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ALKALOIDS FROM *NEOLITSEA ACICULATA*

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As part of our continuing search for alkaloids of Lauraceous plants (1,2), we report here the isolation and identification of two alkaloids, laurotetanine and (+)-reticuline, from *Neolitsea aciculata* (Blume) Koidz.

Compound	Identified by	Reference
Laurotetanine	mp, ir, ¹ H-nmr, [α] _D , uv, by preparing <i>N</i> -methyl derivative (mmp, ir, ¹ H-nmr, (α) _D)	(5)
(+)-Reticuline (perchlorate)	mmp, ir, [α] _D , uv, co-tlc	(2)

EXPERIMENTAL

PLANT MATERIAL.—Plants were collected in Kyoto and Nara, Japan. The plants were identified by the late Dr. M. Futoh of this university and voucher specimens are deposited there in the herbarium.

EXTRACTION AND ISOLATION.—Air-dried, cut root material was extracted with boiling MeOH, and the extract was subjected to an isolation procedure based on the Stas-Otto method (3,4). The resulting phenolic alkaloid mixture was treated with picrolonic acid, and laurotetanine picrolonate was obtained. (+)-Reticuline was isolated as its perchlorate from the mother liquor of the picrolonate. The same procedure was applied to the stems, and similar results were obtained.

Full details of the isolation and identification of the compounds are available on request to the senior author.

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