

ALKALOIDS OF THE ROOTS OF *Cynoglossum pictum*

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We have shown previously [1] that the roots of *Cynoglossum pictum* Ait. contain two alkaloids. Their composition was not studied. We have investigated the roots of this species collected in June, 1970, on the southern shores of the Crimea in the region of the Baidar Gate.

The mixture of alkaloids obtained by dichloroethane extraction was separated on a column (d 2.5, h 12 cm) of alumina (Brockmann activity grade III) [2]. The alkaloids were eluted with mixtures of chloroform and methanol in proportions changing successively from 99 : 1 to 90 : 10. This gave two bases with R_f 0.80 and 0.09 in the chloroform-methanol (9 : 1) system.

The base with R_f 0.80 yielded a crystalline picrate with mp 98-100°C identical with the picrate of cynoglossophine-heliosupine [3].

Assuming that the second alkaloid was a N-oxide, we reduced it with zinc dust in 5% sulfuric acid. The reduced base had R_f 0.80 in the chloroform-methanol (9 : 1) system and 0.54 in the benzene-diethyl ether-methanol (10 : 5 : 2) system. On chromatography with alkaloid "markers," the R_f value of this alkaloid coincided with that of cynoglossophine-heliosupine under the same conditions.

Thus, we are the first to have established that the roots of *Cynoglossum pictum* Ait. contain two alkaloids - cynoglossophine-heliosupine and its N-oxide.

LITERATURE CITED

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