

FLAVONOIDS OF ARTEMISIA TRANSILIENSIS

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Continuing a study of the flavonoid composition of Artemisia transiliensis Poljak [1], we have isolated four flavonoid aglycones from an ethereal extract. Flavones and flavonols in which the OH group at C₍₃₎ is substituted are stable to oxidation in alkaline solutions and can be obtained on acidification [2]. Using this method, the ethereal extract was treated successively with saturated NaHCO₃ solution and with a 10% solution of Na₂CO₃. The alkaline solutions were acidified and extracted with ether. From the bicarbonate extract by preparative paper chromatography using benzene-acetic acid-water (125:72:3) as solvent, we isolated quercetin 3-methyl ether with mp 259° C and a substance, II, with mp 255–256° C (from 70% ethanol), λ_{max} 355, 266, 255 mμ. In the cyanidin reaction, substance II gave a crimson coloration showing its flavonol nature. Spectral studies in the UV region with ionizing and complex-forming reagents showed the presence in the aglycone II of free OH groups at C₍₇₎, C_(3') and C_(4'). In an alkaline melt of the substance paper chromatography showed the presence of catechol and protocatechuic acid. IR spectroscopy showed that the aglycone II contains a methoxy group (2960, 2850 cm⁻¹) located at C₍₃₎. Demethylation of the substance led to the formation of 7,8,3',4'-tetrahydroxyflavonol with mp 310–312° C [3]. Methylation of the aglycone with diazomethane yielded a pentamethoxyflavone with mp 149–150° C.

Thus, on the basis of the chemical and spectral studies substance II has been characterized as 7,8,3',4'-tetrahydroxy-3-methoxyflavone. It proved to be new, and we have called it transilitin. From the sodium carbonate solution we isolated genkwanin with mp 283° C and acacetin with mp 260–261° C.

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A FLAVONOID DIGLYCOSIDE FROM ACONITUM ORIENTALE

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In the leaves of Aconitum orientale Mill., collected in the region of the Teberdina reserve, we have found by paper chromatography no less than four flavonoid compounds.

By chromatography on a column of Kapron with desorption by 25–35% ethanol we isolated glycoside I with mp 187–189° C, [α]_D²⁰ –245° (c 0.5; methanol). λ_{max} 344, 165 mμ (methanol); CH₃COONa λ_{max} 344, 165 mμ; CH₃COONa + H₃BO₃ λ_{max} 344, 265 mμ; AlCl₃ λ_{max} 405, 350, 277 mμ; AlCl₃ + HCl λ_{max} 342, 275 mμ; CH₃ONa λ_{max} 390, 265 mμ.

The aglycone (yield 50%) with mp 273–275° C (acetyl derivative with mp 180–182° C) was identified as kaempferol on the basis of its IR and UV spectra, chromatographic behavior, and absence of a depression of a mixture with an authentic sample. The carbohydrate component of glycoside I is L-rhamnose (melting point of the osazone 178–180° C).

On the stepwise acid hydrolysis, a 7-monoside with mp 232–233° C, [α]_D²⁰ –166° (c 0.4; methanol) was obtained as an intermediate product; alkaline hydrolysis [1] led to the formation of a 3-monoside with mp 173–175° C, [α]_D²⁰ –165° (c 0.2; methanol). By physicochemical analysis, the conversion products of the diglycoside were characterized as kaempferol 7-O-α-L-rhamnofuranoside and kaempferol 3-O-α-L-rhamnofuranoside.

The IR and UV spectra and an analysis of the conversion products, together with the absence of a depression of the melting point with an authentic sample, enabled glycoside I to be identified as kaempferol 3-O- α -L-rhamnofuranoside-7-O- α -L-rhamnofuranoside, which has been reported previously under the names "kaempferitrin" and "lespedin" [2, 3].

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LUTEOLIN FROM THE LEAVES OF DIGITALIS CILIATA

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In the preparation of cardiac glycosides from the leaves of Digitalis ciliata Trautv. we isolated a yellow crystalline substance [1] giving all the reactions for flavonoids. In the cyanidin test, an octanol-extractable orange-red pigment was formed, which shows the aglycone nature of the compound [2]. When the substance was subjected to paper chromatography in the butanol-acetic acid-water (4:1:5) system it gave a single spot, while in each of the systems ethyl acetate-formic acid-water (10:2:3) and benzene-ethyl acetate-acetic acid (74.5:23.5:2) systems it gave two spots. On them the main component appeared at the level of an authentic sample of luteolin, and a small spot in the region of apigenin.

To separate the combined flavonoids into the individual compounds we chromatographed them on a polyamide sorbent. Pure luteolin was isolated by washing the column with a mixture of chloroform and ethanol (1:1). After its recrystallization from dilute ethanol, long yellow acicular crystals, $C_{15}H_{10}O_6$, with mp 330-332° C were obtained. It gave no depression with standard luteolin. The acetate of the substance melted at 226-231° C. The IR and UV spectra of the flavonoid and its acetate coincided completely with literature data for luteolin and its acetate [3, 4].

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LUTEOLIN 7-GLUCOSIDE FROM CAMPANULA LACTIFLORA

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The chromatography of an ethanolic-aqueous extract from the leaves of Campanula lactiflora M. B. in the BAW (4:1:5) system showed the presence of three substances of a flavonoid nature. One of them, with the composition $C_{20}H_{20}O_{11}$, mp 256-258° C (from ethanol), $[\alpha]_D^{20} -58^\circ$ (c 0.528; methanol-pyridine (3:2)), mol. wt. 259, is a flavone glycoside as was shown by the results of color reactions.

UV spectrum: λ_{\max} 352, 255 m μ ; $\lambda_{\max}^{AlCl_3}$ 400, 275 m μ ; $\lambda_{\max}^{CH_3COONa}$ 355, 258; $\lambda_{\max}^{CH_3COONa+H_3BO_3}$ 380, 258 m μ ; $\lambda_{\max}^{CH_3ONa}$ 407, 265 m μ ; $\lambda_{\max}^{AlCl_3+HCl}$ 390, 275 m μ . The elementary composition found corresponds to that calculated.