

## ANGIOSPERMAE

### ANACARDIACEAE

#### LIGNOCERIC ACID AND OTHER COMPOUNDS OF *SCHINUS MOLLE*\*

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*Plant. Schinus molle* L. 'pirul'.

Uses. The fruits, gum exudates and the leaves are used with medical purposes.'

Previous work. On the essential oil <sup>2-4</sup> and tannins<sup>4</sup> and sister specie.<sup>5</sup>

Plant material. Twigs and leaves collected in Monterrey, N.L. were extracted successively with petrol, Et<sub>2</sub>O and EtOH; chromatographed on silica gel.

Light petroleum. Lignoceric acid, C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>48</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, m.p. 81–82°, IR, NMR, mixed m.p. CO TLC. New compound: C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>46</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. (Found: C, 81.75; H, 11.07; O, 7.28; Calc. C, 81.63; H, 10.87 O, 7.50%). Mol. wt. M<sup>+</sup> 426; m.p. 190–192°, [α]<sub>D</sub> IR + 29.6° (CHI). Important IR peaks: 3660, 3580 (m), 2900 (s), 2840 (m), 1620 (w), 1450 (m), 1435 (n), 1360, 1080, 870 cm<sup>-1</sup> LB color red, green, blue, to black, TNM test positive. UV λ<sub>max</sub><sup>EtOH</sup> 212 nm (c-1430). Acetate: m.p. 214–215°, [α]<sub>D</sub> + 44.0 (CHI). Important IR peaks: 3420 (m), 2900–2830 (s), 1740 (s), 1620 (w), 1455 (m), 1435 (m), 1370(m), 1360(m), 1225(s), 1045(m), 880 cm<sup>-1</sup>. β-Sitosterol: eluted by benzene–CHCl<sub>3</sub>; C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>50</sub>O (m.p., mixed m.p., 137–139°, [α]<sub>D</sub> -38° (CHI), coTLC and superimposable IR spectra of alcohol and acetate. EtOH–quercetrin (m.p., mixed m.p. ; IR, UV, coTLC). Reactions for alkaloids were negative.

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<sup>1</sup> M. MARTINEZ, *Las Plantas Medicinales de México* (4th Edition) p. 261, Editorial Botas, Mexico (1959).

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<sup>3</sup> G. OTTOLINO, *Attie. Relaz. Pugl. Sci.* **6**, 49 (1948); C.A. **44**, 9807 d (1951).

<sup>4</sup> M. GONZALEZ, *Anales Fac. Quim. Farm.* **1**, 133 (1931).

<sup>5</sup> K. K. KAISTHA and L. B. KIER, *J. Pharm. Soc.* **51**, 1136 (1962).

### APOCYNACEAE

#### TRITERPENES FROM *MELODZNUS AUSTRALIS*

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A NUMBER of interesting indole alkaloids have been isolated from the root bark of the Southeast Asian woody shrub, *Melodinus australis* Maider and Bêche.<sup>1</sup> In our hands a

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<sup>1</sup> H. H. A. LINDE, *Helv. Chim. Acta* **48**, 1822 (1965).