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VICENIN-1 AND -2 IN THE SEEDS OF TRIGONELLA FOENUMGRAECUM

HILDEBERT WAGNER, M. APRAMEYA IYENGAR and LUDWIG HÖRHAMMER
Institut für Pharmazeutische Arzneimittellehre der Universität München, München, Karlstrosse 29,
Germany

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Adamska and Lutomski¹ isolated four C-glycosylflavones from the seeds of Trigonella foenumgraecum L.; two were identified as vitexin and vitexin-7-glucoside, the third as an arabinoside of orientin or iso-orientin and the fourth as a diglycoside whose structure was not known. In order to clarify the exact structures of the unidentified compounds, samples of Trigonella seeds were obtained from the local market in Munich and flavonoids were isolated by methods described by Adamska and Lutomski.¹ Vitexin, saponaretin, homo-orientin and in good quantities vicenin-1 (apigenin 6-xyloside-8-glucoside) and vicenin-2 apigenin 6,8-di-C-glucoside) were isolated from the local samples and identified* by direct comparison with authentic materials (co-chromatography, UV and IR). The other compounds mentioned by Adamska and Lutomski could not be traced in our sample. Ecological factors may explain why vicenin-1 and vicenin-2 occur in our market sample and not in that of Adamska and Lutomski.

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¹ Adamska, M. and Lutomski, J. (1971) Planta Med. 20(3), 224.