-tip. Crossbills and Grey-headed Goldfinches were feeding on the ground, as was a Hodgson's Mountain Finch. Among the many other plants here were *Cystopteris fragilis* and *Allium polyphyllum*. We returned to Almaty, and to a café for a snack before the flight. We checked in at a quiet terminal in town and were taken from there by bus to the airport. The flight on the Yak 42 took about two hours. The cloud formations were incredible during the whole journey. We arrived punctually and were met by Andrei, and transferred to the hotel for a welcome sleep.

Day 3 Saturday 20th July Journey to the Zaissan Desert

Following a very Russian breakfast, and once we had regained our passports from the local police formalities, we set off at nine heading over the Irtysh River, and south-east towards the Zaissan. The journey took us initially through steppe, and then into the Kalbinskiy Hills. *Salvia deserta* was abundant along the roadsides, and a very attractive large flowered Globe Thistle drew attention to itself. Our first stop in the hills proved very good for butterflies. We saw a Large Blue, Twin-spot Fritillary, Chestnut Heath, Idas Blue, and Lesser Marbled Fritillary. A beautiful yellow *Astragalus* flowered here. Esper's Marbled White, Ringlet, and *Hipparchia autonoe* were noted. Among the many flowers were *Sedum hybridum*, *Bupleurum longifolium*, *Galium verum*, and a white-flowered *Dianthus*. Red-backed Shrike and Tree Pipit were also noted. A local bus had broken down and the passengers had all started to walk ahead, but unusually they had decided to strip down to their underwear! Viper's Bugloss, Melilots and a tall white Hollyhock lined the roadsides on the way to the yourta where we were to have lunch. The little stream here was an excellent spot for mudpuddling butterflies. During our short visit we saw Wood White, Chequered Blue, *Tongeia fisheri*, Poplar Admiral, *Limenitis sydyi*, *Limenitis helmanni*, Map Butterfly, and Hungarian Glider.

We pressed on towards the ferry. In the desert here we found several of the fascinating endemic lizard Zaissan Toad-headed Agama, alongside their burrows. Yellow-legged Gulls were seen on or over the water. In the fringing reeds were Yellow Wagtails of the *feldegg* race, and two Bluethroats. Locals were swimming at the ferry dock. Common, Black and several Caspian Terns were here. The ferry crossing passed without incident, and we were soon back in the UAZs. Swallows seemed to be resident on the ferry. Continuing south we stopped at a filling station. A desert pond supported some thirty Ruddy Shelduck, Avocets, Black-winged Stilt, Redshank, Green Sandpiper, Ringed Plover and Little Stint. More Steppe Buzzards were seen en route, and three Sakers. After some time we left the tarmac and set off across the desert towards the shore of Lake Zaissan. Short-toed

Larks, and a few Black Larks flew up from the short vegetation as we flushed them. Dalmatian Pelicans were seen down by the lake. A Corsac Fox was a great surprise on the journey, and we had a very good view of it. Upland Buzzard and Isabelline Wheatear were also seen.

The journey to the camp took a long time, but we did arrive just before dark, to find quite a contingent from Altai Adventures there to meet us. They had just experienced a rather violent storm and one of the tents had been blown across the desert. A row of walk-in tents had been erected in a sandy gully, a short distance from the lake shore. We arranged ourselves into our separate tents, and regrouped for the first of Olga's delicious meals. Black Larks were numerous around the camp.

Day 4 Sunday 21st July Zaissan Desert

The day started overcast, and rather windy. Around the camp were huge numbers of Starling, and Sand Martin was abundant. Greylag Goose and Little Tern were noted down by the lake. We ate breakfast by the lakeshore with birds all around us. Gadwall, Ruddy Shelduck, and Common Terns were among them. We spent the morning walking into the desert. Two Demoiselle Cranes were spotted, and we were able to observe them through the telescope. Rheum micrantha was found in seed, and a species of *Limonium* was here. The desert was covered in Jerboa burrows. Steppe Runner and Sand Lizard were active here. A moment of excitement came when a Hobby sped past us pursuing a Short-toed Lark. The lark took refuge at our feet. However a second lark was less fortunate and we saw the Hobby catch it and then perch and eat it. A dead Wood Mouse was found too. A marshy area down by the lake supported Little Tern, Common Sandpiper, Kentish Plover, Little Ringed Plover, Oystercatcher, and Lapwing. Immature Yellow Wagtails were numerous in the reeds. Five Dalmatian Pelicans were seen, and Cormorant and Grey Heron were noted here too. Walking back along the beach to camp we saw Small White and Eastern Bath White. These were the only butterflies of the day! Some lovely yellow water lilies were in fine flower on the lake. Many more Dalmatian Pelicans sat in a group, and Redshank and Whimbrel were seen. After an excellent lunch we drove to the Kiin Kerish Canyon. On the way Upland Buzzards were seen, and two Demoiselle Cranes. We were delighted to see two Pallas's Sandgrouse on the road, but we had better views of these on the return journey. At Kiin Kerish we admired the splendid colourful rock formations, of red, ochre and white. Swifts were active over the canyon. A Shorelark was a good find, and a family of Isabelline Shrikes was here. There were some old Upland Buzzard nests. Among the many dried up plants in seed were *Ixiolirion tataricum*, *Tulipa altaica*, and *Ferula* kriloviana.

Following dinner some of us walked up onto the desert in search of Jerboas. We were rewarded with perhaps six Lesser Jerboas, after some perseverance. These really are the cutest animals. We were even able to stroke them and one took a liking to sitting on Vladimir's foot.

Day 5 Monday 22nd July Zaissan Desert

The morning was again cool, with only a little rain. Around the camp were Greylag Goose, and an attractive purple flowered species of *Lactuca* was found. After breakfast we drove to what we call the spring by the hill, where the eponymous spring provides a rather marshy lush area of vegetation. On the drive we saw both Upland and Long-legged Buzzards. The total of Dalmatian Pelicans was now forty-two along the lakeshore. Several Great Black-headed Gulls and the first of the days many Pallas's Sandgrouse were seen.

At the spring we saw families of Kestrels and Ortolan Buntings. Tawny Pipit was recorded and a young Rock Thrush. Pied Wheatears were much in evidence. Groups of up to thirty Pallas's Sandgrouse were coming in to drink, a lovely sight. Hoopoe, Red-headed Buntings, and Blyth's Reed Warbler added to the variety. Vladimir found a Lesser Fiery Copper. Pam and Martin found a dead Long-eared Hedgehog, which we managed to trick Mavis with (sorry Mavis!). She in turn had seen a Mountain Hare. Plants on the dry slopes here included *Halimodendron, Ephedra* and much *Tulipa altaica* in seed. *Dodartia orientalis* was a good find. An Adder skin was found, and later, by the camp, Vlad caught a Dione Snake.

Following a siesta we headed in the other direction along the lake shore to the area we had camped the previous year. Three more Demoiselle Cranes were seen and there were many Black Larks. A Golden Lemming ran across the road in front of us. Here were more colourful rock formations. Pied Wheatear was common, and a family of Lesser Kestrels was watched for some time. We flushed a Nightjar that settled just a little way off, and even allowed the photographers close approach. A species of *Atraphaxis* was in flower. We were surprised to actually see some people here. First of all a group camping by the lake, and then a family who were trying to drive the incredibly rough track down to the lake in a Lada. Needless to say they soon became stuck. We helped them out, but couldn't imagine how they would get back along the track in a saloon car.

That evening we were ready to do our checklists when the wind suddenly got up, the tents started to flap about a bit, and then started blowing wildly. The lake level rose and threatened to flood our tents. The staff of Altai Adventures did a grand job of running round and strengthening the tents, building up the sand defences and the like. They kept watch over us and whilst the group were all safe in their tents I had to abandon mine when the lake lapped at the door, and move in with Vlad and Michael and sleep on their floor. It was a most eventful night.

Day 6 Tuesday 23rd July Journey to Markakol

At dawn we abandoned camp. We loaded the vehicles as quickly as possible, and drove off in rather a bedraggled state! As we left we cast a last look at the flooded sorrowful camp! We were heading north-east, first to the Chinese border, and then up into the mountains and Markakol Lake. Little was seen on the first part of our journey due to the dreadful weather.

We continued through the steppe desert, passing some damp meadows along the way. We were now very close to the Chinese border, and in this obviously sensitive region had to spend some time at a checkpoint for routine bureaucracy. Here we saw several Richard's Pipits, and nearby were Rollers and Bee-eaters. After a brief stop in the nearby village (Alexeevka) to buy supplies we headed north, driving alongside the border fence. On the other side are extensive sand dunes, and beyond them the mountains of Xinjiang. At the Marble Pass we stopped for lunch, but sadly the weather

spoilt the views of China. As we journeyed further north great conifer forests started, primarily of *Picea obovata* and *Larix sibirica*. The landscape became steadily greener. From the vehicles we could see swathes of *Veratrum lobelianum*, *Dianthus superbus*, *Dracocephalum* and *Pedicularis* in the rich meadows

We arrived at the village of Markakol at three fifteen. All the houses here are built of wood, in the Siberian style. We were staying inside a fenced compound that is the national park headquarters. We organised our accommodation and the sauna was soon fired up. This was incredibly welcome tonight, the chance to warm up, dry out, wash, and relax after a rather wet day! Olga set to preparing dinner, which was a delicious buckwheat dish.

Day 7 Wednesday 24th July Markakol

Another overcast morning, but thankfully dry. Today saw us exploring our environs, taking the path that skirts the south shore of Markakol Lake. We had to cross the stream in the village, rather high due to all the rain. In the village were Steppe Buzzards and Black Kites. We had reasonable views of the Altai, with remnant snow patches on the higher peaks. Around the garden we saw Large Wall Brown, and the attractive *Geranium albiflorum* in flower. Our walk this morning was on the level, the only discomfort being the number of mosquitoes. The vegetation was heavily grazed along here and only poisonous species such as *Veratrum lobelianum*, *Aconitum leucostomon*, and *Delphiniums* were common. The blue berries of *Lonicera tatarica* were very noticable, and some of the group ate a few! *Paeonia anomala* was abundant in seed. A wet flush contained some lovely *Potentilla palustris* and *Scutellaria galericulata*. Several passerines were active in the conifers, Long-tailed Tits, Nuthatches, Willow and Coal Tits and Nuthatches among them. We had good views of Siberian Chipmunk and Two Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers were seen.

On the lake we saw Mallard and Goldeneye. Spotted Flycatchers were numerous and Red-backed Shrike was here. An Osprey hunted and dived over the lake, whilst Black Storks fed along the lakeshore. Growing in the meadows we found *Polemonium caeruleum, Bupleurum aureum, Trifolium lupinaster, Dianthus hoeltzeri,* and *Ribes meyeri. Viola disjuncta* was very attractive with its pale mauve lower petals and dark purple uppers. There were some particularly fine Siberian Larches here. Due to the dull weather butterflies were almost absent. We saw only Mazarine Blue and Eastern Bath White. We returned to the house for lunch.

In the afternoon we drove a short distance back along the road we had travelled in on yesterday, but had had no tine to stop. First of all we stopped at the pass, at some 1850m. The meadows here were yellow with the lovely *Bupleurum aureum*. *Dracocephalum grandiflorum*, *Antennaria dioica*, *Potentilla asiatica*, and *Papaver nudicaule* contributed to the floral spectacle. Lesser Marbled Fritillary was noted. We decided to collect a bunch of flowers from each of the afternoon's sites (a la Anna Ivaschenko) to grace our dinner table, and help us during the checklists. There were so many beautiful flowers here that the table was really a picture. Other species from this productive first stop were *Pedicularis proboscidea*, *Sanguisorba officinalis*, *Valeriana officinalis* and a *Scutellaria* species. Moving back towards the village we found a good population of *Swertia obtusa*. Also here were *Parnassia palustris*, and *Scirpus sylvaticus*. Stonechat was here, and Quail was heard. The third stop gave us *Aconitum baicalense*, *Aconitum leucostomum* and *Achillea ledebourii* for the table. Back at the house the sauna had been fired up and we took it in turns to

enjoy this typical Central Asian experience. We were relieved to see Yevgeny and the others arrive from Zaissan, having dismantled the camp in very adverse conditions.

Day 8 Thursday 25th July Markakol - the Cold Pass

Today was a little more strenuous as we set off to walk up to the Cold Pass, at 1750m some 300m in altitude above the village. Masked and Grey Wagtails were noticeable as we walked through the village. Initially our route was heavily grazed but the vegetation improved the further up we got. Again Black Kites were common. *Dactylorhiza fuchsii* put on a good show. Greenish Warblers and three Ospreys were seen, and Small Tortoiseshells and Dark Green Fritillaries were on the wing. At last we had blue skies.

We strayed into a meadow that looked promising for butterflies, and we were not disappointed. Apollo was here, and Dusky Large Blue was found on its foodplant Sanguisorba officinalis. Fritillaries were represented by Niobe, Dark Green, and Lesser Marbled. Erebia theano was not uncommon. Beside the stream were Amanda's Blue and two Chestnut Heaths. Mellicta centralasiae, Tessellated Skipper and Scarce Copper added to the variety. Tree Pipits, Ravens, Willow Tit and Steppe Buzzard were all here too. We continued slowly to the pass. Common Lizard was noted on the way. The beautiful Aquilegia glandulosa was here, and the impressive knapweed-like Rhaponticum carthamoides. Crossbills were a good find, and both High Brown and Titania's Fritillaries were seen here. We ate our packed lunch on the pass, and then walked into the larches. The flies were present in clouds but we persevered and were rewarded with some lovely patches of the Aquilegia. Altai Pika was heard whistling, and we found a food collecting area of this species. It was pleasing to see Erebia jenisiensis here again. Aster alpinus was in fine bloom on the pass. Corydalis nobilis, and Allium altaica were here and Vlad saw a Three-toed Woodpecker. Below us opened out a vast grassland and we watched some horsemen as they rode towards us. On the return walk we saw Redstart, a pale phase Booted Eagle, and *Clematis integrifolia* in flower. Near the village were several Grey-headed Goldfinches. Back at the house, Olga prepared tea and snacks for us. The evening was beautiful and tonight's sauna was particularly welcome. At dinner we celebrated Michael's fiftieth birthday.

Day 9 Friday 26th July The Austrian Road

The Austrian Road starts a short distance from Markakol and leads up to the Burkhat Pass. It is so called as it was built by central European prisoners of war during the First World War. This really is a rough track, but it leads up through some great habitat. Today we explored the lowest parts of this road.

As we left Markakol we had great views of two Black Storks beside the lake. We stopped first to photograph the distinctive graveyard just outside the village, with each grave having a yourta frame like construction around it. A little further along on the main road, were extensive meadows full of the usual plant community. The first of many *Erebia theano* was here, and a great find was Ripart's Anomalous Blue, in exactly the same spot that one was seen last year. *Clematis integrifolia* was here in seed. Common Rosefinch was numerous, whilst Stonechat was here too. Moor Frog was found. The mosquitoes got the better of us and we headed on. The next riverside stop had a stand of *Populus laurifolius*. We walked a little way along the track that leads to Mongolia. Essex Skipper,

Blyth's Reed Warbler, Steppe Buzzard, and Black Kites were all here.

Now we set off on the Austrian Road. Initially this is nothing more than a rocky stream bed, but the UAZs did a marvellous job of coping with it. The highlight on the drive up was a female Capercaillie with two young that sat on the track for several minutes before moving off. An excellent view. A rocky hillside further up held many Apollos and their foodplant *Sedum hybridum* was common here. Here we found one Chequered Blue. The shady roadsides held an interesting flora including many Twinflowers, *Pyrola minor*, Oak Fern and many lichens. We reached the lower pass where we ate lunch in a flowery meadow with magnificent vistas of vast spaces with no sign of human presence at all. The snow-capped peaks were particularly impressive. *Tulipa heterophylla* was here in seed, as was *Erythronium sibiricum*. A Spotted Fritillary of the *meridionalis* form was seen, as was a Lesser Spotted Fritillary. A Nuthatch appeared out of a large hole in one of the trees.

In the afternoon we walked back down the road, each of us going at our own pace. We had great views of Ortolan Bunting, and Yellowhammer was here too. Apollos were present in reasonable numbers. High Brown and Dark Green Fritillaries were here, and a female Chequered Blue. Nymphalids were represented by Hungarian Glider, Yellow-legged Tortoiseshell and Painted Lady. Mazarine Blue was very common, and Silvery Argus was a good find. Many interesting plants grew alongside the track. *Dictamnus angustifolius* was an impressive find. *Papaver nudicaule, Gymnospermium altaicum, Spiraea media* and *Alfredia cernua* were all here too. *Lilium martagon* and *Moneses uniflora* were added to the list.

Day 10 Saturday 27th July Journey to Burkhat Pass

Today we left Markakol and headed for the Burkhat Pass. Before we left we had a quick look in Markakol museum, with its' interesting collection of rather decaying specimens. A Ural Owl, a Bear with two cubs, and an odd form of Peacock butterfly with white suffusion around the eye spots were among the exhibits. Great Black-headed Gulls flew over the village. The neighbours had a cat with three beautiful kittens, and whilst those of us that go soft over such things were admiring them, rather incredibly a mouse appeared from inside the blanket in the bottom of the cat box! A mouse that lived with four cats!

Our route took us back along the Austrian Road, and to below the Burkhat Pass. The road was very muddy today as there had been a thunder storm overnight. Vlad was lucky enough to see a Corncrake from the moving vehicle. Red-backed Shrikes were seen too. We stopped on the Austrian road to admire the displays of Twinflowers, and One-flowered and Lesser Wintergreens. A stop by a rather bent bridge produced *Sedum purpurea*, *Potentilla fruticosa*, *Equisetum hyemale*, Apollo, and Silver-studded Blue. We arrived at the camp that had been set up for us at lunchtime. They really had chosen a fine setting, beside a rushing river. Michael spotted a Dipper in the river. Having settled in to the tents we convened for another of Olga's excellent lunches. Yellow-legged Tortoiseshell, Lesser Marbled Fritillary, and Mazarine Blues were here and there was a good colony of Silver-studded Blues.

In the afternoon we walked along the track in the direction of the pass. It was rather cloudy, with sunny spells, but we had rain towards the end of the afternoon. The butterflies were good this

afternoon. A female Alpine Blue was the highlight, but a male *Polyommatus erotides* was almost as impressive. Scarce Copper, *Mellicta centralasiae* and Titania's Fritillary were also here. An immature Golden Eagle soared overhead with Steppe Buzzards. A group of about six Blyth's Reed Warblers responded well to pishing.

Among the plants here were a species of *Woodsia, Parnassia palustris, Aster alpinus, Astragalus alpinus* (the foodplant of Alpine Blue), and two species of *Primula* in seed. Some dead logs supported a good selection of beetles including a large black longhorn and two smaller grey species. A Wasp Beetle, and a Velvet Ant were here. There was also an impressive wood boring wasp.

Day 11 Sunday 28th July Burkhat Pass

The night was very cold, but we awoke to much improved weather. After breakfast I found a Frog Orchid near my tent. We drove up to the Burkhat Pass, about one hour to the north. On the way we saw a few Long-tailed Susliks on a rocky outcrop. Once at the pass we negotiated the very thick dwarf birch scrub and headed towards a rocky outcrop where the snow had very recently melted. The flora was marvellous up here, with a fine display. Trollius altaicus was in glorious flower, as was Aquilegia glandulosa. The stunning white Gentiana gelida was very impressive. Viola altaicus and Anemone protracta, Corthusa altaica, Saxifraga sibirica, Saxifraga punctata, Pedicularis oederi, Lloydia serotina, and Callianthemum angustifolium gave a wonderful show! Gentiana glandulifera and Ranunculus altaicus added to the variety. Two superficially similar white flowers, Macropodium nivale and Lagotis integrifolia belonged to very different families. The former is a crucifer and the latter belongs to the Scrophulariaceae. There were no fewer than three species of dwarf willows up here, with the species listed as number 4 in the list being particularly attractive. Rhodiola rosea and Bergenia crassifolia were also here. We moved on to a nearby more or less permanent small snow patch. Here was a distinctive white flower, somewhat *Parnassia* like. The identity of this puzzled us for some time until I realised it was the spring-beauty *Claytonia* joanneana. Dryas oxyodonta was common in seed. Pyrola rotundifolia, Sibbaldia procumbens, Gentiana grandiflora and Pedicularis compacta were all seen too.

The butterflies were surprisingly good up here today, with one sheltered spot holding many interesting species. A female Purple-edged Copper, and two male Alpine Blues were here, the latter being an especially beautiful colour blue. Fritillaries were well represented by Bog Fritillary, Mountain Fritillary, Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, *Clossiana selenis* and *Issoria eugenia*. False Comma, *Erebia maurisianus*, and *Erebia theano* were also here. A surprise sighting on the pass was a flock of eighteen Ruddy Shelduck. A male Hen Harrier hunted over the hillsides, giving very good views. Water Pipits sang, and an immature Rock Thrush was seen. Nutcracker was heard, and Hodgson's Mountain Finches seen. Siberian Chipmunk was noted too.

After lunch eaten in the relative warmth of the vehicle, we ambled downhill in the direction of the camp, having arranged for Andrei to drive and pick us up later in the afternoon. A good selection of flowers was seen, and a highlight was an Altai Pika.

Day 12 Monday 29th July Journey to Rakmanovkiye Kluchi

The night had been wet, and the Austrian Road was rather muddy as a consequence. We decamped and set off northwards, once again across the Burkhat Pass, and on to almost the border with Siberia, and the 'resort' at Rakmanovskiye Kluchi.

We stopped on the north side of the pass, and walked on for some way. Arran Brown was on the wing, together with *Erebia jenisiensis*. Imperial Eagle was seen, and the much commoner Steppe Buzzard. We were pleased to find Creeping Ladies Tresses here, and a little further on we saw *Veratrum nigrum*.

Once back onto the tarmac, in the Bukhtarma Valley, we headed east. The checkpoint in the town of Uryl took only five minutes, as Andrei used his influence with the officials there! We stopped for lunch in a side valley near Uryl, and this proved to be an excellent spot. Nutcrackers were much in evidence, and Michael found a Black Woodpecker for us. It was the butterflies here that were most impressive however. A female *Parnassius nomion* started things off, and then we found a colony of Damon Blue, a Reverdin's Blue, Dryads, *Coenonympha amaryllis*, Dusky Meadow Brown, and a Large Blue. The plants here included a species of *Asparagus* and *Dianthus deltoides*. Whilst we were seeing all this Olga prepared a welcome soup for lunch.

The weather deteriorated, and we arrived at Rakmanovskiye late afternoon in the rain. We were pleased to learn that we were all accommodated in the same cottage, that we had to ourselves, and that it had been recently redecorated. Having settled in we took an evening stroll down to the lake. Velvet Scoter was seen on the water and Pacific Swifts wheeled overhead. Greenish Warblers were active in the trees. In the wet flushes was growing *Potamogeton alpinus* and under the trees we found three species of clubmoss – *Diphasiastrum complanatum*, *Huperzia selago* and *Lycopodium annotinum*. *Sorbus sibirica* was also here.

Day 13 Tuesday 30th July Rakmanovskiye Kluchi

Another wet day. We split into two groups, with Vladimir leading a walk up to the pass, where in clear weather there are fine views of Belukha, the highest peak in the Altai. It proved a good walk for mammals, with seven Altai Pikas, three Grey Marmots, and a Mole being seen. Hodgson's Mountain Finch was found on the pass, with a Brown Accentor and Black Redstart too. The rest of the group accompanied me along the entrance road, where despite the rain we saw some interesting things. *Cardamine macrophylla* was in fine flower, and the wet flushes supported a variety of interesting plants such as *Carex melanantha*, *Carex pallescens, Eleocharis palustris* and *Epilobium palustris*. We saw several Siberian Chipmunks and a Red Squirrel. Nuthatches were common today, and we had good views of Black-throated Accentors. On the lake were twenty-five Velvet Scoters, and two Tufted Ducks. Yellow-browed Warbler was added to the list, and two Crossbills were seen. Crowberry was a good find, and *Gentiana grandiflora* and *Doronicum altaicum* were seen. Bluethroats were not uncommon today.

In the afternoon we all explored the nearer lakeshore. The weather had improved a little and we managed to find a few butterflies. Mazarine Blue, Dark Green Fritillary, Lesser Marbled Fritillary,

and *Erebia theano* were all here. Northern Wall Brown and Chequered Skipper were both additions to the trip list. A Sparrowhawk flew over the conifers, and on the lakeshore we found Moor Frog and Green Toad. A Fragrant Orchid was a new species for the trip.

Day 14 Wednesday 31st July Journey to Ust Kamenogorsk

We loaded the vehicles and set off on the long journey to Ust-Kamenogorsk. Again it was pouring with rain. We made good progress, and reached the Zaissan ferry in good time. Bullfinch was seen on the journey, and a Wryneck sitting on a fence post in almost exactly the spot we had seen one the previous year. Raptors were much in evidence on the journey, with Imperial Eagle, Steppe Eagle, Montagu's Harrier, Sparrowhawk, Black Kite, and Kestrel all seen today. Hoopoe was seen and Corvids and Starlings were abundant. We caused much interest among the other passengers on the Zaissan ferry. Cormorants, Yellow-legged Gull, Great Black-headed Gull and Common Tern were all seen from the ferry.

We ate lunch in a yourta. Nearby we saw False Grayling and Common Blue. Sand Lizard and Adder were found. Another stop at the roadside yourta in the Kalbinsky Hills produced *Tongeia fischeri*, Holly Blue and a female Chequered Blue. Other species noted on the journey were Moorhen, Bee-eaters, and a Cuckoo. Two Red-cheeked Susliks were noted on the journey to Ust-Kamenogorsk. We arrived in town before dark and settled in to a pleasant hotel beside the river. A much cleaner and well-dressed group met for a great meal in the nearby pizza restaurant, and we were joined by some of the people from Altai Adventures.

Day 15 Thursday 1st August Journey to Almaty

After a Russian breakfast in the hotel we went to the airport. We said our farewells to Andrei, Micha, and our drivers, and went through the check-in procedures. We flew on a Yak 40, a smaller aircraft than we'd flown up on, but the flight was still perfectly smooth. The views of the Tien Shan as we approached Almaty were very impressive.

Almaty was hot. We transferred to the hotel and ate a pleasant lunch outside in a café. In the afternoon Vladimir took some of the group on a shopping trip. That evening we had another farewell dinner in a local restaurant. We retired to bed for a short nights sleep.

Day 16 Friday 2nd August Departure

We were up in the early hours and on the way to the airport. It was rather busy but things went smoothly enough. The flight was on time, and we caught our connection at Frankfurt with no problem.

Systematic List Number 1 Mammals

One dead in Zaysan. Long-eared Hedgehog Hemiechinus auritus Pipistrelle Almaty and Ust-Kamenogorsk. 2/14 Pipistrellus pipistrellus Red-cheeked Suslik A few in the Zaysan Desert. 1/14 Spermophilus erythrogenus Spermophilus undulatus Scattered records. Max daily count of 3. 3/14 Long-tailed Suslik Siberian Chipmunk Eutamius sibiricus Quite frequent in wooded areas of the Altai. Max daily count 3. 6/14 Only at Racmanovskie Klyuchi. 1/14 Red Squirrel Sciurus vulgaris Golden Lemming Lagurus luteus This strange bundle of grey fur is a tertiary relict species and has few modern-day relatives. 1 in the Zaysan Desert! 1/14 Lesser Jerboa Allactaga elaphus At least 6 seen on night walk in Zaysan. 1/14 Marmota bibacinia 3 above Racmanovskiye Kluchi. 1/14 Grev Marmot Red Pika 1 at Cimbulak. 1/14 Ochotona rutila Burkhat Pass, and Racmanovsiye Kluchi. 2/14

Lesser Jerboa
Grey Marmot
Red Pika
Altai Pika
Ochotona
Mountain Hare
Wolf
Corsac Fox
Mole
Wood Mouse

Allactaga elaphus
Marmota bibacinia
Ochotona rutila
Ochotona
Lepus timidus
Lupus lupus
Vulpes corsac
Talpa europaea
Apodemus sylvaticus

2 sightings in Zaysan. 2/14 1 above Racmanovskiye Kluchi. 1/14

None seen but droppings at Uryl.

One at 'Spring by the hill', Zaysan. 1/14

One dead in Zaysan.

Systematic List Number 2 Birds

The taxonomy is largely taken from Professor Edward Gavrilov's summary of status and distribution to be found in the 'Guide to the Birds of the Kazakhstan Republic' published in 2000. A few common names and subspecies details are taken from MacKinnon and Phillipps's Birds of China also published in 2000.

To give an idea of frequency of sightings we give a figure at the end of the comments section which indicates the number of days out of 14 on which a species was seen -6/14 means that a species was noted on 6 days out of 14. 'Leader only records' are indicated by the leaders initials - PC= Paul Cardy, VK = Vladimir Kolbintsev.

Itinerary in brief -

101 –
Daytrip from Almaty to Cim Bulak and the Tyuk-su Gate
Full day journey across the Kalbinskiy Hills and through the Zaysan Desert to camp on
north shore of Lake Zaysan
Morning around campsite and afternoon at the Kiin Kerish canyon, both in the
Zaysan Desert
Morning visit to the 'spring by the hill'. Afternoon visit to 'old campsite'. Both in
Zaysan Desert.
Journey from Zaysan to Markakol. Some time on Zaysan's shore and at various points en
route including the Marble Pass near Alexeevka on the Chinese Border
Full day at Markakol – walks from the village
Full day at Markakol – walk to the 'Cold Pass'
Full day at Markakol – road towards Burkhat – the Alatay Pass
Journey north across the south Altai to the Burkhat Pass. Karakaba River.
Burkhat Pass
Journey to Racmanovskiye Kluchi.
Full day at Racmanovskiye Kluchi.
Journey west to Ust-Kamenogorsk
Ust-Kamenogorsk to Almaty. Afternoon free in city

Dalmatian Pelican	Pelecanus crispus	Up to a maximum of 42 by the Zaysan shore. 3/14
Great White Egret	Egretta alba	A maximum of 2 at Zaysan. 2/14
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	Seen at Zaysan. 3/14
Black Stork	Ciconia nigra	Up to 3 noted daily at Markakol. 3/14
Greylag Goose	Anser anser	Noted at Zaysan. 2/14
Ruddy Shelduck	Tadorna ferruginea	Scattered. A group of 18 on the Burkhat
		Pass! 4/14
Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	Up to 15 daily at Zaysan. 3/14
Gadwall	Anas strepera	A few at Zaysan Lake. 1/14
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	Markakol. 2/14
Tufted Duck	Aythya fuligula	3 at Racmanovskie Klyuchi. 2/14
Goldeneye	Člangula bucephala	Markakol in small numbers. 1/14
Velvet Scoter	Melanitta deglandi	Small numbers at Racmanovskie Kluchi.
		A female at Markakol. 4/14
Goosander	Mergus merganser	8 at Burkhat campsite. 1/14
Osprey	Pandion haliaeetus	Scattered records at Markakol. 3/14
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	Widespread and abundant. 12/14

Pallid Harrier Circus macrourus 1 in Zaysan Desert. 1/14 Montagu's Harrier Scattered. A total of 5. 2/14 Circus pygargus Hen Harrier Circus cyaneus A male at Burkhat. 1/14 Sparrowhawk Accipiter nisus Singles at Racmanovskiye Kluchi. 2/14 Common Buzzard Buteo buteo 'vulpinus' race? Noted most days. Max daily count 4. 9/14 Long-legged Buzzard Buteo rufinus Only 2, in Zaysan. 1/14 Upland Buzzard Buteo hemilasius 10+ a day in the Zaysan desert area, mostly between the camp site and Kiin Kerish Canyon. Steppe Eagle Only one record (VK). 1/14 Aquila nipalensis Imperial Eagle Aquila heliaca Zaysan and north of Burkhat. 3/14 Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos 2 immatures near Burkhat campsite. 1/14 **Booted Eagle** Hieraaetus pennatus A pale phase bird at Markakol. 1/14 Lesser Kestrel Falco naumanni 4+ in the Zaysan. May have been missed elsewhere. 1/14 Common Kestrel Falco tinnunculus Widespread except in Markakol area. 9/14 Hobby Falco subbuteo Scattered. A maximum of 4. 3/14 Saker Falco cherrug 2 in Zaysan. 2/14 Black Grouse Tetrao tetrix Droppings on Cold Pass. Capercaillie Tetrao urogallus Droppings in Markakol area. A female with 2 young seen very well on the Austrian Road. 1/ **Quail** Coturnix coturnix Heard occasionally. 3/14 Corncrake Crex crex 1 north of Markakol (VK). 1/14 Gallinula chloropus Moorhen On route to Ust-Kamenogorsk (PC). 1/14 Demoiselle Crane Anthropoides virgo Max count of 5 on the shores of Lake Zavsan. 2/14 Ovstercatcher Haematopus ostralegus Max of 5 along shores of Lake Zaysan. 3/14 Black-winged Stilt Himantopus himantopus Scattered along shores of Lake Zaysan. 1/14 Recurvirostra avosetta 4 at Zaysan. 1/14 Avocet Little Ringed Plover Charadrius dubius Up to 10 at Zaysan. 3/14 Ringed Plover Charadrius hiaticula Zaysan. 1/14 Zaysan. 1/14 Kentish Plover Charadrius alexandrinus Vanellus vanellus Scattered along Zaysan's shore. 4/14 Lapwing 1 at Zaysan. 1/14 Little Stint Calidris minuta 1 at Zaysan. 1/14 Curlew Sandpiper Calidris ferruginea Black-tailed Godwit Limosa limosa Up to 15 at Zaysan. 4/14 Zaysan. 1/14 Whimbrel Numenius phaeopus Up to 15 on Zaysan's shore, 3/14 Curlew Numenius arquata Common Redshank Common along Zaysan's shore. 4/14 Tringa totanus Tringa ochropus On route to Ust-Kamenogorsk. 1/14 Green Sandpiper Wood Sandpiper Tringa glareola 3 in Zaysan. 1/14 Common Sandpiper Actitis hypoleucos Widespread in small numbers. 10/14 Larus ichthyaetus Lake Zaysan and Markakol. 5/14 Great Black-headed Gull Black-headed Gull Larus ridibundus Very common around Zaysan. 5/14 'Herring' Gull Larus 'argentatus' Scattered around Zaysan. 6/14 – most seemed to be of the 'barabensis' race? Gull-billed Tern Gelochelidon nilotica Noted at Lake Zaysan. 3/14 Caspian Tern 14 by the Zaysan Lake. 2/14 Sterna caspia

Quite common along Zaysan's shores. 4/14 Whiskered Tern Chlidonias hybridus Zaysan. 1/14 White-winged Tern Chlidonias leucopterus Zaysan. 3/14 Pallas's Sandgrouse

Sterna hirundo

Sterna albifrons

Common Tern

Little Tern

Syrrhaptes paradoxus Max daily count of about 50 in the Zaysan

Desert. 2/14

Lake Zaysan. 5/14

Rock Dove Columba livia Widespread, 7/14 Rufous Turtle Dove Streptopelia orientalis Widespread. 8/14 Only one record. 1/14 Cuckoo Cuculus canorus Nightjar Caprimulgus europaeus 3 in Zaysan. 2/14 Common Swift Apus apus Common at Zaysan Desert. 2/14 Pacific Swift Apus pacificus Ouite common at Racmanovskie Klyuchi. European Bee-eater Merops apiaster Common near Alexeevka. 3/14 Coracias garrulus Roller Alexeevka. 1/14 Hoopoe Upupa epops Scattered. 6/14 Wryneck Jynx torquilla 2 on fencepost en route from Racmanovskie Klyuchi. 1/14 1 near Uryl. 1/14 Black Woodpecker Dryocopus martius Northern Three-toed Woodpecker Picoides tridactylus 1 on the Cold Pass above Markakol. 1/14 Dendrocopos minor Lesser-spotted Woodpecker 2 at Markakol. 1/14 Melanocorypha yeltoniensis Very common in the Zaysan Desert. 3/14 Black Lark Short-toed Lark Calandrella brachydactyla Common in the Zaysan Desert. 3/14 Asian Short-toed Lark Calandrella cheelensis Only 1 in the Zaysan. Drives through the desert put up hundreds of small larks that were not identified specifically. 1/14 Shore Lark Eremophila alpestris 1 at Kiin Kerish. 1/14 Sand Martin Riparia riparia Abundant around Lake Zaysan. 3/14 Swallow Hirundo rustica Widespread. 11/14 Richard's Pipit Anthus richardi 1 by the police checkpoint near Alexeevka. 1/14 Tawny Pipit Scattered in drier habitats. 2/14 Anthus campestris Tree Pipit Anthus trivialis Common around Markakol, Burkhat Pass and Racmanovskie Klyuchi. 7/14 Water Pipit Anthus spinoletta 2 on the Burkhat Pass. 1/14 Yellow Wagtail Motacilla flava Several of the 'beema' race noted at Zaysan along with a few 'feldegg' but most in this area seemed to be the race 'melanogrisea'. 5/14 Grey Wagtail Motacilla cinerea Common in the hills. 9/14 White Wagtail Scarce. 1/14 Motacilla alba Masked Wagtail Motacilla personata Widespread. 8/14 Cinclus cinclus 1 near Burkhat campsite. 1/14 Dipper Brown Accentor Prunella fulvescens Racmanovskive Kluchi. 1/14 Black-throated Accentor Prunella atrogularis Cimbulak and Racmanovskiye Kluchi. 2/14 Bluethroat Luscinia svecica Scattered records. 5/14 1 at Uryl and 1 at Racmanovskiye Kluchi. Black Redstart Phoenicurus ochruros Widespread in wooded areas of the hills. Common Redstart Phoenicurus phoenicurus Saxicola torquata Stonechat Widespread and locally abundant. 9/14 Isabelline Wheatear Oenanthe isabellina Common in the Zaysan Desert. 5/14 Northern Wheatear Oenanthe oenanthe Widespread. 7/14 Pied Wheatear Oenanthe pleschanka Old campsite area in Zaysan. 1/14 Rock Thrush Monticola saxatilis Immatures in Zaysan and at Burkhat Pass. 2/14 Song Thrush Markakol area, 2/14 Turdus philomelos Mistle Thrush Turdus viscivorus Common in the hills. 6/14 Black-throated Thrush Turdus atrogularis Only in Racmanovskive area. 2/14 Blyth's Reed Warbler Acrocephalus dumetorum Common in meadow herbage and forest understory around Markakol - also scattered

Sylvia curruca altai

Altai Lesser Whitethroat

elsewhere. 8/14

Common in the hills. 3/14

Desert Lesser Whitethroat Common Whitethroat Greenish Warbler

Sylvia communis Phylloscopus trochiloides

Svlvia minutula

Ouite common in woodlands and forests.

Several seen at Kiin Kerish, Zaysan Desert

8/14

Scattered, 2/14

Hume's Yellow-browed Warbler Yellow-browed Warbler

Chiffchaff Spotted Flycatcher Long-tailed Tit

Great Tit Coal Tit Willow Tit

Red-backed Shrike

Red-tailed Shrike Lesser Grey Shrike

Great Grey Shrike

Nuthatch

Treecreeper

Phylloscopus humei Phylloscopus inornatus Phylloscopus collybita

Muscicapa striata Aegithalos caudatus Parus major

Parus ater Parus montanus

Sitta europaea Certhia familiaris Lanius collurio Lanius phoenicuroides

Lanius minor Lanius excubitor

Magpie Pica pica

Nutcracker Nucifraga caryocatactes A few above Cim Bulak, Almaty. 1/14

Racmanovskie Klyuchi. 1/14

Quite widespread - interesting song! 5/14

Scattered records. 5/14 Markakol area. 2/14 Scattered, 4/14 Scattered records. 4/14

Common in all wooded areas in the Altai.

6/14

Scattered in wooded areas. 5/14 2 at Racmanovskive Kluchi. 1/14 Widespread and very common. 6/14

3 in Zaysan. 1/14

Near Chinese border. 1/14 'funereus' race, Zaysan. 1/14

Widespread. 9/14

Not uncommon on the Burkhat Pass and also

Jackdaw Rook Carrion Crow Hooded Crow

Common Myna House Sparrow

Tree Sparrow

Rose-coloured Starling

Grey-headed Goldfinch

Hodgson's Rosy Finch

Raven

Starling

Linnet

Corvus monedula Corvus frugilegus Corvus corone Corvus corone

Corvus corax Sturnus vulgaris Sturnus roseus Acridotheres tristis

Passer domesticus Passer montanus

Carduelis cannabina Leucosticte arctoa

Common Rosefinch Crossbill Loxia curvirostra

Bullfinch Yellowhammer

Ortolan Bunting Yellow-breasted Bunting Red-headed Bunting

Carduelis carduelis caniceps Carpodacus erythrinus Pyrrhula pyrrhula

Emberiza citrinella Emberiza hortulana Emberiza aureola Emberiza bruniceps

at Racmanovskie Klyuchi. Max daily count 3. Widespread and locally abundant. 4/14

Widespread and locally abundant. 3/14 Subspecies 'orientalis'. Widespread. 12/14 Subspecies 'cornix'. Noted at Ust-

Kemenogorsk. 2/14

Widespread in low numbers. 5/14

Abundant in Zaysan. 4/14 Very scarce this year. 1/14

Almaty. 1/14

Noted in villages etc. 2/14 Locally quite common. 4/14 Scattered records, 3/14 Scattered records. 2/14

Cimbulak and Burkhat Pass. 2/14

Widespread. 9/14 Scattered records. 4/14

1 near Racmanovskive Kluchi. 1/14

Scattered records, 2/14

Zaysan and Austrian Road. 2/14 A male near Markakol (VK). 1/14

Zaysan. 2/14

Systematic List Number 3 Amphibians and Reptiles

Moor Frog Rana arvalis Noted at Markakol, on the Burkhat Pass,

and at Racmanovskiye Kluchi.

Green Toad Bufo viridis 3 in pines across the lake at Racmanovskie

Klyuchi.

Common Toad Bufo bufo Markakol

Sand Lizard Lacerta agilis Widespread – e.g. by the Zaysan Camp.

Common LizardLacerta viviparaScattered records.Steppe RunnerEremurus arguta4 in the Zaysan Desert.Sun-watcherPhrynocephalus helioscopa1 in the Zaysan Desert.

Zaysan Toad-headed Agama Phrynocephalus melanurus Common in sandy desert near the first ferry

crossing at Lake Zaysan

Adder Vipera berus A skin in Zaysan, one near Burkhat campsite

(VK), and 1 on journey to Ust-Kamenogorsk

Dione Snake Elaphus dione Zaysan campsite Grass Snake Natrix natrix Austrian Road.

Systematic List Number 4 Butterflies

The taxonomy and nomenclature for the following list has been taken from 'Die Tagfalter Nordwestasiens' by Lukhtanov and Lukhtanov (1994)

Papilionidae

Papilio machaon Swallowtail Rather scarce – only two records.

Kalbinsky Hills and Cold Pass. 2/14

Parnassius nomion A female near Urvl. 1/14

subspecies 'alpherakyi'. Widespread and Parnassius apollo Apollo

common. 6/14

subspecies 'mongolicus'. Cimbulak. 1/14

Pieridae

Anthocharis cardamines Scarce this year. 3/14 Orange-Tip

Aporia crataegi Black-veined White Scarce in Markakol area, 2/14

Metaporia leucodice Several at Cimbulak. 1/14 Several at Cimbulak, also in Zaysan. 3/14 Colias erate Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow

Goneptervx rhami Brimstone Cimbulak and Kalbinsky Hills. 2/14 Leptidea sinapis Wood White Cimbulak and Kalbinsky Hills. 2/14 Large White Cimbulak. 1/14

Pieris brassicae Pieris napi muechi Green-veined White Scattered records, 3/14 Pieris rapae Small White Scattered records. 3/14

Pontia edusa Eastern Bath White Widespread and common. 8/14 Pontia chlorodice One below the Cold Pass. 1/14 Small Bath White

Lycaenidae

Lycaena phlaeas Small Copper Cimbulak. 1/14

1 near the spring by the hill, Zaysan. 1/14 Lycaena thersamon Lesser Fiery Copper Common in Markakol area. 4/14 Lycaena virgaureae Scarce Copper Lycaena hippothoe Purple-edged Copper A pair on the Burkhat Pass. 1/14

Tongeia fisheri Kalbinsky Hills and Austrian Road. 3/14

Celastrina argiolus Holly Blue Kalbinsky Hills. 2/14 Cupido osiris Osiris Blue Scattered records, 2/14 Cupido minimus Small Blue 3 on the Austrian Road. 1/14

Scolitantides orion Chequered Blue A female on the Austrian Road and 2 at the Zaysan lunchtime yourta. 3/14

Maculinea arion Large Blue Scattered records. Cimbulak, Uryl, and

Kalbinsky Hills. 3/14 Maculinea nausithous Dusky Large Blue 1 below Cold Pass. 1/14

Reverdin's Blue Near Uryl. 1/14 Plebeius argyrognomon

Idas Blue Scot's Pine in Kalbinsky Hills and Plebeius idas

Bukhtarma Valley. 2/14

Silver-studded Blue Common around Burkhat campsite, 3/14 Plebeius argus Albulina orbitulus

A female and two males in Burkhat area. Alpine Blue

subspecies 'strandi'. Common in the Aricia artaxerxes Mountain Argus

Markakol area. 5/14

Aricia nicias Silvery Argus A total of 20 in the Markakol area. 1/14

Geranium Argus Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14 Eumedonia eumedon

Cyaniris semiargus Mazarine Blue Widespread and common. 7/14

Amanda's Blue Scattered records. 3/14 Agrodiaetus amandus

Agrodiaetus damon

Agrodiaetus ripartii Polyommatus icarus Polyommatus eroides Damon Blue

Common Blue

Ripart's Anomalous Blue

Uryl. 1/14

1 near Markakol. 1/14

Scarce. 3/14

A male near Burkhat campsite. 1/14

subspecies 'mongolicus'. A colony near

Nymphalidae

Argynnis adippe Argynnis aglaja Argynnis pandora Clossiana erubescens Clossiana eunomia

Clossiana selene Clossiana selenis Clossiana titania

Issoria lathonia Issoria eugenia Boloria napaea Brenthis hecate Brenthis ino

Melitaea didyma
Melitaea trivia
Mellicta centralasiae
Neptis rivularis
Limenitis populi

Limenitis sydyi Limenitis helmanni Nymphalis antiopa Nymphalis vau-album

Nymphalis xanthomelas Aglais urticae Araschnia levana Inachis io High Brown Fritillary
Dark Green Fritillary

Cardinal

Bog Fritillary

Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary

Titania's Fritillary Queen of Spain Fritillary

Mountain Fritillary Twin-spot Fritillary Lesser Marbled Fritillary

Spotted Fritillary
Lesser Spotted Fritillary

Hungarian Glider Poplar Admiral

Camberwell Beauty False Comma

Yellow-legged Tortoiseshell

Small Tortoiseshell Map Butterfly Peacock

Painted Lady

Comma

Common in Markakol area, 3/14

Very common in the Markakol area. 5/14

1 at Cimbulak. 1/14 2 at Cimbulak. 1/14 1 at Burkhat Pass. 1/14 1 at Burkhat Pass. 1/14 1 at Burkhat Pass. 1/14

Several in the Markakol area. 2/14 Cimbulak and Markakol. 3/14 4 on the Burkhat Pass. 1/14 2 on Burkhat Pass. 1/14 2 in Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14

Widespread and very common. 6/14 Markakol area. *meridionalis* form. 2/14

Austrian Road. 2/14

Scattered records in Markakol area. 3/14 Cimbulak and Austrian Road. 4/14 Yurt in Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14 Yurt in Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14 Yurt in Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14

Many larvae on *Salix* at Cimbulak. 1/14 Cimbulak and Austrian Road. 2/14

5 in Markakol area. 2/14

Widespread in small numbers. 6/14 4 at yurt in Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14

Cimbulak. An interesting form with white scales around the eye-spots in the museum at

Markakol. 1/14

Widespread in small numbers. 4/14 Kalbinsky Hills and Austrian Road. 2/14

Polygonia c-album

Cvnthia cardui

Satyridae

Chazara enervata Chazara heydenreichi

Minois dryas Coenonympha glycerion

Coenonympha pamphilus Coenonympha amaryllis Coenonympha sunbecca Erebia ligea Erebia jeniseiensis

Erebia kindermanni Erebia maurisius Erebia theano

Erebia meta

Dryad

Chestnut Heath

Small Heath

Arran Brown

Common at Cimbulak. 1/14

Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14 Only near Uryl. 1/14

Several in Markakol and Kalbinsky areas.

5/14

Widespread. 3/14 Near Uryl. 1/14 2 at Cimbulak. 1/14 Burkhat Pass. 1/14

A few in the Markakol area. 2/14 Several on the Burkhat Pass. 1/14 4 on the Burkhat Pass. 1/14

Widespread and common in meadows

above about 1100m, 5/14

Cimbulak, 1/14

Erebia turanica
Aphantopus hyperantus
Arethusana arethusa
Hyponephele lycaon
Hipparchia autonoe
Lasiommata maera
Lasiommata petropolitana
Melanargia russiae
Kirinia eversmanni

False Grayling Dusky Meadow Brown

Large Wall Brown

Esper's Marbled White

Cimbulak. 1/14 Singletons in Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14 By the lunchtime yourta in the Zaysan. 1/14 Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14 Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14 Quite common in Markakol area. 3/14 1 at Racmanovskie Kluchi. 1/14 Scot's Pine in Kalbinsky Hills. 1/14

Hesperiidae

Ochlodes venetus Muschampia tessellum Thymelicus lineola Carterocephalus palaemon

Large Skipper Tesselated Skipper Essex Skipper Chequered Skipper Only at Markakol. 1/14 Cold Pass. 1/14 Widespread. 5/14 1 at Racmanovskie Kluchi. 1/14

Cimbulak. 1/14

Systematic List Number 5

Vascular Plants

The present list is highly provisional, and the plants included are categorised on the basis of the confidence with which they have been identified:

- > [Species in square brackets have been distinguished, but were not identified with any certainty. In some cases the number of options may be limited, and these may be listed. Some notes are usually given to indicate the salient characteristics].
- > ? For those species marked with a question mark, there is greater confidence and a provisional identification is given, though this awaits confirmation.
- Species with no annotation are certain (or highly likely) identifications.

Vernacular names are included in curly brackets *i.e.* { }. Families are arranged in a conventional taxonomic order, with species ordered alphabetically within the families.

Species recorded this year are annotated 2002.

A. PTERIDOPHYTA

Ferns and their allies

Lycopodiaceae

Diphasiastrum complanatum
Huperzia selago
Lycopodium annotinum

Spruce forest at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a clubmoss}. 2002
Drier spruce forest: Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Fir Clubmoss}. 2002
Frequent in spruce forest at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Interrupted

Clubmoss \\ . 2002

Lycopodium clavatum Rare in spruce forest at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Stag's-horn Clubmoss}.

Equisetaceae

Equisetum arvense Flushes and all kinds of mossy wet sites at a full range of altitudes: Cim

Bulak, south of Markakol and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi spruce forest.

{Common Horsetail}. 2002

Equisetum fluviatile Marshy woodland, wet depressions and pools: Markakol and north to

Austrian Road, Bukhtarma valley. {Water Horsetail} 2002

Equisetum hyemale Riverside willow-scrub by access track to Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi.

{Rough Horsetail} 2002

Equisetum palustre Damp depressions by road south from Markakol. {Marsh Horsetail}

2002

Equisetum pratense Damp woodland margins at low-mid levels: Markakol and Rakhmanovskie

Klyuchi. {Shady Horsetail} 2002

Equisetum ramosissimum Seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley {Branched Horsetail} Wooded banks of Bukhtarma river near Berel. {Wood Horsetail} 2002

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium trichomanes-ramosum Rock crevices at high levels in Cim Bulak. {Green Spleenwort}.

Athyriaceae

Cystopteris fragilis Sheltered rocks at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, Cold Pass and north part of

Austrian Road. {Brittle Bladder-fern – other bladder-ferns may be

present \}. 2002

Gymnocarpium dryopteris Shaded rocks, spruce forest and scrub at low-mid levels: Kalbinksiy Hills,

southern Austrian Road and by access track to Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi.

{Oak Fern}. 2002

Matteucia struthiopteris

[Woodsia #1

Woodland by Bukhtarma River, near Berel. {Ostrich Fern}

Rock crevices high on Burkhat Pass. {W. acuminata, W. calcarea or W.

ilvensis}] 2002

Aspidiaceae

Dryopteris dilatata Woodland by Bukhtarma River. {Broad Buckler-fern}

Dryopteris filix-mas Woodland by Bukhtarma River. {Male Fern}

Polypodiaceae

Polypodium vulgare s.l. Rocks in pine woods in Kalbinskiy Hills. {Polypody}. 2002

Ophioglossaceae

Botrychium lunaria Turf at higher levels in Cim Bulak. {Moonwort}.

B. CONIFEROPSIDA Conifer trees and their allies

Pinaceae

Larix sibirica Mountain forests up to the tree line: Cim Bulak, around and above

Markakol, and near Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Siberian Larch}. 2002

Picea obovata Forests my lakes and in the mountain forests nearly to tree-line: around and

above Markakol, thence north along the Austrian Road, and near

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Siberian Spruce} 2002

Picea tianshanica Mountain forests up to the tree line: Cim Bulak. {Tien Shan Spruce}

2002

Pinus sibirica Often dominant in higher-level forest from the Burkhat Pass (where it also

occurs as odd trees on the pass proper) north and around Rakhmanovskie

Klyuchi. {Siberian Pine} 2002

Pinus sylvestris Locally dominant in central Kalbinskiy Hills. {Scots Pine}. 2002

Cupressaceae

Juniperus pseudosabina Drier slopes at all levels: Cold Pass, 10km north of Markakol, Burkhat Pass

and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi forest. {a juniper} 2002

Juniperus sabina Rocky slopes at mid-high levels: Marble Pass, north of Markakol to

Southern Austrian Road, campsite near Kamenka and at 2200m above

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a juniper}. 2002

Juniperus sibirica? Rocky slopes at Cim Bulak {a juniper} 2002

Ephedraceae

[Ephedra sp. Arid slopes: Kiin Kerish and Marble Pass. {low greyish bushy joint-pine,

probably either *E. dahurica* or *E. equisetina*}] 2002

C. MONOCOTYLEDONES "Monocot" flowering plants

Typhaceae

Typha laxmannii Wet depressions: Kuchun. {a reedmace}. 2002

Potamogetonaceae

Potamogeton alpinus? Runnels in marsh at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Red Pondweed – plant had

the jizz of Bog Pondweed, but appears to be a dwarfed form of this plant –

or possibly *P. macrocarpus* or *P. pamiriae*?} 2002

Juncaginaceae

Triglochin maritimum Spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan depression. {Sea Arrowgrass}. 2002

Triglochin palustre Seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley, and marsh at

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Marsh Arrowgrass}.

Lemnaceae

Lemna minor Shallow water in mossy flushes at Markakol. {Common Duckweed} 2002

Poaceae

Agrostis stolonifera Seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {Creeping Bent}

Alopecurus arundinaceus Damp grassland at lower levels: Markakol. {a foxtail}

Alopecurus pratensis

Anisantha tectorum

Anthoxanthum odoratum

Coarser grassland at low-mid levels: Markakol. {Meadow Foxtail} 2002

Disturbed sand by the Zaysan campsite. {Drooping Brome}. 2002

Moister grasslands at all levels: around and above Markakol. {Sweet

Vernal-grass 2002

Arrhenatherum elatius Roadsides and meadows up to mid-levels: above Almaty. {False Oat-

grass \}.

Bromopsis inermis Roadsides and disturbed steppe: Ust-Kamenogorsk, Bukhtarma valley and

west of Zaysan north ferry. {Hungarian Brome}.

Bromus japonicus? Roadsides in Ust-Kamenogorsk. {Thunberg's Brome}.

Calamagrostis arundinacea Moist shores and streamsides: Zaysan campsite and north of Markakol. {a

small-reed \}. 2002

Dactylis glomerata Roadsides, meadows and disturbed steppe above Almaty and Ust-

Kamenogorsk. {Cock's-foot}. July also at Markakol. 2002

Deschampsia cespitosa Mossy flushes: southern Austrian Road. {Tufted Hair-grass} 2002

Eremopyron triticeum? Arid slopes at Kiin Kerish and by spring-fed saltmarsh. {short annual like a

two-ranked barley} 2002

Festuca kryloviana Steppe grassland, light shade and drier sites generally: Kalbinskiy Hills and

Cold Pass. {a "sheep's-fescue" – other species probably present e.g. F.

sulcata\. 2002

Helictotrichon schellianum? Grassland at mid-high levels: near Cold and Burkhat Passes. {a meadow-

oat}

Hierochloë odorata Mire and marshy lake-shore: Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Holy Grass}

Hierochloë sibirica? Damp margins of track on Burkhat Pass. {a holy-grass}

Leymus angustus? Scattered in sandy semi-desert in Zaysan depression, including campsite.

{Very robust "lyme-grass" with spikes some 20cm long and >3cm thick}.

2002

Milium effusum Shaded grounds of Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Wood Millet} 2002

Phleum alpinum Grassland and flushes at mid-higher levels: Cold Pass, southern Austrian

Road and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. (Alpine Cat's-tail) 2002

Phleum phleoides Steppe west from Zaysan north ferry – probably overlooked elsewhere.

{Purple-stemmed Cat's-tail} 2002

Phragmites australis Narrow beds around shore of Zaysan lake and in spring-fed saltmarsh.

{Reed}. 2002

Poa annuaNutrient-rich turf near houses: Markakol. {Annual Meadow-grass} 2002Poa trivialisWayside grassland in villages: Urunkhayka. {Rough Meadow-grass}Puccinellia sp.Spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {Saltmarsh-grass} 2002[Stipa spp.Prominent and often co-dominant in steppe grassland, occurring in themontane zone especially on south-facing slopes: Kalbinskiy Hills, Marble

Pass, north of Markakol and west from Zaysan north ferry. {Steppegrasses, no attempt made to distinguish species, though *S. pennata* probably

the main species in the southern Altai}]. 2002

Cyperaceae

Carex acuta?

[Carex "panicea"

Blysmus rufus Spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {Saltmarsh Flat-sedge}
Bolboschoenus maritimus Wet depressions by road in Zaysan semi-desert. {Sea Club-rush}2002

Dominant in ground layer of swamp birch woodland at Markakol. {More

resembles *C. elata*, which apparently is not a Kazak species}

[Carex bigelowii? Margins of Austrian road on Burkhat pass. {laxer than this species}

Carex canescens? Marsh at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a grey sedge}

Carex diandra Swamp woodland at Markakol. {Lesser Tussock-sedge} 2002

Carex disticha Mossy flushes and seasonally wet grassland: southern Austrian Road and

Bukhtarma valley. {Brown Sedge} 2002

Carex divisa Moist saline sites by Zaysan lake, and spring-fed marsh. {Divided Sedge}. [Carex "filiformis" Spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {Resembles both the European

Spring-red saturarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. (Resembles both the European

sedges *C. filiformis* and *C. flacca*}].

Carex flava s.l. Flushes at mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {Yellow Sedge}.

Carex melanantha Flushes and streamsides at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak and Cold Pass.

{Resembles an erect Jet Sedge, C. atrata or C. aterrima}.2002

Carex norvegica? Damp rocks on Burkhat Pass. {Close-headed Alpine-sedge} 2002

Carex pallescens Wet grassland, marshes and flushes at all levels: Cim Bulak, above

Markakol and to north, Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Pale Sedge}. 2002 Flushes at mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {Closely resembles the European

Carnation Sedge \].

Carex rostrata Lakeshore below Burkhat Pass and mire pools near Rakhmanovskie

Klyuchi. {Bottle Sedge} 2002

[Carex "spicata" Flushes and moist grassland at mid-level: Cim Bulak and southern Austrian

road. {Closely resembles west European Spiked Sedge}].

2002

Carex sylvatica Pine forest north from Burkhat Pass. {Wood Sedge}

Carex vesicaria Marshes and wet depressions, often in shade: around and above Markakol,

also on southern Austrian Road. {Bladder Sedge} 2002

Eleocharis palustris Wet grassland and flushes, mainly at lower altitudes: Markakol and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. . {Common Spike-rush} 2002

Eleocharis uniglumis Spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert and seasonally-wet grassland in

Bukhtarma valley. {Slender Spike-rush}

Eriophorum polystachyum? Mossy marshes and flushes at mid-levels: above Markakol, and near

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a cotton-grass like *E. latifolium*} 2002

Eriophorum russeolum Boggy flats on Burkhat Pass. {a creeping cottongrass – 1-spiked}2002

[Isolepis/Scirpus #1] Seasonally-wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {Like I. setacea but taller

and even more slender}]

[Schoenoplectus #1] Pool margins by seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {a clubrush

resembling dwarf *S. tabernaemontani* – is it *S. hippolyti*?}]

Scirpus sylvaticus Wet depressions along southern Austrian Road and in Bukhtarma valley.

{Wood Club-rush} 2002

Juncaceae

Juncus articulatusMarshy lakeshore at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Jointed Rush} 2002Juncus filiformisMossy flushes by southern Austrian Road. {Thread Rush} 2002Juncus gerardiiSeasonally damp or spring-fed saline sites in semi-desert: Zaysan depression, including spring-fed saltmarsh and Bukhtarma valley.

{Saltmarsh Rush}. 2002

Luzula multiflora Drier grassland at all levels: Cold Pass. {Heath Woodrush} 2002
Luzula pallidula Damp-wet ground, often in shade and mossy: Markakol, and north to

southern Austrian Road. {Pale Woodrush}

Luzula parviflora? Conifer forest at mid-levels: Austrian Road in Bukhtarma valley and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {woodrush with small pendulous flowers}

2002

Liliaceae

[Gagea #2

Asparagus neglectus? Lush vegetation above spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {soft

pale-berried asparagus \}. 2002

Eremurus altaicus Dry grassland and steppe in south Altai: Kalbinskiy Hills, Marble Pass and

west from Zaysan north ferry. {a foxtail-lily}.

Eremurus fuscus Grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak. {a foxtail-lily}.

Erythronium sibiricum Grassland and forest at mid-high levels, flowering by snow-patches: around

and above Markakol (including Cold Pass), along Austrian Road (common on Burkhat pass) and above Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a dog's-tooth-

violet} July all in seed. 2002

[Gagea #1] Irrigated fine scree in upper parts of Cim Bulak. {Low Gagea with several

flowers in a sub-umbellate cluster – a similar species seen at Markakol}]. Woodland margins and moist ground at mid-high levels: at and around Markakol, and on Burkhat Pass. {Large-flowered *Gagea* with fistulose

leaves – probably *fistulosa*?}]

Lilium martagon Low scrub, woodland margins and lusher grassland: Kalbinskiy Hills,

Marble Pass, around and above Markakol, by Austrian Road in Bukhtarma

valley, and by Bukhtarma River. {Turk's-cap Lily}. 2002

July gone over.

Lloydia serotina Rocks and damp fine scree, mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, by Austrian Road

in Bukhtarma valley and on Burkhat Pass. {Snowdon Lily}

July Burkhat Pass. 2002

Tulipa altaica? Semi-desert and steppe: Zaysan depression, including Kiin Kerish and by

spring-fed saltmarsh; probably also near Markakol. {tall tulip – identity to

be confirmed, *T. kolpakowskiana* suggested \\ . 2002

Tulipa biflora? Arid slopes at Kiin Kerish and adjacent to spring-fed saltmarsh; probably

also near Markakol. {a short tulip}. 2002

Tulipa dasystemon Recent snowmelt at high levels in Cim Bulak. {a tulip}.

Tulipa heteropetala? Stony south-facing slope: Marble Pass and near Markakol (especially to

north). {a tulip}.

Tulipa heterophylla Tulipa patens? Veratrum lobelianum Flushed rocky ground at high levels: Cim Bulak. {a tulip}. 2002 Stony south-facing slope: Marble Pass and near Markakol. {a tulip}. Often co-dominant in moister grasslands at all levels, sparser in light shade: around and above Markakol, and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a false-

helleborine} 2002

Veratrum nigrum

Low scrub at mid-levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, Marble Pass and toward north end of Austrian Road. {Black False-Helleborine}. 2002

Alliaceae

Allium altaicum? Coarse flush vegetation above Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Very tall

fistulose onion with whitish globular head} 2002

Moist rocky slopes in upper Cim Bulak. {a garlic}. 2002 Allium atrosanguineum Allium caesium Low scrub margins on Marble Pass. {a blue garlic}. Allium hymenorrhizum

Drier grasslands at all levels: Cim Bulak and between Zaysan lake and Ust-

Kamenogorsk. {a garlic}. 2002

Allium ledebourianum? Streamsides and marshy sites mainly at mid-levels: above and around

Markakol. {Large fistulose onion} 2002

Stony slopes at high levels in Cim Bulak. {a garlic}. 2002 Allium polyphyllum Allium rubens?

Drier grassland north of Markakol. {a slender garlic with dense nodding

head enclosed in a spathe}

Allium senescens? Drier grassland north of Markakol. {a garlic with flattened winged stems

and nodding spherical head of pale whitish flowers}

a) Large fruiting on arid slopes at Kiin Kerish.; b) small pink by spring-fed [Allium spp. saltmarsh in Zaysan depression; c) white flowered species on rocks by

northern Austrian Road]

Amaryllidaceae Ixiolirion tataricum

Steppe grassland above spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {no common name} July in seed. 2002

Iridaceae

Iris bloudowii Drier short grassland, mainly at mid-levels: Kalbinksiy Hills (probably

this), Cold Pass, south of Markakol, and picnic bluff on Austrian Road.

{short pale yellow iris}. 2002

Iris ruthenica Grassland and more open forest, mainly at mid-levels: Kalbinskiy Hills,

around and above Markakol (including Cold Pass)., Burkhat Pass, and

around Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a blue iris}. 2002

Iris scariosa? One plant at foot of south-facing slope on north side of Markakol. {small

lilac iris, broad blunt falls and glaucous leaves}

South-facing grassy slope on Marble Pass. {iris of pogon group} Iris tigridia

[Iris #1 Lush vegetation above spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {large

fruiting iris with foetid leaves like the British Gladdon}].

Orchidaceae

Coeloglossum viride Grassland at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, north of Markakol, and Burkhat

Pass. {Frog Orchid – plants in steppe-like grassland north of Markakol

strongly resembled subsp. longibracteata \}. 2002

Dactylorhiza fuchsii Moist grassland, marshes and light shade: around and above Markakol,

southern Austrian Road, Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi and riverside willows by

access to latter. {Common Spotted-orchid} July widespread. 2002

Dactylorhiza incarnata Marshes and wet depressions: above Markakol (including hybrids with the

latter), toward Austrian Road and by Karakaba river. {Early Marsh-orchid}. Wet flushes in the mountains and marshy grassland at lower altitudes: Cim

Dactylorhiza umbrosa Bulak, and above Marble Pass. {a marsh-orchid} July gone over

at Cimbulak. 2002

[Dactylorhiza #1 Seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {closest to latter, but with

twisted ovary, spur longer than ovary, swept-back sepals, little-marked lip, other perianth segments forming a galea – options include *D. knorringiana*,

D. salina or a form of D. traunsteineri}]

Mossy ground in mixed conifer forest by Austrian Road north of Burkhat Goodyera repens

Pass. {Creeping Lady's-tresses}2002

Abundant (patches of $>> 50/m^2$) in seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma Herminium monorchis

valley. {Musk Orchid}

Gymnadenia conopsea Racmanovskie Kluchi 2002. Fragrant Orchid

DICOTYLEDONES

'DICOT' flowering plants

Salicaceae

Salix caprea

D.

Populus laurifolia Along rivers and in floodplain forest: near south end of Austrian Road, and

by Bukhtarma river near campsite. {a poplar}2002

Along rivers in steppe areas: Kalbinskiy Hills. {Black Poplar}. 2002 Populus nigra s.l. Populus tremula

Woodland at low-mid levels, especially near water: above Almaty,

Kalbinskiy Hills, and southern Austrian Road. {Aspen}. 2002 Damp scrub at low-mid levels: Markakol. {Goat Willow} 2002

Salix cinerea s.l. Roadside scrub north of Markakol. {Grey Willow} 2002

Salix kokiana? Streamside below spruce forest south of Markakol, and by Karakaba river.

(a willow) 2002

Salix pentandra By rivers at low-mid levels: Markakol. {Bay Willow} 2002

Salix purpurea Scrub by Karakaba river. {Purple Willow} 2002

Salix viminalis Floodplain forest: near south of Austrian Road. {Osier} 2002

By rivers at low-mid levels: Markakol and near south end of Austrian Road. [Salix #1

{willow, oval leaves, glaucous beneath – *S. caesia/rorida?*}]

2002

Dwarf birch scrub at high levels: Burkhat Pass. {Dwarf willow with leaves [Salix #2

like *S. phylicifolia* and glaucous beneath}] 2002

Grass/sedge/lichen community by road on Burkhat Pass. {Prostrate with [Salix #3

tiny oval leaves 7mm across}] 2002

[Salix #4 Moist low vegetation on Burkhat Pass. {Prostrate/ascending with green

leaves like small sallow, silky catkins and red anthers \\ \] 2002

Upper levels of conifer woodland and rocks/cols above tree-line: around [Salix #5

and above Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {1m tall willow with very grey leaves

like a small sallow, whitish beneath, revolute edge}] 2002

Betulaceae

Betula pendula Woodland at all levels, often near water: above Almaty, Kalbinskiy Hills;

around and above Markakol. {Silver Birch}. 2002

Dense 1m tall thickets under conifers and above tree line: Cold Pass, valley Betula rotundifolia

of Karakaba, Burkhat Pass and around Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a dwarf

birch} 2002

[Betula #1 Conifer forest below and north of Burkhat Pass. {tree birch with bronze

[Betula #2 Upper conifer woodland approaching Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. [2-3m tall

shrub with small narrow-cordate leaves – $B.\ microphylla$?}

Ulmaceae

Ulmus androsowii Shelterbelts along roads at low levels, often the only tree in steppe areas:

very widespread and also planted in urban areas. {an elm, with narrow

leaves \}. 2002

Ulmus minor Woodland at low levels above Almaty. {Common Elm}.

Cannabaceae

Cannahis sativa Waste places and arable fields (where either cultivated or a weed): Ust-

Kamenogorsk and campsites at Zaysan and Kamenka apiary. {Hemp}.

2002

Humulus lupulus Scrub margins above Almaty and poplar gallery woodland in Kalbinskiy

Hills. {Hop}. 2002

Urticaceae

Urtica cannabina Roadsides and fallow/waste ground: apiary campsite near Keramka and by

Uryl checkpoint. {a nettle with 5-lobed leaves} 2002

Urtica dioica Shady and nutrient-rich sites at low-mid levels: above Almaty and at

Markakol. {Stinging Nettle – some plants are almost stingless and with

narrow leaves, resembling *U. galeopsifolia* \}.2002

Santalaceae

Thesium refractum? Drier grassland and rocks at mid-high levels: around Markakol, picnic spot

on south Austrian Road, and Burkhat Pass. {a bastard-toadflax}

Thesium repens? Forming patches in light shade: south end of Austrian Road and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a bastard-toadflax}

Polygonaceae

Persicaria bistorta Montane grassland at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak and Burkhat Pass.

{Bistort}. 2002

Persicaria vivipara Montane grassland at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak and Bukhtarma Valley

(including by northern Austrian Road).. {Alpine Bistort}. July abundant

on Burkhat Pass. 2002

Polygonum alpinum Abundant in hill and mountain grasslands: Cim Bulak and Kalbinskiy Hills.

{Alpine Knotweed}. 2002

Polygonum aviculare s.l. Roadsides and disturbed ground: Ust-Kamenogorsk and Markakol.

{Knotgrass}. 2002

Polygonum undulatum Rocky grassland at upper levels: Cim Bulak and Burkhat Pass. {a

knotweed\. 2002

[Polygonum sp? Arid badland hummocks at Kiin Kerish. {Presumably this genus, a low

subshrub with narrow lanceolate leaves and herbaceous branches bearing

delicate nodding 3-part flowers, white edged in pink}]. 2002

Rheum altaicum? Drier south-facing grass slopes above Markakol. {a rhubarb} 2002

Rheum wittroekii Moist grassland at mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {a rhubarb}. July gone over.

2002

Rheum nanum? Arid slopes: Kiin Kerish, and north of Markakol. {a small rhubarb}.

2002

Rumex acetosa Grassland (except arid) at all levels: Markakol, southern Austrian Road, and

Burkhat Pass. {Common Sorrel} 2002

Rumex tianshanicus Grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak. {a dock}. 2002

Chenopodiaceae

Arthrophyton haloxylon Saline semi-desert, locally common: Zaysan depression. {Saxual} 2002

Chenopodium suecicum? Ruderal habitats in villages: Urunkhayka. {a goosefoot}

Chenopodium urbicum? Disturbed ground, especially in arid places: Ust-Kamenogorsk and Kiin

Kerish (elsewhere in Zaysan depression). {Upright Goosefoot}. 2002

Halimione verrucifera? Salt-steppe in the Zaysan depression, notably by spring-fed marsh {a "sea-

purslane"} 2002

Halocnemum strobilaceum? Low-lying saline areas of semi-desert where water stood late: Zaysan

depression. {a perennial glasswort}. 2002

[Kochia sp.? Dry and saline semi-desert at Kiin Kerish and by salt-spring. {Mats of

needle like leaves, and erect flowering stems}]

Saline arid badlands at Kiin Kerish. {no common name}. 2002 Nanophyton erinaceum

Salsola kali Arid cliff top at Kiin Kerish. {Spineless Saltwort, subsp. ruthenica} 2002 [Salsola spp. Gravel ridges by saltmarsh below spring in Zaysan semi-desert. {S. collina,

S. nitraria or S. soda are possibilities}]

[Suaeda spp. Saline steppe: Zaysan depression e.g. by spring-fed saltmarsh. {S.

acuminata, S. heterophylla and S. microphylla are possibilities}] 2002

Amaranthacaceae

Amaranthus retroflexus Weed in Panfilov Park, Almaty {Common Amaranth}

July Ust-Kamenogorsk.

Portulacaceae

Claytonia joanneana Gaps in dwarf birch scrub and grassland above, at high levels on Burkhat

Pass. {a spring-beauty} 2002

Caryophyllaceae

Acanthophyllum pungens Arid cliff-top and slopes at Kiin Kerish. {no common name}.

Cerastium cerastioides Grasslands and rocks at mid-high levels, often common: Cim Bulak, around/

above Markakol, and Burkhat Pass. {Starwort Mouse-ear}. 2002

Disturbed ground at low-mid altitudes: Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills, and Cerastium dahuricum

Markakol. {a mouse-ear}. 2002

Grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak and Markakol. {Common Mouse-Cerastium fontanum

ear}. 2002

[Cerastium #1 Mossy flushes by southern Austrian Road. {linear-leaved mouse-ear with

large flowers}]

Drier grassy bluffs in the Kalbinskiy Hills. {a pink}. 2002 Dianthus hoeltzeri

Dianthus superbus Drier grassland north of Markakol. {a pink} 2002

Dianthus versicolor? Dry south-facing grassland on Burkhat Pass. {a pink} 2002

Dianthus deltoides Near Uryl. 2002. Maiden Pink

Dry steppe grassland at Alekseyevka. {a slender white pink}]. [Dianthus #1 [Dianthus #2

Stony ridges in wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {a laciniate pink-

flowered pink}]

Eremogone longifolia? Steep south-facing steppe slope at Marble Pass. {resembles a tall erect long

linear-leaved sandwort}

Gypsophila paniculata Dry, often sandy ground in steppe and semi-desert, including stony verges:

Zaysan campsite and west from north ferry. {a gypsophila}. 2002

Stony ridges in wet grassland, Bukhtarma valley. {tall glaucous [Gypsophila #1

gypsophila, leaves mostly basal/lower stem, quite dense clusters of large white flowers in distant widely branched raceme – maybe G. capituliflora

or G. diffusa?}]

[Gypsophila #2 Stony slope near lower Rakhmanovskie lake. {a prostrate gypsophila,

resembling G. glandulosa of section Heterochroa – which is endemic to

Turkey}]

Herniaria glabra Dry stony slope 10km north of Markakol. {Smooth Rupturewort} 2002 Minuartia biflora? Sedge/grass/lichen vegetation: near road on Burkhat Pass and above

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Northern Sandwort} 2002

Grassy dry bluffs at high levels on Burkhat Pass. Spring Sandwort 2002 Minuartia verna Moehringia umbrosa

Mossy ground in spruce forests, less often in sheltered rock crevices: Cold Pass, all along Austrian Road and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a sandwort}

2002

Sagina procumbens Sagina saginoides?

Wet mossy turf at all levels: Markakol. {Mossy Pearlwort} 2002

Mossy flushes by southern Austrian Road. {Alpine Pearlwort – may be a

related species 2002

Silene adenopetala

Rocks at high levels in Cim Bulak. {Low campion with few nodding flowers, each with an inflated sticky calyx almost concealing petals}

Silene otites Steppe west of Zaysan north ferry. {Spanish Catchfly}

Scrub and meadows at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak. {Bladder Campion – Silene vulgaris

locally known as S. wallichiana \}. July at Markakol. 2002

Silene latifolia

Widespread. 2002. White Campion. [Silene #1

Open dry pine wood in Kalbinskiy Hills. {Like a white campion with long very sticky inflorescence, with flowers apparently arranged in branched

whorls}].

[Silene #2

Rock crevices by southern Austrian Road. {intermediate in appearance

between S. nutans and S. otites – tiny white flowers on one-sided

inflorescence, very sticky stem}]

Stellaria graminea Stellaria media Tunica stricta

Grassland at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak. {Lesser Stitchwort}. 2002

Widespread. 2002. Common Chickweed.

Drier grassland at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills, and north

of Markakol. {no common name}. 2002

Paeoniaceae

Paeonia anomala

Low scrub and forest margins at low-mid levels: Kalbinksiy Hills, locally abundant around Markakol, riverine forest south end of Austrian Road, and

north of Berel. {a large pink peony}. July in fruit. 2002

Paeonia hybrida

Steep stony south-facing slope on Marble Pass and verges west from

Zaysan north ferry. {a peony}.

Ranunculaceae

Aconitum baicalense Aconitum leucostonum Mossy damp willow scrub in Markakol. {a monk's-hood} 2002 Mountain meadows, flushed slopes and open woodland: above Almaty, Kalbinskiy Hills, around and above Markakol, south end of Austrian Road,

Burkhat Pass and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a monk's-hood}.

2002

Aconitum songoricum Anemone altaica

Woodland margins at low-mid levels above Almaty. (a monk's-hood) Woodland at low-mid levels, sometimes moist: Markakol and nearby, and southern end of Austrian Road. {an anemone – closely related to A.

nemorosa}

Anemone crinita?

Open dry grassland at high levels: Burkhat Pass. {anemone of the A. narcissiflora group – but (unlike next) grey-hairy}. July 2002 in seed. Grassland at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak. {anemone of A. narcissiflora

Anemone protracta

Grassy bluffs in the Kalbinskiy hills. {white slender anemone – "lisnaie" in

[Anemone #1

Russian}].

Aquilegia atrovinosa Aquilegia brevicalcarata Mountain meadows at mid levels: Cim Bulak. {a columbine} 2002 Rocky ground in shade of spruce: all along Austrian Road at mid-levels, and by track to Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a columbine} 2002 in seed. Mountain meadows at all levels, and also in shade: around and above Markakol (including Cold Pass), entire length of Austrian Road, Burkhat

Aquilegia glandulosa

Pass, and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi (access track, and colouring the slopes above the site). {a columbine} 2002

Rocks and scrub at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, around and above Atragene sibirica

Markakol, and all along Austrian Road. {a white clematis} July 2002 in

Callianthemum alatavicum

Callianthemum angustifolium

Fine scree *etc* soil at high levels in Cim Bulak. {no common name}. Edge of snow-patches, moist stony grassland at mid-upper levels: Cold

Pass, Burkhat Pass and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {no common name}

2002 leaves.

Caltha palustris Streamsides and marshy sites, often dominant along streams at mid-high

levels: common in Markakol area, south end of Austrian End., Burkhat Pass

and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Marsh-marigold}. 2002

Clematis integrifolia Dry grassland, open low scrub etc at low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills,

Marble Pass, and abundant north of Markakol. {a scrambling clematis}

Consolida orientalis Fields and disturbed ground from Bukhtarma valley to Zaysan lake.

{Eastern Larkspur}

Delphinium altaicum Low scrub at low-mid altitudes: Marble Pass. {a delphinium – possibly the

same species above Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi.

Mountain meadows: above Almaty and Markakol. {a delphinium}. 2002 *Delphinium elatum* [Delphinium spp.

a) Stony gorge by Kamenka apiary campsite; and b) a branched bright blue

plant in steppe west from the Zaysan north ferry. {delphiniums}] Isopyrum isopyroides Sheltered rocks and shade at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak. {no common

name}.

Paraquilegia anemonoides

Pulsatilla patens

Cliff crevices in upper Cim Bulak. {no common name}.

Drier grassland at all levels: Kalbinskiy Hills and north of Markakol. {a

pasque-flower}.

Ranunculus altaicus Margins of snow patches, mainly at high levels: Burkhat Pass and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a buttercup} 2002

Woodland at low-mid levels: Markakol and southern Austrian Road. Ranunculus auricomus s.s.

{Goldilocks Buttercup} 2002

Ranunculus polyanthemos Taller grassland at low-mid levels: at and above Markakol. (a buttercup)

Nutrient-rich grassland by houses and streamsides: around Markakol. Ranunculus repens

{Creeping Buttercup} 2002

Margins of late snow patches on the Kalbinskiy Hills. {Low yellow [Ranunculus #1

buttercup with flowers in a subumbellate cluster \].

Mossy/lichen dominated vegetation amongst dwarf birch on Burkhat Pass. Thalictrum alpinum

{Alpine meadow-rue}

Grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, Marble Pass and Markakol. {a Thalictrum collinum

meadow-rue}. 2002

Riverine scrub/woodland: south end of Austrian Road, by R. Karakaba and Thalictrum minus

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi forest. {Lesser Meadow-rue – subsp. majus} 2002

Thalictrum simplex? Grasslands at mid-levels: Cold Pass. {a meadow-pass}

Trollius altaicus Grassland and open woodland, especially at mid-levels, where it colours the

ground: Kalbinskiy Hills, near Marble Pass, around and above Markakol (+

Cold Pass) and north of Berel. {a globe-flower} 2002 Burkhat Pass.

Moist grasslands at mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {a globe-flower}. 2002 Trollius dshungarius Trollius lilacinus

Stony slopes recently covered in snow at high altitudes in Cim Bulak. {a

globe-flower}.

Berberidaceae

Gymnospermium altaicum Stony moist slopes with incomplete vegetation cover: near Cold Pass, and

north of Markakol to southern Austrian Road {no common name – related

to Leontice} 2002

Nymphaeaceae

Nuphar lutea Zaysan Lake. Yellow Water Lily. 2002

Papaveraceae

Chelidonium majus Fine scree and rocky edges at low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, by apiary

campsite near Kamenka, and near Berel. {Greater Celandine – Altai populations are much bigger-flowered than those of Europe}. 2002

Corydalis nobilis Woodland margins and shady rocks all levels: Markakol (including Cold

Pass) and Austrian Road north of Burkhat Pass. {a corydalis} 2002

Corydalis pauciflora? Under willow bushes near National Park HQ, Markakol. {Small creamy

white corydalis}.

Fumaria vaillantii Apiary campsite near Kamenka. {Few-flowered Fumitory} Hypercoum lactiflorum? Gravel spit at Zaysan campsite. {a whitish Hypercoum}.

Papaver croceum Meadows and rocks at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak. {a yellow poppy}.

2002

Papaver nudicaule Roadsides, drier grasslands mainly at mid-levels: above Marble Pass, Cold

Pass, south end of Austrian Road, by Karakaba river, Burkhat Pass (and below to north – where present in huge range of colours from white to dark

orange). {a pale yellow poppy} July also Markakol. 2002

Papaver tianshanicum Rocky ground at high levels in Cim Bulak. {an orange poppy}.

Brassicaceae

Alyssum lenense? Rocky outcrop by picnic spot on south Austrian Road. {short silvery

perennial Alison – possibly *A. turkestanicum*}

[Alyssum #1] Dry stony ridges in wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {a white-hairy

Alison – A. campestre? Possibly this species also in sandy semi-desert

between Zaysan lake and Ust-Kamenogorsk}]

Arabidopsis thaliana Stony ground by Karakaba river. {Thale Cress}

Arabis glabra Drier grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak and Rakhmanovskie

Klyuchi. {Tower Mustard}. 2002

Barbarea vulgaris Open ground and moist sites at all levels: Cim Bulak, Markakol and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Common Winter-cress – subsp. arcuata}

2002

Berteroa incana Roadsides and dry grassland, notably in steppe: Ust-Kamenogorsk, Marble

Pass and Bukhtarma valley. {Hoary Alison}. 2002

Bunias orientalis Roadsides in Kalbinskiy Hills. {Warty Cabbage} 2002

Capsella bursa-pastoris Ruderal habitats in villages: Urunkhayka and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi.

{Shepherd's-purse} 2002

Cardamine macrophylla? Swamp woodland and streamsides at low-mid levels: Markakol, south end

of Austrian Road and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a large bittercress with

leaves like those of *Pimpinella major*} 2002

Cardamine pratensis Marshes: on tree-line below Burkhat Pass and by lake at Rakhmanovskie

Klyuchi. {Cuckoo-flower – notably dark pink form} 2002

Cardaria repens Roadsides at low-mid levels in drier areas: Kalbinskiy Hills. {is this

actually different to *C. draba*, the Hoary Pepperwort?}

Chorispora bungeana Fine scree at high levels in Cim Bulak. {no common name}.

Roadsides and open ground, especially in steppe: Ust-Kamenogorsk, Uryl Descurainia sophia

> ckeckpoint and west through Bukhtarma valley. {Flixweed}. 2002 Rocks and stony slopes at mid-high altitudes: Cim Bulak and by Nn.

Draba lanceolata?

Austrian Road. {a whitlow-grass, closely allied to *D. incana*}.

Draba sibirica? Rock crevices, mainly at high levels: picnic bluff on Austrian Road and on

Burkhat Pass {Low yellow whitlow-grass with longish leafless stem – may

possibly be *D. melanopus* or *D. subamplexicaulis*}

Rocky bluffs at mid altitudes in Cim Bulak. {an orange wallflower}. 2002 Erysimum croceum

Trackside north out of Markakol. {Resembling a very leafy *E*. Erysimum diffusum?

cheiranthoides}

[Erysimum #1 Sandy semi-desert by Zaysan south ferry. {Large-flowered rather narrow

erect treacle-mustard}].

Rocky slopes at high levels in Cim Bulak. {Rather robust cress with Eutrema integrifolia?

lanceolate leaves and flat-topped heads of white flowers}].

Scrub and woodland margins at all levels: Cim Bulak, above Markakol, Hesperis sibirica

south end of Austrian Road, and by Bukhtarma R. near Berel. {a dame's-

violet – usually white in this area, but also pink \\ . 2002 Stony roadsides in the Kalbinskiy Hills. {a woad}.

Isatis laevigata Edge of spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan depression. {a pepperwort}. Lepidium crassifolium?

Lepidium latifolium Moist saline areas in semi-desert: Zaysan campsite. {Dittander}. Lepidium ruderale Disturbed ground, mainly by roads in steppe: Zaysan depression and

throughout Bukhtarma valley including Uryl. {Narrow-leaved

Pepperwort \}. 2002

Sheltered moist areas by rocks high on Burkhat Pass. {no common name – Macropodium nivale

rather resembling *Lagotis*, and temporarily confused!} 2002

Matthiola tatarica? Stony ridges in wet grassland, Bukhtarma valley. {a stock}

Disturbed damp waysides near Markakol. {Creeping Yellow-cress} Rorippa sylvestris

2002

Disturbed ground in dry steppe areas: Zaysan campsite and north ferry. Sisymbrium septulatum?

{mustard close to *S. altissimum*, the Tumbling Mustard}.

Ruderal and disturbed habitats: Markakol. {Field Pennycress} 2002 Thlaspi arvense [unknown crucifer #1

Arid slopes and *Artemisia* steppe: Kiin Kerish. {Tiny fruiting cress with

disk fruit and amplexicaul lanceolate leaves}].

Artemisia steppe near shore of Zaysan lake. {Large fruiting cabbage with [unknown crucifer #2

fruit composed of two abutting discs}]

Crassulaceae

Orostachys spinosa Rocks, stony dry ground: Kalbinskiy Hills, picnic spot on Austrian Road,

and Bukhtarma valley. {succulent resembling houseleek} 2002

Rhodiola coccinea Rocks at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, Cold Pass. {a roseroot}. 2002 Rhodiola heterodonta?

Rocky slopes in upper Cim Bulak. {a roseroot with rather broad serrate

leaves}.

Streamsides and wet rocks at mid-high levels: above Markakol, riverine Rhodiola rosea

woodland at south end of Austrian Road, Karakaba river, and conifer

woodland in Bukhtarma valley. {Roseroot} 2002

By streams at high levels in Cim Bulak. {a roseroot}. 2002 Rhodiola semenovii

Flushes at mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {a roseroot}. Rhodiola viridula

Sedum hybridum Rocks and dry open slopes up to mid-levels: above Almaty, Kalbinskiy

Hills, and around Markakol. {a stonecrop}. 2002

Scattered records 2002. Sedum purpureum

Saxifragaceae

Bergenia crassifolia Rock outcrops above treeline, and rocky slopes within conifer forest:

Burkhat Pass, Austrian Road in Bukhtarma valley, and around/above

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Elephant-ears} 2002

Chrysosplenium tianshanicum? Mossy flushes in spruce forest and at higher levels at Rakhmanovskie

Klyuchi. {a golden-saxifrage with thin alternate leaves}.

Chrysosplenium nudicaule? Moist foot of cliffs in upper Cim Bulak. {a golden-saxifrage with thick

leaves and dense cluster of fruit.

Saxifraga punctata? Margins of streams at mid-levels, also in moist woodland and locally on

rocks on high levels: Markakol, all along Austrian Road, Burkhat Pass and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a saxifrage} 2002

Saxifraga sibirica Rocky ground at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, picnic site on Austrian Road,

Burkhat Pass and rocks in forest to N. {Siberian Saxifrage}. 2002

Parnassiaceae

Parnassia palustris Seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley {Grass-of-Parnassus}

July, Cimbulak and Austrian Road. 2002

Grossulariaceae

Grossularia acicularis Rocky slopes and steppe: north of Markakol and west of Zaysan north ferry.

{a gooseberry} 2002

Ribes meyeri? Drier woodland at low-mid-levels: Markakol, Cold Pass and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a currant – with dull reddish flowers; possibly

R. atropurpureum} 2002

Ribes nigrum Moist woodland at low-mid levels: Markakol, along Austrian Road (by

river at south end and forest near north end) and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi.

{Black Currant – creamy white flower spikes}. 2002

Rosaceae

Agrimonia asiatica Roadsides: above Almaty. {an agrimony}. 2002

Alchemilla scalaris? Wet grassland and streamsides above Markakol. {an almost hairless lady's-

mantle} 2002

Alchemilla sibirica Drier grassland at mid-levels: above Markakol. {a very hairy lady's-

mantle} 2002

Alchemilla vulgaris s.l. Flushes and mountain grasslands at mid–levels: Cim Bulak. {"Common

Lady's-mantles" occurred widely, some records were provisionally referred

to particular species \}. 2002

Cotoneaster melanocarpus? Low scrub (often of Spiraea) and rocky areas, mainly at mid-levels:

Kalbinksiy Hills, Marble Pass, Cold Pass, and Burkhat Pass. {Typical neat

small-leaved (1-3cm) *Cotoneaster*, white beneath; pinkish flowers}].

Cotoneaster multiflorus? Low scrub and rocks, often with latter species: Kalbinskiy Hills pine woods,

Marble and Cold Passes. {Larger more open *Cotoneaster* with white flowers, and softer leaves, not white beneath and to 5cm in length}. 2002

Crataegus songorica Scrub: above Almaty. {a hawthorn}.

[Crataegus #1 Roadside north out of Markakol. {Hawthorn with leaves like a small

Dryas oxyodonta Locally dominant in patches of stony herbaceous vegetation amongst dwarf

birch scrub, and especially above the birch: Burkhat Pass. {a mountain-

avens} July 2002 in seed.

Damp streamside scrub and wet woodland: Kalbinskiy Hills and Markakol. Filipendula ulmaria

{Meadow-sweet}. 2002

Dry grassland and steppe: Kalbinskiy Hills and near Kamenka. Filipendula vulgaris

{Dropwort}. 2002

Dry grassland: north of Markakol. {Wild Strawberry} 2002 Fragaria vesca Fragaria viridis Drier grasslands and scrub: Kalbinskiy Hills. {a strawberry}. 2002 By stream in apiary campsite near Kamenka. {an avens}. 2002 Geum aleppicum

> Flushes, damp grassland and scrub at all levels: Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiv Hills, Markakol and south Austrian Road. {Water Avens} July also at

Rackmanovskiye Kluchi. 2002

Geum urbanum Shady areas at low-mid altitudes: above Almaty. {Herb Bennet}. 2002 Potentilla anserina Spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert and seasonally wet grassland in

Bukhtarma valley. {Silverweed}. 2002

Drier grassland at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, Ust-Kamenogorsk and Potentilla argentea s.l.

Kalbinskiy Hills. {Hoary Cinquefoil}. 2002

Dry grassland north of Markakol. {a cinquefoil} Potentilla asiatica

Potentilla bifurca Drier grasslands at low-mid levels, especially in more steppic sites: Cim

Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills and Marble Pass. {a cinquefoil}.

Turf at low levels at Markakol. {a cinquefoil} Potentilla chrysantha

Rocky ground at mid-high levels, sometimes by streams: Cim Bulak, Cold Potentilla fruticosa

Pass, by Karakaba River, Burkhat Pass and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi.

{Shrubby Cinquefoil} July also Markakol. 2002

Swamp woodland and marshes: Markakol and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. Potentilla palustris

{Marsh Cinquefoil} 2002

Dry or open steppic grasslands: Marble and Cold Passes. {Sulphur Potentilla recta

> Cinquefoil 2002 Cimbulak. 2002

Potentilla transcaspia

Geum rivale

[Potentilla #1 Roadsides in Ust-Kamenogorsk. {Small-flowered vellow cinquefoil, with

pinnate leaves, 5-7 leaflets, diminishing in size from basal}].

[Potentilla #2 Sandy semi-desert between Zaysan lake and Ust-Kamenogorsk. {Patch

forming cinquefoil resembling intense grey *P. reptans*}]

Riverine woodland at south end of Austrian Road. {Bird Cherry} 2002 Prunus padus Rosa acicularis? Low scrub in low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, north of Markakol and

steppe west of Zaysan north ferry. {a rose with dense soft "prickles" and

pink flowers}.

Rosa alberti Cimbulak. 2002

Rosa kokanica Drier grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak. {a rose}. 2002 Margin of Austrian Road in Bukhtarma valley. {Burnet Rose} Rosa spinosissima

Low dense scrub, mainly at low- mid levels: Kalbinksiy Hills. {a 1m tall [Rosa #1

rose with many 3cm diameter white flowers}]

Low scrub at all levels: Cim Bulak and Markakol. {Raspberry}. 2002 Rubus idaeus Block scree above Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Stone Bramble} 2002 Rubus saxatilis Flushes and streamsides at low-mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {a burnet}. 2002 Sanguisorba alpina Sanguisorba officinalis Grassland at low-mid levels: Markakol, (including Cold Pass), northern

Austrian Road and in Bukhtarma valley. {Great Burnet} 2002

Short turf and margins of snow patches at high levels: Burkhat Pass and Sibbaldia procumbens

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Sibbaldia} 2002

Scattered in conifer forests at mid-high levels: north from Burkhat Pass. {a Sorbus sibirica

mountain-ask} 2002

Sorbus tianshanica Scrub at mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {a mountain-ash}. 2002

Spiraea hypericifolia Scrub at all levels, often in relatively dry steppic sites: Cim Bulak,

Kalbinskiy Hills, Marble Pass, north of Markakol, near Kamenka in Bukhtarma valley and west of Zaysan north ferry. {a bridewort}. 2002

Scrub at all levels, generally in less arid sites: Kalbinskiy Hills, at and near Spiraea media¹

Markakol, and southern Austrian Road. {a bridewort}. 2002

Scrub at mid-high level: Cim Bulak and north of Markakol. {a bridewort}. Spiraea pilosa

2002

Fahaceae

Alhagi kirghisorum? Roadsides in semi-desert of Zaysan depression. {low spiny shrub with

reddish flowers}

Caragana sp. Northern Austrian Road.

Astragalus alpinus Grasslands at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, and by Karakaba river. {Alpine

Milk-vetch \}. 2002

Drier grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak and north of Markakol {a Astragalus andaulgensis?

hairy milk-vetch with yellow flowers stalkless in a cluster at the base of the

leaves}.

[Astragalus #1 Drier grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills and by

spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {Robust plant like Wild

Liquorice, with spikes of flowers of two-tone pink – at Zaysan purplish and

possibly another species \].

Stony slopes: Kalbinskiy Hills. {Slender milk-vetch with dense spikes of [Astragalus # 2

small rose-pink flowers}].

Sandy semi-desert by Zaysan south ferry. {Short "hedgehog" milk-vetch [Astragalus #3

with few silvery narrow leaflets}].

[Astragalus #4 Arid steppe at Alekseyevka. {Robust milk-vetch with dense long-oval pale-

yellow heads with silky-haired calyces}].

Arid steppe at Alekseyevka. {Low milk-vetch with dense round yellow [Astragalus #5

heads, fruiting calvees much inflated}].

Arid steppe and rocky ground: Alekseyevka and Karakaba river. {Low [Astragalus #6

milk-vetch with violet flowers and black hairs on calyx, resembling A.

danicus}].

Dry south-facing grass slope on Marble Pass. {like A. onobrychis}] [Astragalus #7

[Astragalus #8 Grassy bluffs at high levels on Burkhat Pass. {violet and blue, shaggy hairy

milk-vetch – another plant at this site with pink flowers is probably merely

a colour-variant}]

Zaysan. 2002 Caragana sp.

Halimodendron halodendron Steep dry slopes at Kiin Kerish. spiny shrub – no common name} 2002 Hedysarum consanguineum?

Moist grassland at mid-higher levels: Cold Pass, by Karakaba river and

Burkhat pass. {a French-sainfoin} 2002

Streamsides at mid-levels in Cim Bulak. {a French-sainfoin}. 2002 Hedysarum flavescens Hedysarum neglectum Grassland at upper levels: Cim Bulak. {a French-sainfoin}. 2002

¹ Are some populations of *S. media/pilosa* referable to *S. chamaedryfolia* or *S. triloba*?

Lush grasslands and light shade at low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, around

and above Markakol, and around Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a bitter-vetch – in the Rakhmanovskie area often with an otherwise similar plant with linear-

lanceolate leaflets – a variety or distinct species?}.

Lathyrus pratensis Grasslands at all levels: Cim Bulak and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi.

{Meadow Pea}. July also Markakol. 2002

Lathyrus tuberosus? Riverside scrub of Irtysh, Ust-Kamenogorsk. {Earthnut Pea}.

[Lathyrus #1 Low scrub and lush grass at low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, and north of

Markakol. {pea with winged stem, large ovate stipules, leaves with *ca* 8 leaflets, tendrils and a spike of pink-brown rather small flowers, fading multi-coloured – seems most likely to be *L. humilis* or *L. pisiformis*}]. Dry grassland, especially on steppe: Ust-Kamenogorsk and near Zaysan

Medicago falcata Dry grassland, especially on steppe: Ust-Kamenogorsk and near Zaysan

north ferry. {Sickle Medick}.

Medicago lupulinaGrass verges in Bukhtarma valley. {Black Medick} 2002Medicago sativaDisturbed grassland: near Zaysan north ferry. {Lucerne}. 2002

Medicago x varia With parents near Zaysan north ferry. {Sand Lucerne – Medicago falcata x

M. sativa.

Melilotus alba
Roadsides and rough grassland: Ust-Kamenogorsk. {White Melilot}. 2002
Melilotus officinalis
Onobrychis amoena?
Roadsides and rough grass: Ust-Kamenogorsk. {Common Melilot} 2002
Dry grassy bluffs in the Kalbinskiy Hills. {a pale sainfoin}.

Dry grassland and roadsides: Ust-Kamenogorsk and colouring fields (presumably cultivated) in the Bukhtarma valley. {Sainfoin}. 2002 Montane woodlands and meadows: Cim Bulak. {a bitter-vetch}. 2002 Often dominant in disturbed or overgrazed areas in the steppe or semi-

desert zones, where it is prominent by roads and near water: throughout

Zaysan depression. {no common name}. 2002

Thermopsis alpina Stony slopes at high altitudes: Cim Bulak and Burkhat Pass. {no common

name}. 2002

[Thermopsis #1 Stony ridges in wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {large, hairless,

glaucous, yellow-flowered – probably *T. alterniflora*, *T. lanceolata* or *T.*

turkestanica}]

Trifolium fragiferum Lawns in Panfilov Park, Almaty. {Strawberry Clover}

Trifolium lupinaster Grasslands at mid-high levels: around and above Markakol, by Karakaba

river and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a clover}. 2002

Trifolium medium Austrian Road. 2002. Zigzag Clover

Trifolium pratense Grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak and Bukhtarma valley. {Red

Clover \}. 2002

Trifolium repens Nutrient-rich grassland at low-mid levels: around Markakol. {White

Clover \}. 2002

Trigonella arcuata More open grassland at low-mid levels: near Cold Pass and south of

Markakol. {a fenugreek} 2002

Vicia tenuifolia Roadsides and meadows at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills,

and Bukhtarma valley part of Austrian Road. {a vetch}. 2002

[Vicia #1 Lush meadows and open forest: Markakol, Cold Pass. {Resembles a rather

large lax *V. sepium*, with fewer flowers and half-hastate stipules}.

Oxalidaceae

Onobrychis viciifolia

Sophora alopecuroides

Orobus luteus

Oxalis acetosella Spruce forest at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Wood-sorrel}.

Geraniaceae

Geranium affine Hill steppe west of pine forests in Kalbinskiy Hills. {a crane's-bill}

Grasslands and light shade at all levels: Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills, around

and above Markakol, Burkhat Pass and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a

crane's-bill \. 2002

Grasslands: north and south of Markakol, by Austrian Road below (and

north of) Burkhat Pass. {a crane's-bill} 2002

Geranium pseudosibiricum? Forest edges and taller grassland: around Markakol. {Large pink cranes-

bill, apparently with two distinct flower sizes \\ . 2002

Geranium rectum? Moist grassland at lower levels: Cim Bulak. {Meadow Crane's-bill} Rocky grassland at higher levels in Cim Bulak. {a crane's-bill}. 2002

Geranium pratense Kalbinsky Hills. 2002. Meadow Cranesbill.

Zygophyllaceae

Zygophyllum plerocarpum Arid cliff-top steppe at Kiin Kerish. {like a prostrate vetch with winged

petiole – no common name}.

Peganum harmala July, in flower in Zaysan. 2002

Rutaceae

Dictamnus angustifolius Scrub, meadows and sunny slopes: above Almaty, Kalbinskiy Hills, (locally

abundant), and around Markakol. {Burning-bush}. July Austrian

Road. 2002

Haplophyllum perforatum Dry steppe grassland at Alekseyevka. {no common name}.

Polygalaceae

Polygala hybrida Drier grassland at low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills and Cold Pass {a

milkwort \}. 2002

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia humilis? Grassland at high levels in Cim Bulak. {a spurge}.

Euphorbia pilosa? Moist grassland at mid-levels: southern Austrian Road. {a spurge} 2002

Euphorbia tianshanica Cimbulak. 2002.

Euphorbia virgata? Rough grassland and roadsides at low levels: Ust-Kamenogorsk. {Twiggy

Spurge \}.

[Euphorbia #1 Artemisia steppe: Zaysan depression. {an annual spurge, broad leaved and

regularly branched, spring flowering, now in late fruit}].

Aceraceae

Acer negundo Naturalised in shelter belts and woodland margins, mainly at low levels:

Cim Bulak and Kalbinskiy Hills. {Box-elder}.

Balsaminaceae

Impatiens parviflora Urban parks and scrub at low-mid levels: Almaty city and lower Cim Bulak.

{Small Balsam}. 2002

Malvaceae

Alcea nudiflora Sparingly on roadsides near Zaysan north ferry. {a hollyhock} 2002
Alcea frolovii? Roadsides and rough steppe grassland: Ust-Kamenogorsk, the Kalbinskiy

Hills and near Katon-Karangay. {short pink hollyhock}. 2002

Lavatera thuringiaca With hollyhocks between Ust-Kamenogorsk and Katon-Karangay. {a tree-

mallow} 2002

Thymelaeaceae

Daphne altaica Low scrub on sheltered slope: Marble Pass. {no common name}.

Hypericaceae

Hypericum elongatum Dry grassland at low-mid altitudes: Marble Pass, and north from Markakol.

{a St. John's-wort} 2002

Hypericum perforatum Dry or disturbed grassland: Marble Pass. {Common St John's-wort} 2002

Hypericum scabrum Dry grassland at low-mid altitudes: Marble Pass. {a St John's-wort}

Tamaricaceae

Myricaria bracteata? Banks of lake and rivers: Zaysan campsite, Karakaba river and river by

access track to Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a "spiked tamarisk"}.

Tamarix hispida? Lake shore at Zaysan campsite. {a tamarisk}.

Violaceae

Viola acutiloba Stony slopes at high altitudes in Cim Bulak. {a yellow pansy}.

Viola altaica Drier grassland at mid-high levels, often abundant: Cim Bulak, Cold Pass,

Burkhat Pass, and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a pansy, either pale yellow or

violet \}. 2002

Viola biflora Sheltered rocks at mid-high levels and scrub: Cim Bulak, Markakol,

scattered along Austrian Road, Burkhat Pass, and around Rakhmanovskie

Klyuchi. {Yellow Wood-violet}

Grasslands mainly at mid-levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, around and above Viola disjuncta

Markakol, and southern Austrian Road. {a typical pansy}. 2002

Viola palustris Damp mossy willow scrub etc: at and above Markakol and Rakhmanovskie

Klyuchi (where plants tiny, and possibly another related species?). {Marsh

Viola tricolor Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. 2002

Viola rupestris? Occasional on rocky ground at mid-high levels: Cim, Bulak, Cold Pass, and

all along Austrian Road. {Teesdale Violet}

Onagraceae

Chamerion angustifolium Scrub and meadows at low-mid levels: above Almaty, around and above

Markakol, and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Rosebay}. 2002

Scattered records. {Great Willowherb}. 2002 Epilobium hirsutum

Epilobium palustre Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. Marsh Willowherb. 2002

Callitrichaceae

Callitriche palustris Depressions in swamp birch woodland near Markakol. {a water-starwort}.

Cucurbitaceae

Bryonia alba Scrub edges above Almaty. {a white-bryony}.

Apiaceae

Angelica decurrens Rocky streamsides etc: Cim Bulak, Markakol, and by Austrian Road in

Bukhtarma valley. {an angelica}. 2002

Anthriscus sylvestris

Bupleurum krylovianum? Bupleurum longifolium?

Bupleurum multinerve?

Conium maculatum Ferula krilovii

[Ferulago sp. Heracleum dissectum

Ferula penninervis?

Heracleum sibiricum Prangos ledebourii?

[unknown umbellifer #1

[unknown umbellifer #2

[unknown umbellifer #3

[unknown umbellifer #4

Bupleurum aureum

Lush grassland and forest margins: around Markakol. {Cow Parsley} Grassland, mainly at mid-levels: Cold Pass and elsewhere near Markakol, along Austrian Road and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a hare's-ear} 2002 Drier grassland from Markakol to the Austrian Road. {a hare's-ear} 2002 Low scrub at low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills and Marble Pass. {a hare'sear}. 2002

High-level ridges above Burkhat Pass. {a hare's-ear – to be confirmed, plants immature} 2002

Roadside: Uryl checkpoint. {Hemlock}

Rockier and/or less saline parts of the Zaysan semi-desert – probably also

this by Zaysan north ferry. {a giant-fennel}. 2002

Drier grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak. {a giant-fennel}. Dry slopes at Kiin Kerish. {Like a low fennel, with few leaves}.

Scrub margins and streamsides at low-mid levels: above Almaty, around

Markakol, and southern Austrian Road. {a hogweed}. 2002

Spruce forest and scrub margins: above Markakol. {a hogweed} 2002

Steppic grassland north of Markakol. {no common name}

Grassland at low-mid levels: Markakol. {Resembling a pink pignut with

linear rather than thread-like leaf segments}]

Open areas amongst and above dwarf birch thickets on Burkhat Pass.

{Rather resembles a *Meum* – genus unknown in Kazakhstan}]

Seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {Resembles a slender

pinkish water-dropwort, but probably another genus – no fruit seen}

Col at 2200m above Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {finely-divided basal leaves

and remains of last year's stems – a *Seseli* species?}]

Ericaceae

Vaccinium myrtillus

Understorey in spruce forest and high-level rocky grassland: Cold Pass, southern Austrian Road, Burkhat Pass and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Bilberry}. 2002

Vaccinium vitis-idaea

Under dwarf birch scrub and spruce forest at mid-high levels: Burkhat Pass and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Cowberry} 2002

Empetraceae Empetrum nirum

Rakmaovskie Klyuchi. Crowberry. 2002

Pvrolaceae

Orthilia secunda

Mossy ground in conifer forest by Austrian Road in Bukhtarma valley.

{Serrated Wintergreen}

Understorey in spruce forest: southern Austrian Road and Rakhmanovskie Pyrola minor

Klyuchi, also in riverside willows by access track to latter. {Lesser

Wintergreen \}. 2002

Mossy ground in conifer (especially spruce) forest and dwarf birch thickets: Pyrola rotundifolia

> Burkhat Pass, Austrian Road in Bukhtarma valley, forest at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi and willow-scrub by river on track to last site. {Round-leaved Wintergreen – some plants in sunny ground had coral-pink flowers 2002

Moneses uniflora Austrian Road. One-flowered Wintergreen. 2002

Primulaceae

Androsace lactiflora Moist to quite dry turf, mainly at mid-levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, at and

around Markakol, and by Austrian Road in Bukhtarma valley. {a rock-

jasmine}.

Dry open habitats in semi-desert and rock: Zaysan south ferry and Kiin Androsace maxima

Kerish. {Annual Rock-jasmine, subsp. turczaninovii} In seed 2002.

Stony slopes at high altitudes in Cim Bulak. {a rock-jasmine} Androsace olgae

Moist more open or mossy vegetation by streams etc: Markakol and north Androsace septentrionalis

to Austrian Road {Northern Rock-jasmine} 2002

Cortusa altaica By streams at low-mid levels and also on moist rocks at high levels:

Markakol, forest by Austrian Road in Bukhtarma valley and on Burkhat

Pass. {an alpine-bells} 2002

Flushes and by streams, mid-high level: Cim Bulak. {an alpine-bells} 2002 Cortusa brotherii

Glaux maritima Spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {Sea-milkwort}.

Primula algida Recent snowmelt and flushes at high level: Cim Bulak. {a primrose} In

seed 2002.

Moist grassland, especially near streams at mid altitudes: around and above Primula longiscapa

Markakol (including Cold Pass), Karakaba river, and Bukhtarma valley. {a

primrose. In seed 2002.

By streams at mid-high altitudes in Cim Bulak. {a primrose}]. In seed 2002. Primula nivalis Primula sibirica

By streams and wet mossy forest edges: below Rakhmanovskie and on

lakeshore. {a primrose}

Margins of snow-patches and rocky slopes: Kalbinskiy Hills, by Karakaba Primula veris

river and Burkhat Pass. {Cowslip – subsp. *macrocalyx*} In seed 2002.

Plumbaginaceae

Limonium gmelinii? Edge of spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan depression. (a sea-layender) 2002 [Limonium #1

Arid saline hummocks and rocks: Kiin Kerish and Marble Pass. {Sealavender with prominent white calvx and flat rosette of glaucous

oblanceolate leaves}]. 2002

Gentianaceae

Gentiana aquatica Sedge/grass/lichen community by road on Burkhat Pass. {a gentian} 2002 Gentiana cruciata

Open forest and high-level grassland to 2200m at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi.

{Cross Gentian} 2002

Gentiana grandiflora Short turf, (notably by snow-patches) sometimes on forest edge and scrub,

especially at mid-upper levels: Cold Pass, Burkhat Pass and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a gentian} 2002

Shorter grassland at mid-upper levels: Cold Pass, south of Markakol, and all Gentiana uniflora

along Austrian Road, including Burkhat Pass. {a gentian} 2002

Gentiana harbata July, Cimbulak and Bukhtarma Valley.

July, Cimbulak. Gentiana karelini July, Cimbulak. 2002 Gentiana turkestanorum Gentiana kaufmanniana July, Cimbulak.

July, common on Burkhat Pass. 2002 Gentiana gelida

[Gentiana #1 Mossy opening in spruce forest along southern Austrian Road and grassy

gully at 2250m on Burkhat Pass. {resembles G. verna}]

Margins of seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {Spur Gentian. Halenia corniculata

This is the identity of one of the "mystery plants" in the orchid field - in leaf like a centaury; pairs (or three in a whorl) of 4-merous flowers; calyx cut to base, linear lobed; corolla of 4 yellow lanceolate lobes, separate for much of

length, but with very pronounced hooked whitish spur at base.

All kinds of wet places e.g. swamp woodland, mossy flushes etc at all Swertia obtusa

levels: around and above Markakol, southern Austrian Road (including Karakaba river, and around Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a marsh felwort}

2002.

Polemoniaceae

Polemonium caeruleum Scrub and meadows at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills, around

Markakol, Cold Pass, and Berel. {Jacob's-ladder}. 2002

Convolvulaceae

Calystegia sepium Roadsides and scrub margins: above Almaty. {Greater Bindweed}.

Convolvulus arvensis Roadsides and dry grassland, included disturbed steppe: Ust-Kamenogorsk.

{Field Bindweed}. 2002

Apocynaceae

Trachomitum lancifolium Banks of roadside ditch in Zaysan semi-desert. {no common name}

Cuscutaceae

Cuscuta campestris? Roadsides and coarse vegetation, mainly in steppe areas: Zaysan depression

including spring-fed saltmarsh, and Marble Pass (spicata species too). {a

dodder – at least another coarse yellow dodder present, with spicate

inflorescence e.g. C. indica or C. monogyna \}. 2002

Red flowers, on Campanula. Markakol 2002. Cuscuta sp.1

Boraginaceae

Asperugo procumbens Disturbed grassland north out of Markakol. {Madwort}

Cerinthe minor Rakmanovskye Klyuchi. 2002

Cynoglossum officinale? Dry grassland and scrub margins: Kalbinskiy Hills and Markakol.

{Common Hound's-tongue – some plants are notably narrow-leaved and

may be *C. capusii*}.

Roadsides, fallow and disturbed steppe: above Almaty, Marble Pass and Echium vulgare

colouring fields from Katon-Karangay to Zaysan lake north ferry. {Viper's

Bugloss 2002

Eritrichium tianshanicum

Eritrichium villosum?

Heterocaryum spp.?

Moist rocky slopes in upper Cim Bulak. {no common name}

Short stony turf on the Cold Pass. {no common name}

Drier grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak and Markakol. {Relatives of

the forget-me-nots with pale flowers in umbel-like inflorescences and

narrow leaves}.

Artemisia steppe: Zavsan south ferry and campsite. {a bur forget-me-not – [Lappula #1

possibly L. microcarpa – another species in Bukhtarma? [] 2002

Drier grasslands at low-mid levels; Cim Bulak. {Field Gromwell}. Lithospermum arvense

[Mertensia sp. Scrub margins at low-mid levels in the Altai: Kalbinskiy Hills, Markakol,

and by Karakaba river. {like a large-flowered blue lungwort with widely-

spreading corolla-lobes}].

Myosotis alpestris Grassland and rocks at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, Markakol (and Cold

Pass) and Burkhat Pass. {Alpine Forget-me-not – the similar *M. sylvatica*

evidently absent from Kazakhstan \}. 2002

Myosotis laxa Springline marsh north of Markakol. {Tufted Forget-me-not}

Myosotis scorpioides Mossy streamsides at low-mid levels: Markakol and Rakhmanovskie

Klyuchi. {Water Forget-me-not} 2002

[Nonea #1] Dry grassy roadsides: east of Uryl and near Zaysan north ferry. {Nonea

pulla or *N. caspica*?}}

Onosma gmelinii? Drier grassland north of Markakol. {a golden-drop}

[Onosma #1] Grassy bluffs in Kalbinskiy Hills. {a white "golden drop"}.]. 2002

Lamiaceae

Dracocephalum grandiflorum Grassland at mid-high levels, where it may turn slopes blue: around and

above Markakol (including Cold Pass), and Burkhat Pass. {a dragonhead}

2002

Dracocephalum imberbe Rocks at high altitudes in Cim Bulak. {a dragonhead}. 2002

Dracocephalum ruyschiana Drier grasslands, mainly at mid-levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, Marble Pass and

around Markakol. {bright blue dragonhead with linear -lanceolate

untoothed leaves \}. 2002

[Dracocephalum sp. Grassland at high levels in Cim Bulak. {Resembling D. grandiflorum but

slightly smaller flowered}.

Eremostachys molucelloides Open arid more grassy steppe: Zaysan camp and Alekseyevka. {no

common name}

Eremostachys speciosa Grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak. {no common name}.

Glechoma hederacea Grass verges in Bukhtarma valley. {Ground-ivy} 2002

Galeopsis sp. Scattered. 2002

Hyssopus officinalis? Steppe west of Zaysan north ferry. {Hyssop: plant observed may belong to

an allied genus, true hyssop seems to be absent }

Lagochilus daicanthophyllus? Arid hummocks at Kiin Kerish. {palmately-lobed leaves, spiny calyx and

pale pinkish flowers}.

Lush grassland in both village and natural montane habitats: Markakol.

{White Dead-nettle}. 2002

Leonurus glaucescens Dry grassland and disturbed steppe: Kalbinskiy Hills, by spring-fed

saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert, southern Austrian Road, and Uryl

checkpoint. {a motherwort}. 2002

Mentha asiatica Flushes and marshes at all levels: Cim Bulak and Markakol. {a mint} 2002

Nepeta pannonica Grasslands at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak and Markakol (including Cold

Pass). {a catmint}. 2002

Origanum vulgare Scrub and meadows at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, and north of Markakol.

{Marjoram – the *O. tyttanthum* of the western Tien Shan probably belongs

here}. 2002

Phlomis oreophila Grassland at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak. {a Jerusalem-sage}. 2002

[Phlomis #1 Grassland and open woodland around Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {similar to

latter but with very long prominent bracteoles}]

Phlomopsis brachystegia? Drier grassland at low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, Marble Pass, around

Markakol, Austrian Road (Bukhtarma Valley), and near Kamenka. {a

Jerusalem-sage} 2002

Prunella vulgaris Grassland at all levels: Cim Bulak and Bukhtarma valley. {Self-heal} 2002

Salvia deserta Roadsides and steppe grassland, where often abundant and colouring

slopes: Ust Kamenogorsk, Kalbinskiy Hills and Zaysan depression. {a

sage}. 2002

Scutellaria orientalis Arid bluffs and rocks: Kiin Kerish, picnic spot on southern Austrian Road,

and Burkhat Pass. {a skullcap} 2002

Scutellaria sieversii Scutellaria galericulata Shorter grassland at mid-levels: around Markakol. {a skullcap} 2002 Markakol. 2002. Scullcap.

Scutellaria #1

Grassy bluffs in the Kalbinskiy Hills. {erect skullcap whose cream flowers

have a purple throat – the same species with pure cream flowers further

east?}].

[Scutellaria #2 Seasonally-wet grassland in Bukhtarma grassland. {skullcap with narrow

leaves and disproportionately large blue flowers}]

[Scutellaria #3 Seasonally-wet grassland in Bukhtarma grassland. {resembles S.

galericulata, but shorter, neater and large blue flowers}]

Thymus altaicus? Drier turf: southern Austrian Road and Burkhat Pass {a thyme} 2002

[Thymus sp. Dry grassland and steppe: Kalbinskiy Hills and west of Zaysan north ferry.

{strongly scented thyme with notably long fruiting spike}.

Ziziphora clinopodioides Dry grassland and steppe, locally also in montane zone of the Altai, where

mainly on south-facing slopes: Kalbinskiy Hills, Marble Pass., north of

Markakol and sandy semi-desert between Zaysan lake and Ust-

Kamenogorsk. {no common name}. 2002

[unknown Labiate #1 Seasonally wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley and margins of north

Austrian Road. {Tall slightly foetid herb with leaves like spearmint, and

large hooded blue-purple flowers}]

Solanaceae

Hyoscyamus niger Ruderal habitats in villages: Urunkhayka, and near Kamenka. {Henbane}

Hyoscyamus pusillus Open gravel ridges by spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {a

henbane}

Solanum dulcamara Rough roadsides: Ust-Kamenogorsk and Marble Pass. {Bittersweet}.

2002

Scrophulariaceae

Dodartia orientalis Steppe grassland: by spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert and

between Zaysan lake and Ust-Kamenogorsk. {no common name}. 2002

Euphrasia tartarica? Grasslands at mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {Eyebrights}. 2002

Lagotis integrifolia Open areas in dwarf birch scrub and grassland at high levels: Burkhat Pass.

{no common name} 2002

[Linaria #1 Sandy semi-desert: Zaysan south ferry. {low yellow toadflax, widely

branched and with linear leaves}]. 2002

[Linaria #2] Rock crevices: south Austrian Road and near Uryl. {similar to latter but

erect and unbranched – L. acutiloba, L. altaica or L. hepatica?}]

[Linaria #3 Sandy semi-desert between Zaysan north ferry and Ust-Kamenogorsk

{Long-spurred lilac toadflax with thread-like leaves}]

Pedicularis amoena Flushes, sometimes stony, at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, Cold Pass and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a lousewort}.

Pedicularis tristis Drier rocky grassland: by picnic spot on southern Austrian Road. {a

lousewort}

Pedicularis dolichorrhiza Grasslands at mid levels: Cim Bulak. {a lousewort}. 2002

Pedicularis dubia? Drier grassland north of Markakol. {a lousewort}

Dwarf birch scrub and grassland at high levels: Burkhat Pass {a lousewort} Pedicularis oederi

Pedicularis pubiflora Stony flushed slopes at high altitudes in Cim Bulak. {a lousewort}

Pedicularis elata Lusher grasslands at low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, and both around and

above Markakol. {a lousewort}. 2002

Pedicularis compacta Flowery meadows in plateau south of Burkhat pass, and gaps in dwarf birch

scrub on pass itself. {a lousewort} 2002

Longer grassland at all levels, but especially mid-levels: south of *Pedicularis probuscidea?*

Markakol, southern Austrian Road and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Tall

leafy lousewort with dense narrow yellow spike} 2002

Trackside scrub approaching Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {pale yellow [Pedicularis #2

lousewort with strongly-beaked flower, alternate leaves}]

Scrub margins and seasonally-wet grasslands at low-mid levels: Marble Rhinanthus songoricus

Pass and Bukhtarma valley. {a yellow-rattle} 2002

Verbascum phoeniceum Dry grassland and steppe: Kalbinskiy Hills, near Kamenka and west of

Zaysan north ferry. {Purple Mullein}.

Steppe verges: Bukhtarma valley to Ust-Kamenogorsk. {a mullein} 2002 Verbascum songoricum

Steppe grassland near Kamenka. {Common Mullein} 2002 Verbascum thapsus

Verbascum pulverulentum Cimbulak. Hoary Mullein. 2002

Veronica anagallis-aquatica Markakol. 2002

Veronica beccabunga Streamsides and ruts at low levels: Markakol. {Brooklime} 2002 Flush edges at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak. {Bird's-eye Speedwell} Veronica chamaedrys Veronica laeta Steppe west of Zaysan north ferry. {a pale spiked speedwell}

Veronica longifolia Margin of Austrian Road in Bukhtarma valley. {Garden Speedwell} 2002 Veronica multifida Dry grassland: near apiary campsite near Kamenka and Kalbinskiy Hills

(white-flowered). {a speedwell} 2002

Rocks by picnic spot on south Austrian Road. {a speedwell} 2002 Veronica porphyriana Veronica serpyllifolia Moist turf by streams and in the mountains: at and above Markakol, and

southern Austrian Road. {Thyme-leaved Speedwell}

Drier grassland at all levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, near Alekseyevka, Marble Veronica spicata

Pass, Cold Pass, and by Karakaba river. {Spiked Speedwell} 2002

Open woodland and grassland, mainly at mid-levels: Kalbinskiy pine Veronica teucrium

woods, Markakol, and Cold Pass. {Large Speedwell}. 2002

Pathsides in Urunkhayka. {Very slender erect speedwell, with both [Veronica #1

lanceolate leaves and blue flowers minute}]

[Veronica #2 Margins of snow-patches at high levels: Burkhat Pass. {short erect

speedwell with crowded leaves and contracted purple spike \ \] 2002

Orobanchaceae

Cistanche salsa Near slope top, Kiin Kerish. {royal purple and white broomrape}. *Orobanche uralensis?* Arid steppe at Kiin Kerish. {slender purple-tipped broomrape}

Plantaginaceae

Plantago lanceolata Roadsides, disturbed steppe: above Almaty. {Ribwort Plantain}. 2002

Plantago major Paths near habitation: Markakol. {Great Plantain} 2002

Edge of spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert. {Sea Plantain}. Plantago maritima

Dry grassland and steppe: Kalbinskiy Hills, near Kamenka and elsewhere in

Bukhtarma valley. {Hoary Plantain}. 2002

Rubiaceae

Plantago media

Galium boreale Lusher grassland and low scrub at all levels: Kalbinksiy Hills, Markakol,

and Burkhat Pass. {Northern Bedstraw} 2002

Galium palustre Swamp woodland at Markakol (birch) and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi.

(spruce). {Marsh Bedstraw} 2002

Galium verum s.l. Drier grasslands at all levels, especially prominent in more steppic sites:

Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills, and Burkhat Pass. {Lady's Bedstraw –

probably mostly referable to *G. pamiro-altaicum* \}.2002

Galium aparine 2002

Caprifoliaceae

Linnaea borealis Mossy ground in spruce forests etc: along entire length of Austrian Road

and at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Twinflower} 2002

Low scrub and rocks at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills, and

Cold Pass. {"Bristly Honeysuckle"}. 2002

Lonicera microphylla Rocky slopes and crevices: north of Markakol, and southern Austrian Road.

{a honeysuckle}

 $Lonice ra\ nummularii folia$

Lonicera tatarica

[Lonicera #1

Scrub at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak. {a shrub honeysuckle}.

Often dominant in low scrub at low-mid levels, sparingly higher: at and near Markakol. {a pink-flowered shrub honeysuckle} July in berry. 2002

Stony south-facing slopes: Marble Pass. {low glaucous shrub honeysuckle

with orange berries}]

[Lonicera #2 Low scrub at mid-high levels: around Markakol, Burkhat Pass and

Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {low bush with pendulous lemon flowers}]

Viburnum opulus Streamside scrub in the Kalbinskiy Hills. {Guelder-rose}.

Adoxaceae

Adoxa moschatellina Moist woodland and shady margins at low-mid levels: Markakol, Cold

Pass, and southern Austrian Road. {Moschatel}

Valerianaceae

Patrinia intermedia Dry grassland: Marble Pass, south-facing hills north of Markakol and west

of Zaysan north ferry. {no common name}.

Patrinia sibirica Rocky outcrops in high-levels grassland on the Burkhat Pass. {no common

name}

Valeriana officinalis s.l. Grasslands (usually moist) at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, Marble Pass,

Cold Pass and north of Markakol. {Common Valerian - probably mostly

referable to V. collina \}.2002

Campanulaceae

Campanula altaica Grasslands and low scrub at low-mid levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, Cold Pass

and elsewhere around Markakol, and southern Austrian Road. {a bellflower, close to *C. patula* (Spreading Bellflower) - Kalbinskiy

populations appear especially close \}. 2002

Campanula glomerata Grasslands at low-mid altitudes: Cim Bulak, Marble Pass, and Austrian

Road in Bukhtarma valley. {Clustered Bellflower}. July, Markakol. 2002

Campanula latifolia? Woodland margins at low levels above Almaty. {Giant Bellflower}. Campanula sibirica Drier grassland and scrub: Kalbinskiy Hills, Marble Pass, margins of wet

grassland in Bukhtarma valley and near Uryl. {a bellflower}. 2002

Woodland margins: above Almaty. {no common name}. 2002

Codonopsis klematidea Woodland margins: above Almaty. {no

Adenophora lilifolia White flowers. Austrian Road. 2002

Asteraceae

Achillea millefolium Roadsides and all but the driest grassland: above Almaty; Kalbinskiy Hills,

and north of Markakol. {Yarrow}. 2002

Achillea ledebourii? Grassland at mid-upper levels: Cold Pass. {pectinate toothed sneezewort}

2002

Alfredia cernua Lush meadows: around and above Markakol, and southern Austrian Road.

{no common name} 2002

Antennaria dioica Shorter drier grassland, mainly at mid-high levels, occasionally in open

forest: Kalbinskiy Hills, Cold Pass, southern Austrian Road, Burkhat Pass,

and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Mountain Everlasting} 2002

Arctium tomentosum Forest margins and other coarser vegetation: Markakol, and near Berel. {a

burdock} 2002

Artemisia absinthium Roadsides and rough grassland at low-mid levels: Cim Bulak, and north of

Markakol. {Wormwood}. 2002

Artemisia dracunculus

[Artemisia spp.

Margins of Austrian Road in Bukhtarma valley. {Tarragon} 2002

Dominant or co-dominant in drier steppe and semi-desert: Kalbinskiy Hills, and Zaysan Depression. {No attempt has been made to distinguish these, though from a casual examination of leaf morphology, indumentum and aroma, at least five species are common in this habitat, including some

resembling *A. campestris* and others very grey and scented}].

Aster alpinus Rocky grassland at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak, Kalbinskiy Hills, Cold

Pass, and southern Austrian Road. {Alpine Aster}. Burkhat Pass. 2002

Aster altaicus Drier grassland and steppe: Kalbinskiy Hills, Bukhtarma valley and Zaysan

north ferry. {an aster}. 2002

Cacalia hastata Riverside willow scrub by access track to Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {no

common name}.

Carduus nutans? Rough grassland and steppe: Kalbinskiy Hills. {Musk Thistle – subsp.

songoricus \}. 2002

Centaurea squarrosa Steppic grassland: by spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert and in

eastern Kalbinskiy Hills. {a knapweed}. 2002

[Centaurea #1] South-facing grassland on hill north of Markakol. {C. adpressa? – a lovely

plant, leaves like *Knautia* but erect and appressed silvery, mostly basal, stem prostrate/procumbent with erect head – brown bracts, white fimbriate,

flowers pale pink, white in centre – rayed \].

Cicerbita azurea Margins of scrub at mid levels: Cim Bulak and by Austrian Road in

Bukhtarma valley. {an alpine sow-thistle}. 2002

Cichorium intybus Roadsides and fallow land: above Almaty, Ust-Kamenogorsk and from

Bukhtarma valley to Zaysan lake. {Chicory}. 2002

Doronicum altaicum Spruce forest and high-level grassland at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {a

leopard's-bane} 2002

Doronicum turkestanorum

Echinops nanus?

Scrubby grassland at mid-levels in Cim Bulak. {a leopard's-bane}. 2002 Rough steppe in the Kalbinskiy Hills. {a globe-thistle with heads 1cm

diameter and the plant 50cm tall).

Erigeron auranteus Rocky grassland at higher levels in Cim Bulak. {an orange fleabane} 2002

Erigeron pseudoseravschanica

Erigeron pseudoseruvschunicu

[Erigeron #1 Rocky dry grassland on the Cold and Burkhat Passes. {white one-headed

fleabane – probably either *E. altaicum* or *E. krylovii*}]

[Erigeron #2 Rocky river bank of Karakaba. {similar to latter but rose-pink}

Galinsoga quadriradiata Weed in Panfilov Park, Almaty. {Shaggy-soldier}

Mossy spruce forest at Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Highland Cudweed} *Gnaphalium norvegicum?* Gnaphalium sylvaticum

Drier pathside in willow scrub at south end of Austrian Road, and grounds

of Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Heath Cudweed} 2002

Dry south-facing grassland: sites north of Markakol and Rakhmanovskie Hypochoeris maculata

Klyuchi. {Spotted Cat's-ear}

Lactuca undulata? Rough grassland: north of Markakol, Sn. Austrian Road . {a lettuce}

Leontopodium fedtschenkoanum Rocky turf at high levels in Cim Bulak. {an edelweiss}. 2002 Ligularia alpigena Moist grassland at mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {no common name}.

Ligularia heterophylla Woodland margins above Almaty. (no common name)

Ligularia macrophylla? Upland and mountain meadows, especially where slopes are moist:

Kalbinskiy pine-woods, and north of Markakol. {no common name} 2002

2002 *Mycelis muralis*

Matricaria discoidea Widespread. 2002

Onopordum leptolepis Roadsides in steppe from Bukhtarma valley to Zaysan lake. {a cotton

thistle}

Pilosella cymosa? Grasslands at mid-levels: Cim Bulak. {a mouse-ear hawkweed}.

Rough grassland at Ust-Kamenogorsk. {Resembles a larger-headed, more [Pulicaria sp.

slender *P. dysenterica*}].

Lush grassland mainly at mid-levels: nearing Cold Pass, south of Markakol Rhaponticum carthamoides

and Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Large knapweed-like herb with big heads}

a) Spring-fed saltmarsh in Zaysan semi-desert; b) grassy slopes at tree-line [Scorzonera spp.

> on Burkhat Pass; c) Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi; and d) tall leafy plant in steppe west of Zaysan north ferry. {Viper's-grasses – one species at a) and

d), a second at b) and c)?}]

Senecio jacobaea Disturbed steppe west of Zaysan north ferry. {Common Ragwort –

naturalised?}.

Drier grassland mainly at mid-levels: Kalbinksiy Hills, near Cold Pass, and Senecio praticola?

> north of Markakol. {a ragwort with narrow-lanceolate toothed leaves, and a subumbellate cluster of yellow heads with rays swept back at maturity.

Weed in Panfilov Park, Almaty. {Common Groundsel} Senecio vulgaris

Serratula latifolia? Lush grassland at foot of south-facing hills north of Markakol. {a saw-

wort} 2002

Solidago virgaurea Grassland at medium levels: Rakhmanovskie Klyuchi. {Goldenrod} 2002 Tanacetum santolina?

Drier grasslands, mainly at lower levels: Kalbinskiy Hills, and north of Markakol. {Small neat silvery-grey tansy with few button heads}. 2002

Tanacetum tanacetoides? Dry grassland: Marble Pass. {Large feather-leaved tansy, with many button

heads}. 2002

Grasslands, especially prominent at mid-high levels: Cim Bulak and Taraxacum spp.

Markakol. {Dandelions}. 2002

Roadsides and drier grasslands at low-mid levels: Ust-Kamenogorsk and *Tragopogon pratensis*

Markakol. {Goat's-beard – subsp. *orientalis*}. 2002

[Tragopogon #1 Steppic grassland north of Markakol. {Goat's-beard – possibly *T. dubius* or

T. dubianskyi } 2002

Tussilago farfara Flushes and damp roadsides at all altitudes: Cim Bulak. {Colt's-foot}. 2002

Xanthium strumarium Disturbed and damp ground: Ust-Kamenogorsk. {Common Cocklebur}.

2002

[Unknown composite #1 Margins of northern part of Austrian Road. {Like spiked mayweed with

pendulous rayless flowers}]

[Unknown thistles Sandy semi-desert between Zaysan lake and Ust-Kamenogorsk. {Two

plants seen, one resembling Carduus argentatus, the other looking like a tall

Crupina with untoothed pinnae, silver below}

Appendix: Species as yet not allocated to a family

Species #1 Arid slopes of Kiin Kerish. {low shrub with linear leaves and widely

branched fruiting stems, each fruit like a silvery marbled bladder}.

Species #2 Stony ridges in wet grassland in Bukhtarma valley. {Erect herb, alternate

leaves which are pinnatisect like an *Artemisia*, sepals joined at base, 5 free pink petals – possibly *Hololachne soongorica* or maybe a *Reaumuria* sp.}