Referees

During 1988 the Panel of Referees was enlarged by the joining of G. Bozler (Biberach/Riss), J. Lemli (Leuven), G.T. Tucker (Sheffield) and W.J.F. van der Vijgh (Amsterdam). We are very pleased with this increase in scientific potential.

We wish to express our thanks to all those who have assisted in reviewing papers and thus in maintaining the standards of Pharmaceutisch Weekblad Scientific edition. Apart from the members of our Panel of Referees, who are listed on the inside front cover, papers have been reviewed by J.R.B.J. Brouwers (Heerenveen), D.A. Doornbos (Groningen), B.F.H. Drenth (Groningen), F.M. Everaerts (Eindhoven), H.W. Frijlink (Groningen), J.C. Kutsch Lojenga (Arnhem), J.H. Proost (Groningen), P.J.M. Salemink (Oss), P.A.J. Speth (Nijmegen), P. Vermeij (Leiden) and P.A. van Zwieten (Amsterdam).

Erratum

In the article 'Screening of some essential oils for their activities on dermatophytes' by A.M. Janssen *et al.* (Pharm Weekbl [Sci] 1988;10:277-80) part of the text under *Methods* appeared in the wrong order. We therefore publish the text again as it should have been printed, with our sincere apologies to the authors.

SCREENING FOR ANTIFUNGAL ACTIVITY

For each essential oil a standard dilution of 40.0 ml was prepared by adding 0.4 ml of oil to a 1:400 (wt/vol) aqueous solution of polysorbate 80 (Brocacef, Maarssen, the Netherlands). The dilution was homogenized by shaking and, thereafter, applying ultrasonic energy for at least 20 min (ultrasonic bath SC 101-22; power 100 W; Sonicor Instrument Co., Farmingdale, USA). This procedure was repeated each time the standard dilution was used.

The standard dilution was further diluted (1:4, 1:8 and 1:16) by adding sterilized water, yielding oil dilutions 1:400, 1:800 and 1:1,600 (vol/vol) respectively. To 1.0 ml of these dilutions 1.0 ml of liquid Sabouraud agar medium (temperature about 50°C) was added, and the phases were mixed by a whirlmixer for 10 s. Subsequently slants were prepared. The medium was prepared by adding 5 g of mycological peptone (Oxoid, Basingstoke, UK) 10 g of agar (Juste, Madrid, Spain) and 20 g of glucose monohydrate (Brocacef) to 250 ml of water; if necessary, the pH was adjusted to 5.6 by addition of a 10% (wt/vol) solution of lactic acid. The medium was sterilized by heating to 120°C for 20 min.

For each of the test fungi an inoculum was prepared by suspending mycelial fragments in a 1:1,600 (wt/vol) aqueous solution of polysorbate 80. It had been shown earlier that this surfactant, in the concentrations used, did not influence the growth of the test organisms. The slants were inoculated with 20 µl of these suspensions and then incubated at 27°C. For each of the essential oil dilutions four slants were used. Slants containing 1.0 ml of sterilized water and 1.0 ml of Sabouraud agar medium were inoculated in order to serve as a blank. From the moment that growth of a test fungus was noticed in a blank, *i.e.* a slant without an essential oil dilution, it was studied over a period of 21 days whether fungal growth occurred in the slants containing the oil dilutions. The highest dilution showing no growth was called maximum inhibitory dilution (MID).