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PHENOLIC COMPOUNDS OF *Artemisia xerophytica*

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The present communication gives the results of an investigation of the phenolic compounds isolated from the epigeal part of *Artemisia xerophytica* Krash. growing in the Mongolian Peoples' Republic. The plants were collected by the resource-prospecting division of the Combined Soviet-Mongolian Comprehensive Biological Expedition in the South Gobi aimak in August, 1974, during the budding period.

The dry ground epigeal mass was extracted with 96% ethanol. After the ethanol had been distilled off, the viscous extract was treated with hot water and the aqueous solution was extracted successively with chloroform and ethyl acetate. The chloroform fraction of the extract was separated by chromatography on a column of silica gel. On elution with chloroform and chloroform-ethanol (9:1), substances (I) with mp 206-208°C and (II) with mp 254-255°C were isolated. On the basis of the results of an analysis of UV, IR, and NMR spectra and a comparison of them with literature information [1, 2], compound (I) was identified as pectolarigenin and (II) as cirsimaritin.

When the ethyl acetate fraction of the extract was separated on a column of polyamide, substances (II), (IV), and (V) were isolated.

On the basis of physical and chemical characteristics, substance (III) with mp 226-228°C was identified as 4',5,7-trihydroxy-3',6-dimethoxyflavone, which we have isolated previously from *A. frigida* [6].

Substance (IV) was identified as luteolin, and (V) as cynaroside.

By paper chromatography and chromatography on Silufol plates, triclin and esculetin were identified by comparison with authentic samples.

This is the first time that any of the compounds mentioned have been found in *Artemisia xerophytica*.

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