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## GLYCOSIDES OF Caltha polypetala

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A number of plants of the genus *Caltha* have been investigated previously for their saponin content. The majority of species studied contained triterpene glycosides [1, 2]. A saponin of steroid nature was found in one of them [3].

We have investigated the hypogeal organs of *Caltha polypetala* Hochst. (great marsh marigold) collected in June in Bakuriani (Georgian SSR). By TLC on silica gel we detected no less than 7 glycosides of triterpene nature in a methanolic extract, and we have called them in order of increasing polarity polypetalosides A, B, C, D, E, F, and G. After appropriate purification, and also repeated partition chromatography on a column of silica gel, from the total glycosides we isolated two individual components: polypetaloside C with mp 220-222°C,  $[\alpha]_D^2$ ° +21° (c 1.1; methanol), and polypetaloside G with mp 200-202°C,  $[\alpha]_D^2$ ° 0° (c 1.5; methanol).

The complete acid hydrolysis of both glycosides yielded a crystalline genin with mp 326-328°C;  $[\alpha]_D^{2^\circ}$  +79.2° (c 1.1; pyridine), identified as hederagenin [4], while the carbohydrate moieties were each found to include D-glucose, L-arabinose, and L-rhamnose. A rough comparison of the glycosides that we have obtained with kalopanax saponin B [5] and leontoside D [6], which have the same aglycone and set of monosaccharides, did not confirm their identity.

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