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SHORT COMMUNICATION

CONSTITUENTS OF THE BARK OF MARSDENIA VOLUBILIS

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Plant. Marsdenia volubilis T. Cook (Syn. Dregea volubilis Benth. ex. Hook.) (Family)— Asclepiadaceae.

Uses. Medicinal.1

Previous Work. Seeds,2 twigs and leaves,3 follicles.4

Bark. Extracted with petroleum ether, chloroform and alcohol.

Pet. ether ext. (Chromatographed, alumina); β-sitosterol C₂₉H₅₀O (m.p., mxd. m.p. and $[\alpha]_D$; m.p., mxd. m.p. and $[\alpha]_D$ of acetate).

Chf. ext. 2-Deoxy sugars, after mild acid hydrolysis, forming part of pregnane glycosides.²

Alcoholic ext. Kaempferol (extracted by ether from the alcoholic ext.) C₁₅H₁₀O₆ (m.p., mxd. m.p. and paper chromatography; m.p. and mxd. m.p. of acetate and methyl ether).

Kaempferol 3-galactoside (trifolin)⁵ (extracted by ethyl acetate from the alcoholic ext.) C₂₁H₂₀O₁₁ (m.p., mxd. m.p. and paper chromatography); hydrolysis with acid to kaempferol (m.p., mxd. m.p. and paper chromatography; m.p. and mxd. m.p. of acetate) and galactose (paper chromatography and m.p. and mxd. m.p. of p-nitrophenylhydrazone); methylation with diazomethane and acid hydrolysis to 3-hydroxy-5,7,4'-trimethoxyflavone (m.p.) and galactose.

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