



**Name clarification: *Salix udensis* Trautv. & C.A.Mey. vs. *S. sachalinensis* F.Schmidt**

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The two binominals – *Salix udensis* Trautv. & C.A.Mey. and *S. sachalinensis* F.Schmidt (Sachalin willow) – are frequently used interchangeably in references, scientific publications and catalogs, which results in the presence of two names for the same species.

This taxonomic problem is similar to the *S. babylonica* vs. *S. matsudana* case.



*Salix udensis* is used as weaving material, nectariferous plants, for erosion control, and as breeding stock in biomass breeding programs in North America. It is well known in trade for its distinctive male cultivar ‘Sekka’, Japanese fan-tail willow, with contorted and fasciated stems, which are popular in cut-flower arrangements. Photos by Y. Kuzovkina.

Some botanists, including Skvortsov (1999) and Ohashi (2001), believe that *S. sachalinensis* described in 1868 is synonymous with *S. udensis*, which was described earlier, in 1856. We follow

the opinion that these two species belong to the same taxon. Thus, *S. udensis* is an older name, has priority and should displace *S. sachalinensis*. However, *S. sachalinensis* is used by Fang *et al.* (1999) as an accepted name for this species. According to Skvortsov (1999) *Salix siuzevii* is also synonymous with *S. udensis*, but Fang *et al.* (1999) treats *S. udensis* and *S. siuzevii* as different species. Also, *S. sachalinensis* is the name that is widely used in American publications.

The *World Checklist of Salicaceae sensu stricto* lists *S. udensis* as an accepted name and *S. sachalinensis* as its synonym.



Another cultivar *S. udensis* ‘Golden Sunshine’, “golden fantail willow”, or “golden willow” became popular recently as an ornamental shrub with a compact growth habit and golden foliage. Photos by Y. K. Kuzovkina.

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