

SHORT COMMUNICATION

CHEMICAL INVESTIGATION OF ARGENTINE LICHENS—I.

TELOSCHISTES EXILIS (MICHAX) WAINIO

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Plant. *Teloschistes exilis* (Michaux) Wainio-Teloschistaceae, collected in Sierras Grandes, Córdoba Province, Argentina.

Uses. Folk medicine.

Previous work. *T. exilis*.¹ On sister species *T. flavicans*² and other lichens.^{3,4}

Lichen. Extracted in Soxhlet with benzene, chromatographed on magnesium carbonate-Hyflo Super-Cel (1:1 w/w).⁵

Parietin C₁₆H₁₂O₅ (m.p., mxd m.p., u.v., i.r. and NMR⁶): from benzene fractions and crystallization (benzene), 1 per cent yield.

Teloschistin C₁₆H₁₂O₆ (m.p., mxd m.p., u.v., i.r. and acetate): recovered by dissolving the magnesium carbonate (top pink-red band) in dilute HCl, extracting with Et₂O, evaporation to dryness and crystallization (benzene), 0.05 per cent yield.

TLC on Kieselgel G using CCl₄-methanol 99.5:0.5 (v/v): parietin (*R_f* 0.45), teloschistin (*R_f* 0.60) and on Kieselgel G (0.5 N oxalic acid instead of water), developed with benzene-chloroform 1:1 (v/v):⁷ parietin (*R_f* 0.60) and teloschistin (*R_f* 0.68).

*D-mannitol*⁸ C₆H₁₄O₆ (m.p., mxd m.p., i.r.): by concentration of an ethanolic extract of the lichen and recrystallization (ethanol), 1 per cent yield.

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