

ANDROMEDOTOXIN IN RHODODENDRONS

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From leaf-bearing shoots of Rhododendron Adamsii Rehd. (Adams rhododendron) by extraction with methanol and subsequent precipitation of impurities with lead acetate according to the method described by Takemoto and Meguri [1, 2] we have isolated a substance with mp 256-259° C. It was identified from its IR spectrum, cm^{-1} : 1243 and 1730 (CH_3COO), and 3400 (OH), and the melting point of its acetylation product as andromedotoxin, grayanotoxin I.

The substance gave no depression of the melting point with the andromedotoxin which we obtained from the flowers of Rh. luteum Sweet. (yellow rhododendron).

By the paper chromatography [4] of preparatively purified ethanolic extracts of rhododendron in a methanol-chloroform-water (1:7:2) system, andromedotoxin was detected in leaf-bearing shoots of Rh. mucronulatum Turcz. and Rh. ledebourii Pojark., and its presence was confirmed in leaf-bearing shoots of Rh. aureum Georgi., in the leaves of Rh. ponticum L., and in the flowers and leaves of Rh. luteum Sweet.

REFERENCES

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