in presence of base 262, 318 nm (1900, 5700).[10] (Found: C, 53·64; H, 3·67; O, H, 42·84. Calc, for $C_5H_4O_3$; C, 53·58; H, 3·57; O, 42·85%.) Further elution with more polar solvents eluted nothing or small amounts of intractable gums.

(B) Extraction of 1·35 kg of ground stems and leaves collected by Dr. B. H. Braun on 28 August 1966 in the same locality gave 8 g of gum. Chromatography over 180 g of silicic acid gave in fractions 13 and 14 ($CHCl_3$–benzene, 1:1) a yellow gum showing several spots on the TLC and in fractions 14–21 (benzene–$CHCl_3$, 1:1) 1·4 g of pyromeconic acid. The more polar fractions eluted nothing or intractable gums.

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EUPHORBIACEAE

FLAVONOIDS OF THE LEAVES OF *JATROPHA GOSSYPIFOLIA*

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Plant. Jatropha gossypifolia L.
Occurrence. As a common weed in all plains and waste places.[1]
Uses. Medicinal.[2]
Previous work. Leaves (cyanidin glycoside);[3] on sister species.[4]

Present Work

Leaves. Alcoholic extract of the fresh material fractionated with petrol, ether, ethyl acetate and methyl ethyl ketone. Vitexin (from ethyl acetate fraction, yield, 0·2%, m.p., mixed m.p., not hydrolysable with 25% MeOH–HCl, hydrolytic fission with HI in phenol, R_f and co-chromatography, UV and IR). Apigenin (from ether fraction, R_f and co-chromatography and acetate). In addition to vitexin, the ethyl acetate and methyl ethyl ketone fractions contained isovitexin (R_f and co-chromatography). The aq. portion, after extraction with methyl ethyl ketone, contained an additional spot with R_f: 0·45 (15% HOAc), 0·71 (30% HOAc), 0·76 (50% HOAc), 0·80 (60% HOAc), 0·65 (BAW 4:1:5), 0·81 (Phenol) (Whatman No. 1, temp. 30 ± 2°) which gave apigenin with 7% H_2SO_4. Further characterization was not possible due to poor yield.

This is the second instance of occurrence of flavonoid-C-glycoside in Euphorbiaceae, the first one being in *Croton zambezicus.*[5]

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