A STUDY OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE ALKALOIDS OF Corydalis persica

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We have investigated Corydalis persica Cham et Schlecht, family Papaveraceae, the alkaloid composition of which has not been studied previously. From the tubers collected in the flowering phase (June 1, 1972) in the Bichinakskii Pass we isolated the combined alkaloids (1.63%) by the dichloroethane method.

By column chromatography on alumina (activity grade II) with elution by diethyl ether we obtained a white crystalline optically inactive substance with the composition $C_{20}H_{15}O_5N$, mp 266-267°C (ether) which was identified as sanguinarine [1].

Elution with diethyl ether–chloroform (97:3) gave chelerythrine, $C_{21}H_{19}O_5N$, mp 208°C (ether) [1]. Elution with diethyl ether–chloroform (95:5) gave a substance with the composition $C_{20}H_{19}O_5N$, mp 204-205°C, which was identical with an authentic sample of protopine [2].

LITERATURE CITED

1. T. A. Henry, The Plant Alkaloids, 4th ed., J. A. Churchill, London (1949).
2. A. P. Orekhov, Alkaloid Chemistry [in Russian], Moscow (1955), p. 493.

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