

cooling, afforded needles (35 mg). This material, after three more crystallisations from the same solvent, gave salicylic acid as colourless shiny needles, m.p. and mixed m.p. with authentic salicylic acid, 161–162°C. It produced an identical spot (R_f 0.37) with an authentic sample of salicylic acid run side by side on silica gel TLC plates in benzene–methanol–n-butyl acetate (10:3:3).

5-Hydroxy-2',7,8-trimethoxyflavone. It was synthesised according to the procedure described in the literature⁵ as orangeyellow needles, m.p. 190–191°C; mixed m.p. with andrographin was undepressed.

5-Acetoxy-2',7,8-trimethoxyflavone. 5-Hydroxy-2',7,8-trimethoxyflavone (52.8 mg) m.p. 190–191°C, was acetylated according to the method described in the literature¹ to give 5-acetoxy-2',7,8-trimethoxyflavone as white fluffy needles (36 mg), m.p. 155–156°C (lit.,⁵ m.p. 156–157°C); mixed m.p. with andrographin acetate was undepressed.

References

1. M. Qudrat-i-Khuda, M. Erfan Ali and Omar Faruq, *Sci. Res.*, **1**, 223 (1964).
2. T.R. Govindachari, B.R. Pai, M. Srinivasan and P.S. Kalyanaraman, *Indian J. Chem.*, **7**, 306 (1969).
3. A.H. Blatt, *Organic Synthesis* (J. Wiley, New York, 1967), thirteenth printing, vol II, p. 193.
4. L. Jurd, *The Chemistry of Flavonoid Compounds* (Pergamon, Oxford, 1962), p. 107.
5. L. Farkas and M. Ngórádi, *Chem. Ber.*, **98**, 164 (1965).
6. O. Geol, N. Narasimhachari and T.R. Seshadri, *Proc. Indian Acad. Sci.*, **39A**, 254 (1954).
7. Sir Ian Heilbron and H.M. Bunbury, *Dictionary of Organic Compounds* (Eyre & Spottiswoode, E & F.N. Spon, London, 1965), fourth edition, vol. V, p. 2902.
8. T.R. Govindachari, P.C. Parthasarathy, B.R. Pai and P.S. Subramaniam, *Tetrahedron*, **21**, 3237 (1965).