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We have previously [1] reported the isolation and identification of quercetin and hyperoside from Artemisia dracunculus L. (tarragon). In the present paper we give the results of a chemical study of four flavone substances.

To elucidate the nature of these substances we used alkaline cleavage, reduction, acid hydrolysis, \mathbf{R}_f values on paper chromatography with markers, and also the absence of depressions of melting points of mixtures with authentic samples.

From an ethereal extract by preparative paper chromatography $[C_6H_6-CH_3COOH-H_2O\ (125:72:3)]$ we isolated luteolin, $C_{15}H_{10}O_6$, mp 328-330°C (methanol) and kaempferol, $C_{15}H_{10}O_6$, mp 278-280°C (methanol).

When the aqueous extract after treatment with ether was chromatographed on polyamide, two substances were separated: bioquercetin, $C_{27}H_{30}O_{16}$, mp 210-203°C, * [α] $_D^{22}$ -20.9° (c 0.1, DMFA) and rutin, $C_{27}H_{30}O_{16}$, mp 183-186°C, [α] $_D^{20}$ -38° (c 0.1, methanol). With magnesium in hydrochloric acid, both glycosides gave a dark-red coloration, and with Wilson's reagent a yellow coloration; they reduce an ammoniacal solution of silver nitrate.

The products of acid hydrolysis (2% hydrochloric acid, 100°C, 1 h) yielded the aglycone-quercetin, mp 310-312°C (yield 50%). In the case of rutin, the hydrolyzate yielded by paper chromatography L-rhamnose and D-glucose, and in the case of bioquercetin,L-rhamnose and D-galactose. The order of attachment of the sugars was determined by stepwise hydrolysis (0.1% hydrochloric acid in 50% methanol, 100°C). Positive reactions with aniline phthalate and diphenylamine reagents show that the linkage of the sugars in the bioses was 1-6. The attachment of the bioses at C₃ of the glycosides was shown by the citric acid-zirconyl salt test.

By comparing the results obtained with literature data [2, 3], the substances isolated were identified as quercetin 3-[O- β -D-galactofuranosyl-(6 \rightarrow 1)- β -L-rhamnopyranoside] and quercetin 3-[O-D-gluco-furanosyl-(6 \rightarrow 1)- β -L-rhamnopyranoside].

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Kirov Kazakh State University. Translated from Khimiya Prirodnykh Soedinenii, No. 5, p. 629, September-October, 1970. Original article submitted June 29, 1970.

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^{*}Russian original - probably a misprint for 201-203°C (see [2]) - Publisher's Note.