PHENOLIC COMPOUNDS OF THE LEAVES OF Salix caprea

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We have investigated the leaves of Salix caprea L. (family Salicaceae) collected in June in the environs of Tbilisi.

The aqueous part of an aqueous ethanolic extract, obtained after treatment with chloroform, was extracted with ethyl acetate, the ethyl acetate was evaporated off, and the residue was chromatographed on a column of polyamide sorbent. The phenolic compounds were eluted with water and aqueous ethanol with increasing concentrations of ethanol. Seven individual substances (I-VII) were isolated. Water-eluted substances (I-III), 40% ethanol (IV), 50% ethanol (V), and 70% ethanol (VI) and (VII).

Substance (I), mp 199-201°C, $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ -60° (c 1.18; water); $\lambda_{max}^{C_2H_5OH}$ 269 nm was saligenin 2-O- β -D-glucopyranoside, or salicin [1]; (II), mp 87°C, $\lambda_{max}^{C_2H_5OH}$ (nm) 275, 300 was saligenin [2]; (III), mp 178°C was (±)-gallocatechin [3].

The remaining four compounds were flavonoids. Substance (VI) with mp 189-191°C was rutin (quercetin 3-rutinoside) [4]; (V), mp 315-317°C was quercetin [4]; (VI), mp 255-257°C was cynaroside (luteolin 7-O- β -D-glucopyranoside) [5]; and (VII), mp 329-331°C was luteolin [4].

The substances isolated were identified from the results of comparative chromatography, their UV and IR spectra, and their physicochemical constants. This is the first time that compounds (II), (III), (IV), and (V) have been isolated from the leaves of *S. caprea*.

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