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LORANTHACEAE

OLEANOLIC ACID FROM *PHORADENDRON GREGGII**

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Plant. *Phoradendron greggii*.

Source. Monclova, Coah. (México) as a parasite on mesquite (*Prosopis* spp).

Uses. For nervous sickness.¹

Previous work. The Loranthaceae (mistletoe family) are herbs or shrubs parasitic on trees *Phoradendron* is an American genus with about 135 species. It has been reported² to contain phoratoxin, a toxic protein in some species, and an alkaloid,³ rubrine C. From the European mistletoe, *Viscum album* has been isolated β -amirin, lupeol, oleanolic acid and inositol⁴⁻⁶ flavonoids^{6,7} and tyramine.⁸ *Loranthus grewinkii* contains lupeol and loranthol.⁹

*Present work.** The aereal part of the plant 5 kg was extracted successively with light petroleum and EtOH. After chromatography of the petrol extract on silica gel, 260 mg of an aliphatic ketone were obtained m.p. 74–76°, IR 2920, 2850, 1700, 1460, 1160, 700 cm⁻¹, no absorption in UV On concentration of the EtOH extract a precipitate was obtained. After purification 3.6 g (0.07%) of crystalline oleanolic acid were isolated. C₃₀H₄₈O₃, m.p. 302–303° (closed capillary) (lit. 295–310°). [α]_D IR NMR, MS and TLC of authentic acid; acetate, m.p. [α]_D IR NMR MS, methyl ester, m.p., NMR, [α]_D IR.

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