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Ancathia ingiaria Pall. ex Spreng. is a perennial plant of the family Asteraceae growing widely on the territory of Kazakhstan. The chemical composition of this plant has not previously been studied.

From the flowerheads and leaves of *A. igniaria* gathered in the Bakhty mountains, Karaganda province, KazSSR, by extraction with chloroform followed by chromatography of the total material so obtained on a column of type KSK silica gel (ratio of the total material to support 1:20) with petroleum ether-benzene (9:1, 4:1, and 1:1), four crystalline substances (I-IV) have been isolated: I) $C_{29}H_{56}O$, mp 136-138°C, $[\alpha]_D -36.5^\circ$; II) $C_{30}H_{50}O$, 198-200°C, $[\alpha]_D +90^\circ$; III) $C_{30}H_{50}O$, mp 212-214°C; IV) $C_{30}H_{50}O$, mp 217-218°C, $[\alpha]_D +51^\circ$.

By comparing the physicochemical constants obtained and the results of IR and PMR spectroscopy with literature information [1-4] and directly with authentic samples on a Chrom-5 chromatograph (sorbent SE-30, carrier gas nitrogen), substances (I)-(IV) were identified as β -sitosterol, β -amyrin, lupeol, and taraxasterol, respectively.

The roots of *A. igniaria* were extracted with hot acetone in a Soxhlet apparatus. The resin obtained after the evaporation of the solvent was chromatographed on a column of type KSK silica gel at a ratio of the total material to support of 1:20. When the column was eluted with petroleum ether and with petroleum-benzene (9:1, 4:1, and 1:1), β -sitosterol and three crystalline substances (V-VII) were isolated: V) $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$, mp 246-247°C, $[\alpha]_D +81.0^\circ$, VI) $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$, mp 206-207°C, $[\alpha]_D +38^\circ$; VII) $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$, mp 237-240°C, $[\alpha]_D +103^\circ$; these were identified, respectively, as the acetates of β -amyrin, of lupeol, and of taraxasterol from their physicochemical constants, the results of elementary analyses, their IR and PMR spectra, and by the acetylation of (II-IV).

β -Amyrin, lupeol, and taraxasterol acetate possess growth-regulating activity in relation to cell cultures of higher plants. β -sitosterol is a growth regulator of the dwarf pea [5].

LITERATURE CITED

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