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OLEANOLIC ACID AND HEDERAGENIN FROM THE STEMS OF *Cephalaria transsylvanica*

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In a study of the chemical composition of the stems of *Cephalaria transsylvanica* (L.) Schrad. (family Dipsacaceae), collected in the full-flowering period in the Dzhaililabad region of the Azerbaidzhan SSR, in addition to flavonoids and other substances we detected triterpene compounds in them [1, 2].

The triterpenoids were extracted from the raw material with chloroform. The chloroform extract was concentrated, treated with activated carbon, and filtered. The presence of two triterpenoids A and B in the filtrate was established by thin-layer chromatography in various solvent systems. The separation of these triterpenoids in the individual form was performed on a column of Al₂O₃ (activity grade II) in the ethyl acetate-benzene (5:2) system.

After repeated recrystallization from methanol, triterpenoid A had mp 304-308°C, $[\alpha]_D^{20} +80^\circ$ (c 1.0; chloroform), and B had mp 324-326°C, $[\alpha]_D^{22} +76^\circ$ (c 1.2; chloroform).

On the basis of their physicochemical properties, IR spectral characteristics, and comparative chromatographic studies with markers, it was established that triterpenoid A was oleanolic acid and B hederagenin.

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