

MORACEAE

ALKALOIDS OF *FICUS SEPTICA*

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INSTEAD of the alkaloids previously isolated from *Ficus septica*,¹ we have found partially racemic antofine² to be the major alkaloid in young trees. Other, minor, bases were of the phenanthroindolizidine type but could not be related to known alkaloids and are as yet of undetermined structure.

EXPERIMENTAL

The alkaloids (1.9 g from the roots and leaves of twelve 4-ft high trees) were isolated following a published method.⁴ Separation was achieved on Kieselgel G using 2–10% MeOH in CHCl₃. The major alkaloid (168 mg) was recrystallized (CHCl₃/EtOH), m.p. 212–214°, $[\alpha]_D^{22} -32^\circ$ (C = 0.002 in CHCl₃). (Found: C, 75.8; H, 7.0; N, 3.5. Calc. for C₂₃H₂₅NO₃: C, 76.0; H, 6.9; N, 3.85%). It was identical with antofine [TLC (3 solvents), UV, IR and MS] and a m.m.p. was undepressed.

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¹ J. H. RUSSEL, *Naturwissenschaften* **50**, 443 (1963).

² W. WIEGREBE, L. FABER, H. BROCKMANN JR., H. BUDZIKIEWICZ and U. KRÜGER, *Annalen* **721**, 154 (1969), reported as Alkaloid A; B. CHAUNCEY and E. GELLERT, *Austral. J. Chem.* **23**, 2503 (1970).

³ T. R. GOVINDACHARI, B. R. PAI and K. NAGARAJAN, *J. Chem. Soc.* 2801 (1954).

Key Word Index—*Ficus septica*; Moraceae; alkaloids; antofine.

SESELIN FROM *NAUCLEOPSIS CALONEURA**†

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Plant. *Naucleopsis caloneura* (Hub.) Ducke, trivial name 'muiratinga', tree. *Source.* Manaus, Brasil.

Trunk wood. The ethanol extract (1 %) was chromatographed on silica, giving an aliphatic ketone, sitosterol and seselin (2',2'-dimethylpyrano-5',6':8,7-coumarin, 0.0005 %), m.p.

* Part III in the series "The Chemistry of Brazilian Moraceae". For part II see ref. 1.

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¹ R. BRAZ FILHO, A. FARIAS MAGALHÃES and O. R. GOTTLIEB, *Anais Acad. brasil. Ciênc.* **43**, in press (1971).

119–120° [lit.² m.p. 119–120°]. Mass, NMR,² UV² and IR² spectral measurements corroborated the identification. *Leaves*. Seselin was detected in the ethanol extract by TLC.

² S. N. SHANBHAG, C. K. MESTA, M. L. MAHESHWARI, S. K. PAKNIKAR and S. C. BHATTACHARYYA, *Tetrahedron* **20**, 2605 (1964).

Key Word Index—*Naucleopsis caloneura*; Moraceae; pyranocoumarin; seselin.

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MYRTACEAE

EUCALYPTIN FROM *EUGENIA* AND *MYRCIA* SPECIES*

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Plants. *Eugenia biflora* (L.) DC., trivial name 'murta' *Myrcia citrifolia* (Aubl.) Urb., trivial name 'pedra-hume-caá', trees. *Source*. Manaus, Brasil.

Leaves. The light petroleum extracts were chromatographed on silica, giving β -amyrin and eucalyptin (5-hydroxy-4',7-dimethoxy-6,8-dimethylflavone), m.p. 198–200°, acetate, m.p. 245–246° [lit. m.p. resp. 198.5–200°² and 245–246°³]. Mass, NMR, UV and IR spectral measurements corroborated the identifications. Eucalyptin has previously been isolated from Australian *Eucalyptus*^{2,4–6} and *Angophora*⁶ species.

* Part III in the series "The Chemistry of Brazilian Myrtaceae". For part II see ref. 1.

¹ O. R. GOTTLIEB, M. KOKETSU, L. LANNES MOURA, A. MOREIRA and M. TAVEIRA MAGALHÃES, *Anais Acad. Brasil. Ciênc.* **42** (Suppl.), 143 (1970).

² D. H. S. HORN, Z. H. KRANZ and J. A. LAMBERTON, *Austral. J. Chem.* **17**, 464 (1964).

³ A. C. JAIN, P. D. SARPAL and T. R. SESHADRI, *Indian J. Chem.* **4**, 481 (1966); *Chem. Abs.* **66**, 94881 (1967).

⁴ M. A. ELKEIY, M. DARWISH, F. M. HASHIM and K. A. ASSEM, *Bull. Fac. Pharm. (Cairo Univ.)* **3**, 109 (1964); *Chem. Abs.* **64**, 14160 (1966).

⁵ W. E. HILLIS and K. ISOI, *Phytochem.* **4**, 541 (1965).

⁶ J. A. LAMBERTON, *Austral. J. Chem.* **17**, 692 (1964).

Key Word Index—*Eugenia biflora*; *Myrcia citrifolia*; Myrtaceae; eucalyptin; C-methylflavone.

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RANUNCULACEAE

STIGMASTEROL AND HYDROCARBONS OF *CLEMATIS DRUMMONDII*

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Plant. *Clematis drummondii*, Torr. & Gray. *Source*. Hills near to Monterrey, N.L. Mexico. *Uses*. Unknown. *Previous work*. On sister species.¹

¹ J. J. WILLAMAN and B. G. SCHUBERT, *U.S. Dept. Agric. Tech. Rep.* No. 1234, p. 183, Washington (1961).