FARNESIFEROL C FROM THE ROOTS OF Ferula szovitsiana

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Continuing a study of the coumarin composition of representatives of the family Umbelliferae, we have investigated Ferula szowitsiana. The hydroxycoumarin umbelliferone has previously been isolated from the seeds of this plant [1]. A preliminary investigation of the roots (PC) showed that they contained other coumarins besides the hydroxycoumarin found in the seeds.

To isolate the coumarins, the air-dry comminuted roots collected in the environs of Nakhichevan' (Nakhichevan' ASSR) were extracted with methanol, the solvent was evaporated, the residue was diluted with water, and the coumarins were extracted with ether. The total coumarins, consisting of five components, were chromatographed on a column of silica gel. They were eluted successively with petroleum ether, benzene, and ether. Two coumarins were isolated in the individual state: (I), $C_{24}H_{30}O_4$, mp 85-86°C; and (II), $C_9H_6O_3$, mp 232-233°C.

Substances (I) and (II) were identified by their physicochemical constants, elementary compositions, PC analysis, and UV, IR, and NMR spectra as farnesiferol C and umbelliferone, respectively [2, 3].

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THE CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF GUMMOSIN

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Because of contradictory information on the configuration of substituents at C_9 of farmesiferol A and its analogs [1-6], we have studied gummosin (the epimer of farmesiferol A at C_3) by x-ray structural analysis.

The crystals investigated belong to the space group $P2_12_12_1$ of the rhombic system; a = 21.364 (1), b = 13.4754 (6), c = 7.1429 (3) Å, $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^{\circ}$, V = 2056.3 (3) Å³, M = 382.5, $d_{meas} = 1.23$; $d_{calc} = 1.24$ g/cm³, Z = 4. The noncentrosymmetrical structure was interpreted by the direct method using the Rentgen-75 program [7] based on 1644 reflections with $|F|^2 > 3\sigma$ measured on a four-circle automatic diffractometer (copper radiation, graphite monochromator) and it was refined in the block-diagonal anisotropic approximation to R = 0.089 by the program of Chekhlov et al. [8].

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