

I have investigated the epigeal part of *Ornithogalum gussonei* Ten. (family Liliaceae) collected in June in Stavropol' territory close to the village of Kangly on the slopes of Mount Kinzhal.

The epigeal part was extracted with 96% ethanol first at room temperature for 7 days and then with heating. The ethanolic extracts were evaporated and the residue treated with hot water; after cooling the aqueous extract was purified with chloroform and the flavonoids were extracted with ethyl acetate.

In the ethyl acetate fraction two compounds were detected which, on paper chromatograms, had a dark color in UV light and acquired a yellow-green fluorescence on treatment with an ethanolic solution of aluminum chloride and with a solution of basic lead acetate.

In a chromatographic study of extracts from freshly-gathered flowers, only one substance was detected, which precipitated when aqueous ethanolic extracts were concentrated and cooled. After recrystallization from aqueous ethanol light yellow crystals with mp 226°C were obtained. In a thin layer of cellulose it had R_f values of 0.40 (15% CH_3COOH) and 0.70 (butan-1-ol- $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH-H}_2\text{O}$ (4:1:5)).

UV spectrum, nm: $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}}$ 272, 335 ($\log \epsilon$ 4.12, 4.15), CH_3COONa : 272, 338, 390; H_3BO_3 + CH_3COONa : 272, 335; AlCl_3 : 282, 300, 344; AlCl_3 + HCl : 279, 299, 342; $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{ONa}$: 273, 399.

The substance was unchanged on being boiled with 10% sulfuric acid. On being boiled with a mixture of 30% solutions of sulfuric and acetic acids, an aglycone was obtained which was identified as apigenin and the sugars D-glucose and L-arabinose (traces). On this basis, it was concluded that the compound was an apigenin C-glucoside.

Acetylation of the substance with acetic anhydride in the presence of Anhydrone [1] gave an acetyl derivative with mp 160-161°C. A comparison of the physicochemical properties of the substance with those of a sample of saponaretin isolated from *Saponaria officinalis* [2] showed that they were identical.

The second substance gave a positive reaction with the "iodine" reagent [3] and was identified on paper chromatograms as saponaretin 7-glucoside (saponarin).

LITERATURE CITED

1. V. A. Bandyukova and V. D. Ponomarev, *Khim. Prir. Soedin.*, 418 (1970).
2. V. Plouvier, *Compt. Rend.*, 262, 1368 (1966).
3. G. Barger, *Ber.*, 35, 1296 (1902).