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*Scutellaria baicalensis*

[Synonyms : *Scutellaria lanceolaria*, *Scutellaria macrantha*, *Scutellaria speciosa*]

**BAICAL SKULLCAP** is a perennial. Native to China it has blue or bluish-violet flowers.

It is also known as *Baikalinvuohennokka* (Finnish), Baikal skullcap, Chinese skullcap,

*Chinesisches Helmkraut* (German), Golden root, Helmet flower, *Helmkraut* (German),

*Huang qin* (Chinese), Scute, and *Šišák bajkalský* (Czech).

*Baicalensis* means ‘of or from Lake Baikal (southern-central Siberia and also known as *Ozero Baykal*)’.

Baical skullcap is used in oriental medicine, particularly by the Chinese who in clinical tests are said to have shown a 70% improvement in symptoms when it was prescribed for patients suffering from hepatitis.