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DROSOPHILIN, A METHYL ETHER FROM *MYCENA MEGASPORA*

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Key Word Index—*Mycena megaspora*; Basidiomycetes; Agaricales; fungi; drosophilin A methyl ether; 1,4-dimethoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrachlorobenzene.

Plant. Mycena megaspora Kauffman = *Mycena permixta* (Britzelm) Sacc. CBS 363·50. *Previous work.* Drosophilin A (4-methoxy-2,3,5,6-tetrachlorophenol) from *Psathyrella subatrata* (Batsch ex Fr.) Gill. = *Drosophila subatrata* (Batsch ex Fr.) Quél[1]. Drosophilin A *O*-methyl ether from *Fomes fastuosus* (Lév.) Cooke[2] and from *Phellinus robinae* (Murrill) A. Ames = *Fomes robinae* (Murrill) Sacc. et D. Sacc.[3, 4].

Present work. The presence of long white crystalline needles was observed in 6–10 months old cultures of *Mycena megaspora* grown on malt agar slants. About 1 mg of crystals was collected and purified by recrystallisation from acetone: mp 162–163°. The compound in EtOH showed aromatic absorptions in UV: λ_{max} 209, 225*sh*, 236*sh* 286 and 294 nm. The MS revealed molecular ion peaks characteristic for a substance with 4 Cl atoms: MW found; 273·91529. Calc. for $C_8H_6Cl_4O_2$: 273·91219 for ^{35}Cl. Fragmentation pattern identical with that of drosophilin A *O*-methyl ether[5]. The identity of the two compounds was confirmed by comparison of the natural sample (mmp, UV, IR[4]) with the synthetic one, prepared by methylation of tetrachlorohydroquinone with MeI and NaOMe in MeOH according to the method described[6] for the preparation of catenarin-6-methyl ether.

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SULPHATE ESTERS OF CAFFEYL- AND *p*-COUMARYLGLUCOSE IN FERNS

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Key Word Index—*Adiantum* spp.; Adiantaceae; *Pteridium aquilinum*; Dennstaedtiaceae; sulphate esters of caffeyl- and *p*-coumarylglucose.

Plants and sources. Adiantum species (listed below) from the living or herbarium collections of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and *Pteridium aquilinum* L. (Kuhn) from 17 locations throughout the world. Voucher specimens are held in the Herbarium at Kew. *Previous work.* Many ferns, including *Adiantum* species and *P. aquilinum*, have been shown to contain hydroxycinnamic acids [1,2] and related flavonoid compounds [1–5]. *Plant part examined.* Fronds (pinnae) from both fresh and herbarium material were examined. However, both compounds described were actually isolated from freshly harvested fronds. *Present work.* The fronds were extracted with 80% MeOH (*ca* 10 ml/g) and the concentrated extracts examined by 2-dimensional PC in *n*-BuOH–HOAc–H_2O (6:1:2) and 15% HOAc.

In 10 of the 58 species of *Adiantum* examined (*A. brasiliense* Raddi, *A. chiliense* Klf., *A. concinnum* H.B.Willd, *A. jordani* K., *A. lucidum* (Cav.)