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ALKALOIDS AND COUMARINS IN THE LEAVES OF SKIMMIA FOREMANII

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Plant. Skimmia foremanii.

Uses. Ornamental.

Source. University of Washington Arboretum, Seattle, Washington.

Previous work. Quinoline alkaloids.1

Leaves. Ground leaves (0.9 kg) were extracted with light petroleum (30–60°). Concentration afforded a solid, which on dissolving in ether furnished a hydrocarbon mixture. The mother liquor was chromatographed over alumina (grade V) to furnish a carotenoid (m.p. 174–177°), skimmiol (m.p. 284–285°), skimmione (m.p. 242–244°), isoimperatorin (m.p. 91–92° and 106–107°; polymorphism), oxypeucedanin (m.p. 100–102°), and dictamine (m.p. 128–130°). Compounds were identified by direct comparison with authentic samples.

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¹ D. R. Boyd and M. F. Grundon, J. Chem. Soc. C 556 (1970).