



The Herb Society of America

Promising Plants Profiles

Glycyrrhiza uralensis

Genus: *Glycyrrhiza*

Specific Epithet: *uralensis*

Common Name: Chinese licorice, gan cao

Family: Fabaceae

Flower Color: white and violet/lilac

Form: perennial

Hardiness Zone: 6

Height: 4'

Soil: deep, rich, sandy loam

Sun: full sun

Uses: medicinal, culinary (limited)

Parts Used: root



“Probably the most widely used of all Chinese medicinal herbs, *Glycyrrhiza uralensis* moderates or potentiates the other herbs in many prescriptions. As a plant for the herb garden, it is more impressive than common licorice (*Glycyrrhiza glabra*), forming a large clump about 4 feet tall. The clusters of small lilac flowers are followed by interesting reddish, bristly pods. Though found in the wild on dry, alkaline, grassy plains, my plant thrives in moisture-retentive loam that, if anything, is slightly acid.” – Deni Bown, Promising Plants Presentation, 2004

Plant Source: Richters, Goodwood, Ontario, and Southern Exposure Seed Exchange, Mineral, Virginia.

Photo © Deni Bown

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Disclaimer: Profiles are intended to provide a brief introduction to each herb. For additional information on uses, including medicinal contraindications, see the References list. The Herb Society of America can not advise, recommend, or prescribe herbs for medicinal use. Please consult a health care provider before pursuing any herbal treatments. Inclusion of vendor information does not indicate an endorsement by The Herb Society of America, and HSA can not guarantee availability of seeds/plants.