In the epigeal part of Oxytropis varlacovii Serg., family Leguminosae, collected at the beginning of fruit-bearing in the Aginskoe region, Chita oblast, by two-dimensional chromatography on paper and by specific qualitative reactions we have detected five flavonol glycosides. The combined flavonoids were exhaustively extracted with water. On standing in the refrigerator for two days, the concentrated extracts deposited a precipitate (yield 4.5%) in which a substance with Rf 0.40 [butan-1-ol-acetic acid-water (4:1:5)], 0.70 (15% acetic acid), and 0.54 (water) predominated. It was isolated preparatively by repeated recrystallization from 70% ethanol and had mp 195-197°C. Its IR spectrum showed the absorption bands characteristic for a carbonyl group of a  $\gamma$ -pyrone ring (1665 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and of phenolic hydroxy groups (3330, 3400 cm<sup>-1</sup>) [1].

From the products of the complete acid hydrolysis of the flavonoid was obtained an aglycone (yield 38.4%) with the composition  $C_{15}H_{10}O_6$ , mp 275°C (mp of the acetate 181°C) which, by a chemical and spectroscopic investigation, was identified as kaempferol (3,4',5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone). The carbohydrate moiety of the glycoside consisted of galactose and rhamnose (1:2).

The positions of the carbohydrate substituents were established on the basis of the results of a study in the UV region [2] and of the products of stepwise hydrolysis. This showed that positions 3 and 7 in the aglycone are substituted by sugar residues.

The stepwise hydrolysis of the glycoside was performed with 0.16% hydrochloric acid [3] in the boiling water bath for 40 min. After separation on a polyamide sorbent activated with hydrochloric acid [4], the following substances were isolated and were identified chromatographically, by UV spectroscopy, and by comparison with authentic samples, in addition to the initial substance and the aglycone kaempferol: the glycosides biorobin (kaempferol 3-galactosylrhamnoside) and rhamnorobin (kaempferol 7-rhamnoside). Alkaline hydrolysis of the glycoside with a 0.5% aqueous solution of caustic potash also formed biorobin [5].

Thus, from the results of a chemical, chromatographic, and spectroscopic investigation in the UV and IR regions the glycoside isolated has been identified as robinin (kaempferol 3-galactosylrhamnoside 7-rhamnoside). This is the first time that robinin has been isolated from the genus Oxytropis.

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