

# How to use this field guide?

a number of the corresponding photo on the opposite page; where a photo was unavailable, a scan of a herbarium specimen was used instead

plant's vernacular name (in Ladakhi, where available)

plant's scientific name (mostly following The Plant List)

a basic morphological description

**1** *Ephedra gerardiana* Wall. ex Stapf "Tse"

**Syn.:** *E. wallichii* Stapf

**Description:** Subshrubs, 10–20 cm tall, branchlets dark green, scabrous, stout, leaves opposite, connate, 2–3 mm long, seed cones solitary, sessile, red and fleshy at maturity, 6–7 mm across.

**Distribution:** Tajikistan, Afghanistan, N Pakistan, N India, Nepal, Bhutan, China (Qinghai, Xinjiang, Xizang).

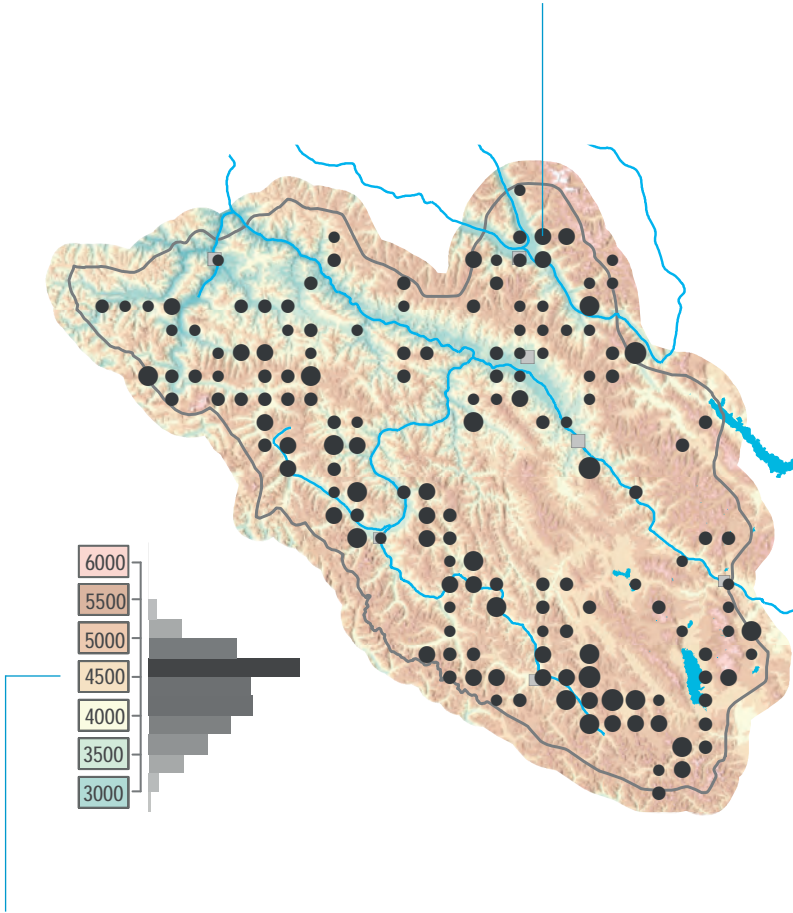
**Habitat:** Stabilized slopes, stony and rocky habitats.

a selection of synonyms (only the most common)

predominant habitat types

a list of states and regions where the species occurs

geographical distribution of the species in Ladakh  
(the larger the black dot the higher the frequency of occurrence within respective 10×10 km squares)



vertical distribution of the species in Ladakh  
(depicted as a frequency of occurrence within respective elevational belts between 3000 and 6000 m a.s.l.)



Semidesert vegetation in Nubra Valley. Typical genera are *Haloxylon*, *Halogeton*, *Kochia*, *Bassia*, *Ephedra*, *Menitskia* etc.

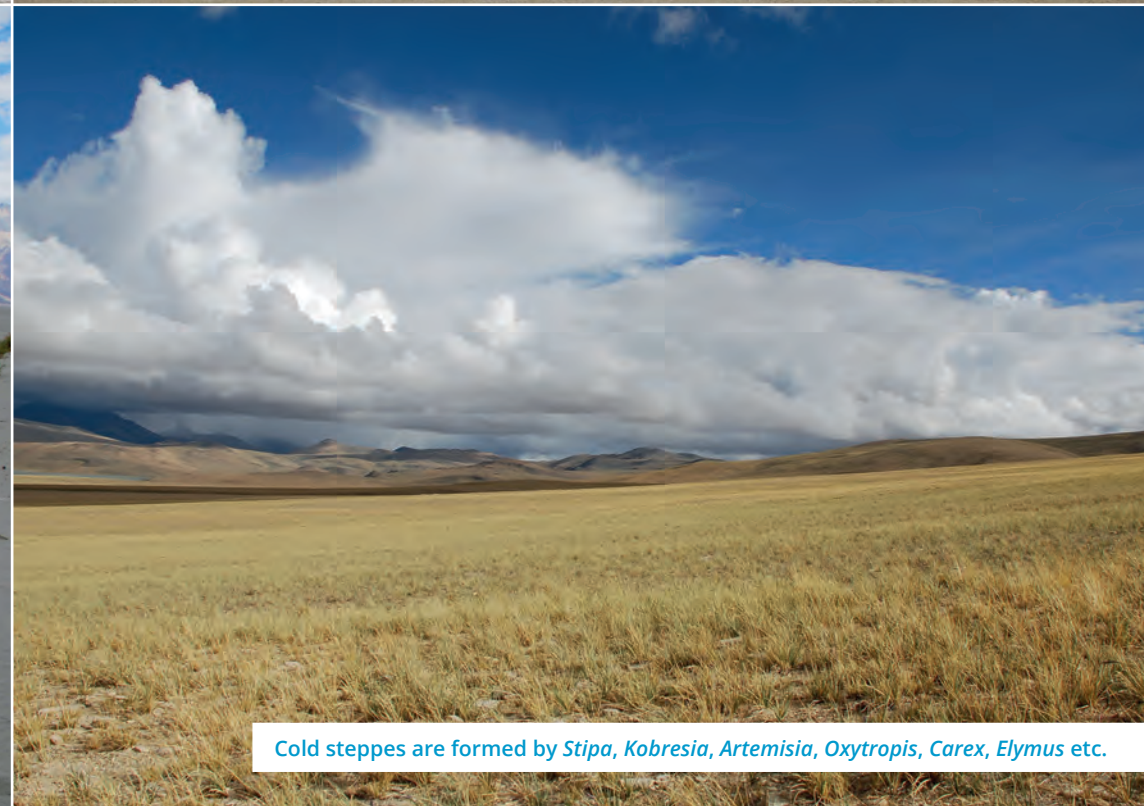


Sandy desert in Nubra Valley with shrubs of *Lycium ruthenicum*.





Cold steppes are the dominant vegetation type in Changthang, East Ladakh.



Cold steppes are formed by *Stipa*, *Kobresia*, *Artemisia*, *Oxytropis*, *Carex*, *Elymus* etc.