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Previously [1-3], perforine, haplophyllidine, evoxine, haplopine, anhydroperforine, perfamine, 7-iso-pentenyloxy- γ -fagarine, and skimmianine have been isolated from the seeds of Haplophyllum perforatum, collected in the Samarkand oblast. We have investigated the epigeal part of this plant collected in the stage of incipient fruit-bearing in July, 1974.

An aqueous extract of the comminuted epigeal part (150 kg), using KU-1 cation-exchange resin, gave ethereal and chloroform fractions of the extract. Each of these fractions was separated into basic (56; 61.3 g), acidic (4.7; 2.56 g) and neutral (110; 29.4) fractions. Treatment of the fractions with acetone followed by chromatography of the mother solutions on alumina gave: haplopine the case of the acid fraction; skimmianine (0.06% on the weight of the dry raw material), dictamnine [4], folimine, N-methyl-2-phenyl-4-quinolone, graveoline, foliosidine (0.01%), dubinidine [5], glycoperine [6], and a base (I) with mp 138-139°C from the basic fraction; and perforamine (0.005%) [3], haplamine (0.008%), and the lignan eudesmin (0.06%) [2] from the neutral fraction (the alkaloids of which the amounts are not shown were present in amounts of less than 0.002%). Thus, the epigeal part contained 0.1% of total alkaloids.

The alkaloids were identified by direct comparison with authentic samples. The physicochemical properties of base (I) coincided with those published for platydesmine [7]. A direct comparison of (I) with a sample of platydesmine kindly provided by M. F. Grundon (Southerm Ireland) established their identity.

The facts given above show that the mixture of alkaloids from the epigeal part differ from those of the seeds both qualitatively and quantitatively. This is the first time that platydesmine has been detected in plants of the genus Haplophyllum and the first time that dictamnine, graveoline, N-methyl-2-phenyl-4-quinoline, folimine, dubinidine, and foliosidine have been found in H. perforatum.

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