# Alkaloid Screening of Some Saudi Arabian Plants

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## 사우디아라비아產植物의 알카로이드檢索

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The alkaloid fraction was separated from the methanol extract of 13 Saudi Arabian plants. The Rf values of the spots appeared on TLC (silicagel G) plates were calculated with each alkaloid fraction. The results are presented in this paper.

The medicinal plants resources of the Kingdom of Soudi Arabia was investigated as a part of the exploitation program of the plants growing in deserts<sup>1)</sup>. Fourty three plant samples were collected from Eastern Najd (Riyadh, Horaimela) South Hijaz (Jedda, Taif) and oceanic dessert areas and results of the phytochemical<sup>2)</sup> and biological<sup>3)</sup> screening were already reported.

The alkaloid fraction was separated from the methanol extract of the plant which showed positive reactions to alkaloid detecting agents (Wagner, Mayer and Hager's reagents).

This paper reports the Rf values of the spots appeared on TLC (silicagel G) plates with each alkaloid fraction. Three different developing solvent systems were used and several different alkaloid detecting methods were applied.

## Experimental

#### Prepartion of the alkaloid fraction

Plants were air dried and extracted with 90% methanol. The extract were concentrated in vacuo to dryness. The dried extract was dis-

solved in 2N—HCl solution on a water bath. After cooling to room temperature, a small amount of celite was added. This mixture was briefly shaken and filtered. The filtrate was then made alkaline to litmus paper with 5% NH<sub>4</sub>OH and extracted twice with chloroform. The chloroform solution was combined and dried with anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was evaporated under the vacuo.

### Preliminary alkaloid tests

The alkaloid fraction of the extract was dissolved in 2N—HCl and divided into three portions. The following reagents were added to each portion. If the addition of either reagent produced turbidity or precipitation the result was considered positive.

- 1) Wagner's reagent: dissolve 1.358g of HgCl<sub>2</sub> in 60ml of water. Dissolve 5.0g of KI in 10ml of water. Mix the two solutions and add water to make 100ml.
- 2) Mayer's reagent: dissolve 2.0g of KI in 5ml of water. Add 1.27g of iodine, stir until dissolved, and add water to make 100ml.
  - 3) Hager's reagent (saturated aqueous picric

Table I. Rf Values of Alkaloidal Components of Saudi Arabian Plants.

D	Used		Rf Values		Preliminary alkaloid test	y alkalo	id test	- A 11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Serial
rialit mailes	part	внн	ВН	AB	Wagner.	Mayer.	Hager	Aikaioids previously reported	No.
Apocynaceae									
Rhazya stricta	hb.	0.04(I,D)	0.15(F,I,D)	0.03(I,D)	+	+	+	Rhazine4, Rhazinine5,6)	S - 15
		0.16(L,D)	0.19(F,I,D)	0.05(F,I,D)				Quebrachamine"	
		0.19(F,I,D)	0.26(F,I,D)	0.08(I,D)				1, 2-dihydrospidospermidine"	
		0.34(F,I,D)	0.31(I,D)	0.11(F,I,D)				Aspidospermidine"	
		0.37(I,D)	0.37(F,I,D)	0.13(I,D)				Eburnamonine"	
		0.41(F,I,D)	0.42(F,D)	0.29(D)				Eburnamenine"	
		0.47(I,D)	0.46(F,I,D)	0.33(F,I,D)				Sewarine <sup>14)</sup>	
		0.53(F,I,D)	0.52(F,D)	0.38(F,I,D)				Rhazidne <sup>15)</sup>	
		0.57(F,I,D)	0.56(F)	0.45(F,I,D)				1, 2-Dehydroaspidospermidine18)	
		0.73(I,D)	0.59(I,D)	0.55(D)				Vincadifformine <sup>16)</sup>	
		0.84(F)	0.80(F)	0.65(D)				Rhazinaline <sup>17)</sup>	
				0.69(F,I,D)				Geissoschizine <sup>17)</sup>	
				0.84(F,I,D)					
Asclepiadaceae									
Leptadenia pyrotechnica	Wp.	0.11(F)	0.10(F,I,D)	0.03(I)	+	1	+		S-37
		0.13(I,D)	0.16(1,D)	0.07(I,D)					
		0.15(I,D)	0.53(F)	0.72(F)					
		0.18(F)	0.57(I,D)	0.96(I,D)					
		0.60(F)	0. 63(I)	0.80(F,I)					
		0.82(F,I,D)	0.68(F)						
Pergularia tomentosa	hb.	0.46(F)	0.45(F)	0.47(I)	+	+	+		S-12
		0.51(F,I)	0.49(F)	0.58(I,D)					
		0.64(F,I,D)	0.52(I,D)	0.66(F)					
		0.80(F,I)	0.56(F)	0.72(D)					
			0.66(F,1,D)	0.78(F,I)					
			0.72(D)						
			0.80(D)						

			Rf Values		Preliminary alkaloid test	rv alkale	oid test		
Plant names	used	ВНН	ВН	AB	Wagner.	Mayer.	Hager	Alkaloids previously reported	No.
Chenopodiaceae Beta valgaris	If.	0.23(F)	0.20(F,D)	0. 08(F,I) 0. 22(I,D)	+	l	+1	Vulgaxanthin <sup>8)</sup> Allantoin <sup>9)</sup>	S —29
		0.38(I,D) 0.82(F)	0.52(F) 0.80(I,D)	0.88(F,I,D)					
Salsola sp.	wp.	0.98(I,D) 0.31(F) 0.50(F)	0.55(I,D) 0.74(I)	0.80(I,D)	+	l	+	Salsoline <sup>10)</sup> Salsolidine <sup>11)</sup> Calycotonine <sup>12)</sup>	S —43
		0.75(I) 0.89(I)							
Cruciferae Farsetia aegyptica	wb.	0.28(F) 0.48(F) 0.96(F,D)	0.65(F) 0.85(F)	0.30(F) 0.81(I)	+1	ļ	+1		S —34
Gramineae Aeluropus littoralis	wp.	0. 27 (F) 0. 43 (F) 0. 49 (F) 0. 59 (I,D) 0. 77 (F,I) 0. 96 (F,I)	0.00(F) 0.19(F) 0.43(I,D) 0.63(F,I)	0.25(F) 0.39(I) 0.79(F,I)	+1	l .	+		S – 23
Labiatae Lavandula coronopifolia	wp.	0.11(F,I,D) 0.22(F,I,D) 0.84(F)	0.00(F) 0.13(F) 0.20(F)	0.00(F) 0.26(F) 0.40(F)	+	l	+		S —21
Salvia spinosa	wp.	0.98(I,D) 0.19(I,D) 0.23(F) 0.32(F) 0.45(F)	0.62(F) 0.02(F) 0.19(I,D) 0.40(F) 0.43(I)	0.74(F) 0.00(F,D) 0.15(F) 0.20(1,D) 0.23(I)	+	1	+		S40
		0.90(F)	0.65(F)	0.41(I,D)					

SII	nsed		Rf Values		Prelimin	Preliminary alkaloid test	oid test	Alleaforde oversioned in variated	Serial
Flant names	part	внн	BH	AB	Wagner.	Mayer.	Hager	nikaiojus pieviousiy iepoiicu	
				0.44(1)					
				0.78(F)					
				0.84(I,D)					
Malvaceae		1 1							
Abutilon pannosum	.qų	0.63(1,D)	0.48(1,D)	0.55(I,D)	+	+	+1		S-22
		0.97(F,I,D)	0.71(F)	0.72(F,I)					
Papaveraceae				0.83(1)				•	i
Argemone mexicana	hb.	0.11(F)	0.28(F,I,D)	0.02(F)	+	+	+	Protopine <sup>13)</sup>	S-25
		0.15(F)	0.35(F,I,D)	0.15(F,I,D)				Allocriptopine <sup>12)</sup>	
		0.46(F,I,D)	0.46(F,I,D)	0.26(F,I,D)				Berberin <sup>18)</sup>	
		0.56(1,D)	0.93(F,1)	0.78(F)				Sanguinarine <sup>13)</sup>	
		0.59(F,I,D)		0.85(F)				Chelerythrine <sup>13)</sup>	
		0.98(1)						Coptisine <sup>13)</sup>	
								Cryptopine <sup>18)</sup>	
		*.						Norsanquinarine <sup>19)</sup>	
								Dihydrosanquinarine <sup>19)</sup>	
Plumbaginaceae									
Limonium axillare	wp.	0.63(I,D)	0.35(F)	0.15(F)	+	. (	+		S-38
		0.80(F,I)	0.47(I,D)	0.70(I)					
		0.85(1,D)	0.66(I)	0.77(I,D)					
			0.75(I,D)	0.86(F)					٠
			0.83(F)						
Solanaceae									
Lycium arabicum	hb.	0.32(1,D)	0.15(I,D)	0.63(F)	+	l	+		S-10
		0.42(F)	0.24(I,D)	0.73(I,D)					
		0.52(F)	0.36(F,I,D)	0.78(F,I,D)					
		0.82(1,D)	0.83(I,D)	0.84(I,D)					
		0.89(F,I,D)	0.87(F,D)						
			0.91(I,D)						
							}		

Adsorbent: Silicagel G. Developers: BHH, BuOH—H<sub>2</sub>O—AcOH(5:4:1); AB, 0.1% Ammonia—BuOH(1:1); BH, BuOH—2% HCl (96:20) Detection: D, Dragendorff's reagent; I, Iodine; F, Fluorescence

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acid solution)

## Detection of spots on TLC plates

The TLC plates were prepared with silica gel (Kieselgel G Nach Stahl) with 0.25mm thickness and activated at 105°C for 30 minutes. Three different developing solvent systems were adapted.

- 1) BHH system; BuOH:H<sub>2</sub>O:AcOH=5:4:1
- 2) AB system; 0.1% Ammonia-BuOH=1:1
- 3) BH system; BuOH:2% HCl=96:20 Three different detecting methods were applied.
- 1) spray the TLC plate with Dragendorff's reagent
  - 2) develop the spots with iodine
  - 3) develop the spots with fluorescence

The Rf values were calculated following the usual method. (Received Aug. 15, 1977)

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