

Prioritization process report¹ for: *Sinacalia tangutica* (Maximowicz) Nordstam (SNLTA)

Senecio tanguticus was prioritized as part of a horizon scanning exercise conducted by the EPPO Panel on Invasive Alien Plants in 2024/25. The output of the prioritization process is that *S. tanguticus* is added to the EPPO Observation List. This report was reviewed and approved by the Panel on Invasive Alien Plants in 2025.

25-30241

Section A - Prioritization process scheme for the elaboration of different lists of invasive alien plants (pests or potential pests) for the area under assessment

Init1. Enter the name of the pest

Sinacalia tangutica

Init2. Indicate the taxonomic position and synonyms

Preferred name: *Sinacalia tangutica* (Maximowicz) Nordstam

Other scientific names: *Senecio tanguticus*

Common names: Platanenkraut [de], Pyramidenkraut [de], Tungusenkraut [de], tungusisches Greiskraut [de], Chinese ragwort [en], синакалия тангутская [ru], gullvippa [sv], huá xiè jiǎ [zh], 华蟹甲 [zh]

| - Plantae
|-- Magnoliophyta
|--- Angiospermae
|---- Campanulids
|----- Asterales
|----- Asteraceae
|----- Asteroideae
|----- Sinacalia
|----- Sinacalia tangutica

Init3. Clearly define the area for prioritization

The EPPO region (Albania, Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guernsey, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jersey, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan)

Init4. Provide the reasons for performing this prioritization, and detail any prioritization reports available for the assessed species.

The species was identified by the EPPO Panel on Invasive Alien plants through a horizon scanning exercise for assessment. It was agreed that the species will be prioritized in 2024/25.

Sinacalia tangutica forms dense populations in wet tall herb vegetation and open riverine forests in humid submontane climate. A local spread in some EPPO countries has been observed.

¹ Using EPPO (2012) PM 5/6 EPPO prioritization process for invasive alien plants. *EPPO Bulletin*, 42, 463-474.

A.1. Is the plant species known to be alien in all, or a significant part, of the area under assessment?

Yes

Sinacalia tangutica is native to tall herb vegetation of mountains (1250–3500 m asl) in Western and Central China (provinces of Gansu, Hebei, Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Ningxia).

A.2. Is the plant species established in at least a part of the area under assessment?

Yes, use the justification tab to describe the area where the species is established, and the area of potential establishment, considering major factors such as climatic conditions and soil conditions. The species is locally established in Austria. In Germany, *Sinacalia tangutica* has been reported as locally spreading in parks and large gardens. In Western and Northern Europe, records of *Sinacalia tangutica* are known from several countries. In the British Isles, it is locally established for several decades and for Norway, it has recently been reported as a rare alien species. In Belgium, *Sinacalia tangutica* has been first recorded in the wild in 2000 as a rare alien. *Sinacalia tangutica* grows in humid sub-montane climate

A.5. How high is the spread potential of the plant in the area under assessment?

Medium

Sinacalia tangutica spreads mostly vegetatively by rhizomes and the fruits are wind-spread. There is potential for spread. Essl (2020) observed 2019 that a population known from the 1970 has spread considerably. Currently, it occurs over c. 2.5 km in open floodplain forests and in wet tall herb communities

A.6. How high is the potential negative impact of the plant on native species, habitats and ecosystems in the area under assessment?

List natural and semi-natural habitats where the species is known to occur based on the EUNIS habitat categorization (<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats-code-browser.jsp>),

Medium

Due to its clonal growth, it forms dense stands and can be the (co-) dominant herb species in invaded habitats. So far, there is no report of impacts on native species in Europe.

A.7. How high is the potential negative impact of the plant on agriculture, horticulture or forestry in the area under assessment?

The habitats and the situations in which the species has negative impact on agriculture, horticulture or forestry should be listed. It includes EUNIS habitats (<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats-code-browser.jsp>).

Low

No information on impacts is available

A.8. How high are the potential additional impacts (e.g. on animal and human health, on infrastructures, on recreational activities, other trade related impacts such as market losses)?

Low

T. speciosa does not pose any serious health problems.

Conclusion.

- The answer provided to question A.5 on the spread potential of the species assessed was: **Medium**
- The answer provided to question A.6 on negative impact on native species, habitats and ecosystems was: **Medium**
- The answer provided to question A.7 on negative impact on agriculture, horticulture or forestry was: **Low**
- The answer provided to question A.8 on additional impacts was: **Low**

According to the ratings provided, the assessed species falls into the:

Observation list of invasive alien plants

The assessment stops here.

Section B - Prioritization process scheme for the identification of invasive alien plants for which a PRA is needed

B.1. Is the plant species internationally traded or are there other existing or potential international pathways?

B.2. Is the risk of introduction by these international pathways identified to be superior to natural spread?

B.3. Does the plant species still have a significant area suitable for further spread in the area under assessment?

Selected References

Franz Essl (2020) The distribution of *Sinacalia tangutica* (Maxim.) B. Nord. in Austria. *BioInvasions Records* 9(2): 393–398, <https://doi.org/10.3391/bir.2020.9.2.25>