

FLAVONOIDS OF PLANTS OF THE GENUS *Veronica*

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In a phytochemical investigation of some plants of the genus *Veronica* L., growing in the Kungursko-Krasnoufimskii forest steppe of the pre-Urals we have found flavonoids.

The herbage collected in the period of flowering of the plants was investigated. By two-dimensional chromatography on paper, using generally adopted color reactions, different numbers of flavonoids were found: in *Veronica officinalis* L. (drug speedwell) 12, in *V. chamaedrys* L. (germanda speedwell) 10, in *V. spicata* L. (spike speedwell) 15, in *V. teucrium* L. (Hungarian speedwell) 9, in *V. logifolia* L. 13, and in *V. spuria* L. (bastard speedwell) 16.

We have made a detailed investigation of the herbage of *Veronica officinalis* L., Scrophulariaceae Lindl. (drug speedwell). By adsorption chromatography on polyamide from a methanolic extract of the herb we isolated one individual substance and Bryant's test showed its aglycone nature. The acetyl derivative of the substance had mp 184–187°C which corresponds to apigenin acetate [2].

According to chromatography and spectral investigations in the UV region with ionizing and complex-forming reagents [1] and from the absence of a depression of the melting point with an authentic sample, the flavonoid obtained can be characterized as 4',5,7-trihydroxyflavone – apigenin.

Apigenin was also identified by paper chromatography with a marker in the other species studied apart from *V. teucrium* L.

LITERATURE CITED

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2. J. Gripenberg, "Flavones" in: *The Chemistry of Flavonoid Compounds* (edited by T. A. Geissman), Pergamon, New York (1962).

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