

Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH)

ORGANISM (ORGA)

BCH-ORGA-SCBD-110308-2

LAST UPDATED: 09 MAY 2016

Organism information

Scientific name

Perilla frutescens

Taxonomic Classification

Kingdom Plantae
Phylum Eudicots
Class Asterids
Order Lamiales
Family Lamiaceae
Genus Perilla
Species frutescens

Alternate scientific name(s) (synonym(s))

Perilla ocymoides
Perilla ocimoides
Perilla nankinensis

Common name(s)

Perilla	EN
Beefsteak mint	EN
Chinese basil	EN
Shiso-zoku	EN
PERFR	EN

Type of organism

Ornamentals

Domestication

Domesticated

Characteristics related to biosafety

Centre(s) of genetic diversity

China.

EN

Habitat range

Wild species in mountain areas. The species is also widely cultivated and may be found in cultivation worldwide.

EN

Geographical distribution

China, India, Japan, Korea and South Asia. Also in cultivation elsewhere in the world.

EN

Known pathogenicity and/or allergenicity

Perilla frutescens is widely used as a colorant and traditional medicine in Asia. Leaves are also used as a food. Reports of toxicity are restricted to livestock where excess grazing of the plant has been associated with a typical interstitial pneumonia or acute bovine pulmonary emphysema. The rosmarinic acid found in *Perilla frutescens* actually exhibits an anti-allergenic effect. No allergenicity is known.

EN

Common use(s)

Ornamental
Food

Additional Information

Other relevant website addresses and/or attached documents

? [Perilla frutescens - Wikipedia \(English \)](#)

[BCH-ORGA-SCBD-110308-2](#)

Further Information

Questions about the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety or the operation of the Biosafety Clearing-House may be directed to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

**Secretariat of the Convention
on Biological Diversity**

413 rue Saint-Jacques, suite 800
Montreal, Québec, H2Y 1N9
Canada

Fax: +1 514 288-6588

Email: secretariat@cbd.int