

A TRITERPENE GLYCOSIDE FROM *Dianthus inacotinus*

V. Ya. Chirva and P. K. Kintya

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In spite of the intensive investigation of the triterpene glycosides of the family Caryophyllaceae [1-3], many representatives of it have still remained unstudied. Thus, for example, there is no information whatever in the literature on the saponins of *Dianthus inacotinus*.

A methanolic extract from the roots of this plant contained one glycoside, which we isolated by chromatography on a column of silica gel in the butan-1-ol-ethanol-water (10 : 2 : 5) system in preparative amount. In its melting point (136°C), specific rotation ($[\alpha]_D^{20} + 35^\circ$ (c 1.3; methanol)), and chromatographic mobility the compound obtained was identical with saponaside A, which we have isolated previously from *Saponaria officinalis* L. [4].

The substance was additionally identified by its methylation and the tetrahydroaluminate cleavage of its permethylate. The reduced glycoside was found by thin-layer chromatography in benzene-acetone (2 : 1) to contain 2,3,4-tri-O-methyl-D-glucopyranuronic acid, and among the methanolysis products of the oligosaccharide we identified, in the presence of sugars of known structure, 2,4-di-O-methyl-D-sorbitol and 2,3,4,6-tetra-O-methyl-D-glucopyranose. In the periodate oxidation of the saponin, the glucose was not affected. On this basis, we concluded that *Saponaria officinalis* L. (bouncing bet) and *Dianthus inacotinus* contain one and the same saponin.

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