

## PHENOLIC COMPOUNDS OF *Rhododendron ungernii*

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The preparation of a material possessing a hypotensive action from *Rhododendron ungernii* Trautv. (family Ericaceae) has been reported previously [1]. The present work was devoted to a study of the phenolic substances of the leaves of this species. The raw material was collected on Mount Mtirala (Adzhar ASSR) in August.

The comminuted raw material was steeped in 80% ethanol, the extract was evaporated to eliminate the solvent, the residue was diluted with water, the chlorophyll and other substances insoluble in water were separated by filtration, and the filtrate was additionally purified with chloroform. The phenolic substances were extracted with ethyl acetate from the aqueous residue purified in this way. After the solvent had been distilled off, the residue was transferred to a column of polyamide (Kapron) sorbent, which was washed first with chloroform and then with chloroform containing ethanol in increasing concentrations from 5 to 30%. The pure chloroform eluates yielded scopoletin and umbelliferone, the chloroform eluates containing 12-14% of ethanol gave quercetin and quercetin O- $\alpha$ -L-rhamnofuranoside, and those with 15-18% of ethanol gave hyperoside. An increase in the concentration of ethanol in the chloroform to 20% led to the elution of a catechin.

The substances obtained were identified on the basis of the physicochemical properties both of the initial compounds and of their transformation products, by UV and IR spectroscopy and by a direct comparison with authentic samples.

### LITERATURE CITED

1. É. P. Kemertelidze and V. S. Bostoganashvili, Sb. Tr. TNIKhFI, 8, 25 (1956).

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