

BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS

THE HYDROCARBONS AND ALCOHOLS OF *Euphorbia severtzovii* AND *E. falcata*

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UDC 547.219.16

We have studied the epigeal part of *Euphorbia severtzovii* Prokh. and *E. falcata* (L), family Euphorbiaceae, collected in the full vegetation period. The comminuted plant material was extracted with chloroform. The yield of extractive substances from *E. severtzovii* was 4.55% (of which 75.39% was soluble in acetone and 24.61% insoluble) and from *E. falcata* it was 5.3% (78.3% soluble and 21.7% insoluble).

The acetone-insoluble fractions were treated with petroleum ether (bp 40–70°C) with heating.

The fraction soluble in petroleum ether was passed through a column filled with alumina and was eluted successively with petroleum ether, benzene, diethyl ether, acetone, and methanol. The first (petroleum ether) fraction from *E. severtzovii* gave a hydrocarbon – triacontane, $C_{30}H_{62}$ with mp 65–66°C [1, 2] – while *E. falcata* gave tetracosane, $C_{24}H_{50}$ with mp 54–55°C [2]. The benzene fraction of both species gave an alcohol – tetracosanol, $C_{24}H_{49}OH$, with mp 75–76°C [3]. On standing, the acetone-soluble fraction of *E. falcata* gave precipitate which by repeated recrystallization (acetone, acetone–water) yielded a hydrocarbon – pentatriacontane, $C_{35}H_{72}$, mp 74–75°C [2].

The substances isolated were identified by their melting points and IR spectra in comparison with known samples and by mixed melting points.

LITERATURE CITED

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Tashkent Pharmaceutical Institute. Translated from *Khimiya Prirodnikh Soedinenii*, No. 1, pp. 112–113, January–February, 1972. Original article submitted October 26, 1971.

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