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With the aim of finding biologically active substances, we are continuing an investigation of the plants of the genus *Saussurea* [1] which is widely represented in the flora of the Altai, and we give information on a study of the chemical composition of the epigeal part of *Saussurea pricei* N. D. Simps., collected in the Gorno-Altai Autonomous Region in the budding phase.

The comminuted raw material (1 kg) was extracted by the maceration method three times successively with petroleum ether (yield 1.66% on the weight of the absolutely dry raw material) to eliminate lipophilic substances including sterols, and then with chloroform (2.34%). From 10 g of the chloroform extract, by column chromatography on silica gel (1:30) with elution by mixtures of hexane and benzene with increasing concentrations of the latter, 0.9 g of an amorphous substance was isolated with the formula $C_{30}H_{50}O$, homogeneous according to TLC on silica gel and alumina (hexane-benzene (8:2) system; revealing agent: conc. sulfuric acid).

On the basis of UV, IR, and PMR spectroscopy and mass spectrometry, the compound isolated was assigned to substances of the amyirin series [2, 3].

When this substance was investigated by GLC (Chrom-5.5 \times SE 30% Chromaton N-AW [sic], column temperature 260°C, pressure of nitrogen 1.2 atm.) with markers, it was found that it was not an individual substance but was a mixture of α - and β -amyirins in a ratio of 4:1.

On further elution with chloroform, 0.4 g of a substance was isolated in the form of acicular crystals with mp 158-160°C which was identified from its elementary analysis and IR and PMR spectra, and the results of TLC on Silufol plates with a marker as salicylic acid [2, 4, 5].

This is the first time that α - and β -amyirins and salicylic acid have been detected in *S. pricei*.

LITERATURE CITED

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