

ISOLATION OF GLAUCINE FROM *ARTABOTRYS LASTOURVILLENSIS*

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The bark of *Artabotrys lastourvillensis* Pelegrin has long been used in folk medicine in Gabon. Because this plant has not been fully studied, we decided to study the alkaloids present in the bark of this plant. Thus, we report the isolation of glaucine. Although glaucine has already been isolated in the family Annonaceae, it is here isolated for the first time in the genus *Artabotrys* (1).

## EXPERIMENTAL

**PLANT MATERIALS.**—The bark of *A. lastourvillensis* was collected by the Institut de Recherche en Ecologie Tropicale, Makokou, Gabon, and was identified by Dr. Jean Noël Gassita of L'Institut de Pharmacopée et de Médecines Traditionnelles, Libreville, Gabon, where a voucher specimen is deposited.

**EXTRACTION AND ISOLATION OF GLAUCINE.**—The dried bark (300 g) of *A. lastourvillensis* was extracted by conventional methods and the tertiary alkaloids were separated into acidic (5 g) and non-acidic fractions (2.2 g). This latter fraction contained three alkaloids, which were separated by flash chromatography and preparative tlc to yield 90 mg of a pure alkaloid identified as glaucine by its melting point, 119°, (HCl) 245-246°,  $[\alpha]^{25}_D = (+) 113^\circ$  ( $c = 5.00$ , EtOH), nmr, uv, and ir. These physical and spectral properties were consistent with those of an authentic sample of glaucine (1-4). Full details of the isolation and identification are available upon request to the senior author.

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