

Artemisia chasarica Rzazade, according to A. A. Grossheim, is *A. hanseniana* (Bess.) A. Grossh., and according to P. P. Polyakov it is *A. fragrans* Willd. To the latter, Polyakov also added species which have caused no doubt among the systematists for many years such as *A. hanseniana* (Bess.) A. Grossh., *A. hanseniana* var. *phyllostachus* Grossh., *A. muganica* Rz., and others. Nevertheless, they are distinguished from one another by both the quality and the quantitative compositions of the sesquiterpene lactones [1, 2].

By chromatographing on a column of alumina the resin obtained from *A. chasarica* growing in the Divichi region of the Azerbaïdzhān SSR we isolated two substances belonging to the class of sesquiterpene lactones.

The chemical properties and spectroscopic characteristics of the first substance coincided with those of α -santonin [2]. A mixture with an authentic sample of α -santonin gave no depression of the melting point.

The second substance had the composition $C_{15}H_{20}O_4$, mp 175–176.5°C (from ethanol). IR spectroscopy showed the presence in the substance of an OH group (3500 cm^{-1}), a γ -lactone ring (1770 cm^{-1}), a conjugated ketone group (1670 cm^{-1}), and a double bond (1640 cm^{-1}). The hydroxy group is tertiary (it does not undergo acetylation and is not oxidized by chromium trioxide).

The results of a comparison of the chemical and spectral (IR and NMR) properties of this compound with those of tauremisin [2] showed their identify.

LITERATURE CITED

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