THE FLAVONES OF Mentha piperita OF THE VARIETIES SELENA AND SEREBRISTAYA

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O. I. Zakharova, A. M. Zakharov,

L. P. Smirnova, and V. M. Kovineva

In recent years, plant breeders of the Northern Caucasus ZOS VILR have obtained two promising varieties of *Mentha piperita* (peppermint): Selena (hybrid 24-77-1) Selebristaya (36-77-1), which are distinguished by high levels of essential oil (4.5-5%) and of menthol in it (60-70%) [1].

Continuing a study of the flavonoid composition of the varieties of peppermint growing in the Northern Caucasus, from the processing wastes of these varieties after the distillation of the essential oil, by column chromatogtaphy on silica gel L 100/160 μ of the chloroform fraction of an evaporated ethanolic extract we have isolated five flavonoid compounds from the Selena variety and four from the Serebristaya variety. Their structures were established on the basis of IR, UV, PMR, and mass spectra, and also by comparison with those of authentic samples that we had isolated previously from various species of mint [2, 3].

In peppermint of the Selena variety we detected nevadensin, hymenoxin, menthocubanone, 5-hydroxy-3',4',6,7-tetramethoxyflavone, and dimethylpseudachitin. The menthocubanone and dimethylpseudachitin were minor components.

In peppermint of the Serebristaya variety we found hymenoxin, menthacubanone, 5-hydroxy-3',4',6,7-tetramethoxyflavone, and dimethylpseudachitin. The dimethylpseudachitin was present in very small amount.

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