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SHORT COMMUNICATION

THE OCCURRENCE OF PSILOTIN IN *TMESIPTERIS*

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WITH THE identification of psilotin, which is 6-[4′-β-D-glucopyranosyloxyphenyl]-5,6-dihydro-2-oxo-2H-pyran, as a major phenolic compound in *Psilotum nudum* (L.) Griseb.,[1] it was of interest to determine whether this compound occurs also in *Tmesipteris*, the only other genus in the Psilotales.

Through the courtesy of Dr. W. D. Jackson, Botany Department, the University of Tasmania, we obtained 267 g of fresh *Tmesipteris tannensis* Bernh. sens. lat. from which we have isolated 350 mg of psilotin.

The method of isolation was exactly that used for *Psilotum*[1] and the glucoside as well as its tetra-acetyl derivative were identified by mixed melting points and comparison of i.r. spectra with those of authentic compounds. In addition, the NMR spectrum of tetra-acetyl psilotin from *Tmesipteris* was shown to be identical with the spectrum obtained from the corresponding derivative of the isolate from *Psilotum*.

We have failed so far to identify this compound in representatives of the Lycopodophyta.

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