

SCOPOLETIN AND HISPIDULIN IN *BACCHARIS MAGELLANICA*

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As part of a phytochemical study of those species of *Baccharis* (Compositae) whose habitat is Chile, *Baccharis magellanica* was examined for flavonoids and coumarins. In the study hispidulin (6-methoxy-5,7,4'-trihydroxyflavone) was isolated. This compound has been found in other Compositae (1, 2) and in Scrophulariaceae (3). In addition, scopoletin (6-methoxy-7-hydroxycoumarin) was isolated, which has also been identified in other species of *Baccharis* (4, 5).

EXPERIMENTAL¹

Baccharis magellanica (Lam) Pers. was collected in Antillanca, x Region, Chile, (a voucher is deposited in the Herbarium, Facultad de Ciencias Básicas y Farmacéuticas, Universidad de Chile, Santiago). An ethanolic extract of the air-dried aerial parts was concentrated to a syrup and then poured into water at 50°. The solid that separated from the hydroalcoholic solution was incorporated with silica gel and extracted in a Soxhlet with petroleum ether (40-60°) and then with chloroform. Yellow crystalline material obtained from the chloroform extract was later identified as hispidulin on the basis of mp, elemental analysis, Rf, ir, uv, nmr and ms as well as mp, elemental analysis and spectral data of the triacetyl derivative.

The hydroalcoholic solution from which hispidulin was precipitated was evaporated to dryness and the residue extracted with ether. After removal of the ether, the extract was placed on a polyamide column and eluted with water. Fractions with a strong blue fluorescence under uv light were extracted with chloroform; a compound identified as scopoletin was obtained. It was identified on the basis of comparison with a reference sample (mp, Rf, ir and nmr).

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¹Full details of the isolation and identification of the compounds are available on request to the authors.