

PICTUMINE - A NEW ALKALOID FROM *Cynoglossum pictum*

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We have previously [1] reported the isolation from the epigeal part of *Cynoglossum pictum* Ait. of five individual alkaloids, four of which were identified as cynoglossophine-heliosupine and echinatine and their N-oxides.

We have studied some properties of the fifth alkaloid, with the composition $C_{14}H_{23}O_4N$, mp 158-159°C (acetone), having R_f 0.75 in the chloroform-methanol (9:1) system and 0.71 in the benzene-ether-methanol (10:5:2) system on chromatography in a thin layer (0.5 mm) of alumina (activity grade III according to Brockmann) [2]. Mol. wt. 269.38. The alkaloid is readily soluble in water, methanol, ethanol, benzene, acetone, and chloroform, and is insoluble in petroleum ether and diethyl ether.

The IR spectrum, taken on an IKS-14A instrument makes it possible to assume that the substance contains an ester grouping conjugated with a double bond (bands at 1705 and 1720 cm^{-1}), a grouping of the

heliotridane series $\begin{array}{c} | \\ -C- \\ | \\ -C-N-C- \\ | \end{array}$ (1250 and 1280 cm^{-1}), and a tertiary hydroxyl (1160 cm^{-1}) [3].

Analysis of the results obtained shows that the properties of the alkaloid isolated differ from those of the alkaloids described in the literature, and we have therefore called it pictumine.

LITERATURE CITED

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