Externally Accumulated Flavonoids in Three Mediterranean *Ononis* Species

Eckhard Wollenweber^{a*}, Marion Dörr^a, Diego Rivera^b, and James N. Roitman^c

Institut für Botanik der Technischen Universität Darmstadt, Schnittspahnstrasse 3,
 D-64287 Darmstadt, Germany. Fax: 0049-6151/163602.
 E-mail: Wollenweber@bio.tu-darmstadt.de

Departamento Biologia Vegetal, Facultad Biologia, Universidad de Murcia, Murcia, Spain. E-mail: drivera@um.es

^c USDA Western Regional Research Center, Albany, CA 94710, USA

* Author for correspondence and reprint requests

Z. Naturforsch. **58c**, 771–775 (2003); received July 21/August 15, 2003

The Mediterranean *Ononis* species, *O. fruticosa*, *O. natrix* subsp. *ramosissima* and *O. tridentata*, have been analyzed for their exudate flavonoids. More than 20 flavonoid aglycones were identified, some of which are rather rare natural compounds. One of them, namely hypolaetin-8,3',4'-trimethyl ether, had been found only once before. The results are presented in a table along with literature data, and the chemotaxonomic impact of the flavonoid patterns is discussed.

Key words: Ononis, Epicuticular Flavonoids, Chemosystematics