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SAPOGENINS OF *Eryngium macrocalyx*

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Continuing a study of plants of the genus *Eryngium* L. (eryngo), we have isolated the total saponins from the roots of *E. macrocalyx* Schrenk. We used the procedure employed for isolating the saponins from the roots of *E. octophyllum* Eug. Kor. [1].

Acid hydrolysis of the saponins isolated gave the combined sapogenins. The sapogenins were separated on a column of silica gel, from which they were eluted with a mixture of chloroform and ethyl acetate with a gradient of increasing concentrations of ethanol (from 1 to 10%). Two substances were obtained in the individual state. The first substance (mol. wt. 572), from its R_f values [0.58 in chloroform-ethyl acetate (2:1); 0.50 in benzene-chloroform-methanol (3:3:0.5); 0.67 in chloroform-methanol (11:1)] and melting point (220-223°C), the melting point of its acetate (113-116°C), its IR spectrum, and a mixed melting point, was identical with eryngiumgenin A, which we have isolated previously from *E. octophyllum* [2].

The second substance was identified on the basis of its R_f values, melting point, melting point of its acetate, and mass and IR spectra as oleanolid acid.

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