

SHORT COMMUNICATION

CONSTITUENTS OF BARK OF *MIMUSOPS ELENGI*

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Plant. *Mimusops elengi*—Sapotaceae.

Uses. Medicinal.^{1,2}

Previous work. Seed kernel,^{3,4,5} testa and mesocarp.⁶ On sister species *M. hexandra*.^{7,8}

Bark. Extr. EtOH; hexane soluble fraction: *Taraxerone* C₃₀H₄₈O, m.p. (α)_D, mxd m.p. i.r.; m.p. of DNP and bromo-derivative; reduction⁹ with LiAlH₄ to taraxerol, m.p. (α)_D, mxd m.p.,⁸ i.r.

Taraxerol C₃₀H₅₀O, m.p., (α)_D, mxd m.p.,⁸ i.r.; m.p. and (α)_D of benzoate; isomerization¹⁰ with HCl to β-amyrin, m.p., (α)_D, mxd m.p.,⁷ i.r.

α-Spinasterol C₂₉H₄₈O, m.p., (α)_D, mxd m.p.,⁷ i.r.; m.p. and (α)_D of acetate and benzoate.

Sodium salt of ursolic and betulinic acid (mixture m.p. > 330°): *Ursolic acid* C₃₀H₄₈O₃ m.p., (α)_D, mxd m.p., i.r. and co-TLC; *Betulinic acid* C₃₀H₄₈O₃, (α)_D, i.r.; m.p., (α)_D, mxd m.p. and i.r. of methylester, C₃₁H₅₀O₃; m.p., (α)_D of acetate and methylester acetate; m.p. of bromo-derivative, C₃₀H₄₇O₃Br.

Fatty acid ester of α-spinasterol, *d*³² 0.9428; *n*_D³⁸ 1.4985; (α)_D³⁷ + 20°; saponification with 20 per cent alcoholic KOH to *α-Spinasterol* C₂₉H₄₈O, m.p., (α)_D, i.r., mxd m.p.;⁷ m.p., (α)_D, mxd m.p. of benzoate; *Fatty acid mixture* (oleic and stearic), neutr. equiv. 291, i.v. (Wij's), 48; gave solid acid m.p. 68°.

Hexane insoluble fraction: *β-D-glucoside of β-sitosterol* C₃₅H₆₀O₆, m.p., (α)_D, mxd m.p.;⁷ m.p. and (α)_D of tetra-acetate,¹¹ C₄₃H₆₈O₁₀ and tetra-benzoate,¹¹ C₆₃H₇₆O₁₀; acid hydrolysis to glucose and β-sitosterol, m.p., (α)_D, i.r.

Aqueous fraction: *Quercitol* C₆H₁₂O₅, m.p., (α)_D, mxd m.p.;⁷ m.p. and (α)_D of benzoate.

Uncharacterized alkaloid reported in the past² could not be confirmed.

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