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The sesquiterpene lactones of plants of the genus *Jurinea* (family Compositae) have been studied only in the case of two species [1, 2].

We have studied the epigeal part of *Jurinea maxima* C. Winkl. collected in May, 1972 in the Samarkand oblast. Alkaloids have been found in this plant previously [3]. The raw material was extracted with hot water and the aqueous extracts were extracted with chloroform, the evaporation of which yielded 0.27% of extractive substances. This mixture was separated on neutral alumina (activity grade IV). The fractions eluted with benzene-petroleum ether deposited a new lactone with the composition  $C_{15}H_{20}O_4$ , mp 177-178°C, mol. wt. 264 (mass spectrometry), which we have called maximolide.

The IR spectrum of maximolide showed the absorption bands of the stretching vibrations of an OH group ( $3510\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), of a  $\gamma$ -lactone carbonyl ( $1758\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), of a double bond ( $1650\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), and of a carbonyl group in a five-membered ring ( $1743\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The presence of the latter was also confirmed by an absorption maximum at 280 nm ( $\log \epsilon 2.0$ ) in the UV spectrum. The NMR spectrum of maximolide ( $\delta$  scale) contained doublets due to secondary methyl groups with centers at 1.16 and 1.37 ppm ( $J=7.8\text{ Hz}$ ) and singlets at 4.72 and 5.05 ppm corresponding to methylene protons. The lactone proton was represented in the form of a triplet at 3.95 ppm ( $J=10\text{ Hz}$ ).

These facts enable maximolide to be assigned to the sesquiterpene lactones of the guaiane type.

## LITERATURE CITED

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