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In a study of the phytotoxicity of a filtrate of the culture liquid of the soil microscopic fungus <u>Dendrodochium toxicum</u> Pidopl. et Bilai (strain BKMF-827) on the growth of the seeds of a number of higher plants, we have isolated the metabolite responsible for the main phytotoxicity of this filtrate.

The substance (average yield 4 mg/liter of filtrate) was isolated by the chromatographic separation of the total products of the metabolism of this fungus obtained by the method of Bilai et al. [1] on a column $(0.8 \times 100 \text{ cm})$ of silica gel (LS 5/40 μ). The compositions and biological activities of the fractions obtained were checked by thin-layer chromatography on "Silufol" plates with a fixed layer of silica gel. The solvent was diethyl ether and the substances were revealed chemically with a 5% ethanolic solution of phosphomolybdic acid and biologically by the inhibition of the growth of Wurzburg radishes.

The compound isolated formed colorless crystals with decomp. pt. 196-200°C (from benzene—hexane), $[\alpha]_D^{22}+112.7^\circ$ (c 0.95; CHCl3). IR spectrum, ν_{max} (paraffin oil), cm⁻¹: 1745, 1708, 1633, 1595, 1238, 1185-70, 1084, 1040, 976, 820, 735. From its physicochemical properties and its IR spectrum, this substance was identical with roridin A, a sesquiterpenoid metabolite characteristic for a number of strains of fungi of the genus Myrothecium [2, 3]. This is the first time this compound has been found among the products of the metabolism of \overline{D} . toxicum.

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