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ASTERRIC ACID FROM *SCYTALIDIUM*

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Key Word Index—*Scytalidium*; Moniliales; Fungi; asterric acid; diphenyl ether.

Plant. *Scytalidium* sp. FY, American Type Culture Collection No. 16 675. *Source.* Isolated from Douglas-fir utility poles in Oregon, U.S.A. *Previous work.* Isolation and characterization of asterric acid from *Aspergillus terreus*,¹ *Oospora sulphurea-ochracea*,² *Penicillium frequentans*³ and *Chrysosporium* cf. *merdarium*.⁴

Present work. *Scytalidium* sp. FY was grown at 27° on Bacto malt extract agar for 1 month. The mycellium which was black at the end of the incubation period contained white crystals. These crystals were hand picked from the mycellium. Recrystallization from acetone gave 10 mg of the diphenyl ether, asterric acid. Found: C₁₇H₁₆O₈, m.p. 290–310°, *m/e* 348 (M⁺), significant peaks at *m/e* 330, 272, 271, 151. The NMR spectrum (CD₃COCD₃) (δ , ppm) shows signal attributable to: 2.19 (3H, *s*, ArCH₃), 3.78 (3H, *s*, OMe), 3.85 (3H, *s*, OMe), 5.95 (1H, *s*, ArH), 6.51 (1H, *s*, ArH), 6.95 (1H, *d*, ArH, *J* 3 Hz), 7.10 (1H, *d*, ArH, *J* 3 Hz). Comparison with an authentic sample (m.p., IR, UV, NMR, MS) established its identity.

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