[Journal of Ethnopharmacology, 64,195-210(1999)]

[Lab. of Herbal Garden]

Traditional Medicine in Turkey 9: Folk Medicine in North-west Anatolia.

Erdem YESHILADA, Ekrem SEZIK, Gisho HONDA, Yoshihisa TAKAISHI, Yoshio TAKEDA and Toshihiro TANAKA*

Folk medicine northwest Anatolia has been studied and 116 remedies prepared from 67 plant and 8 animal species are described, each with vernacular names, methods of preparation and traditional uses.

[Natural Medicines, **53**, 130-133(1999)]

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Pharmacognostical Studies on the Genus *Datura* Plants (2) Variation of Alkaloid Contents in the Seeds.

Yukio NORO, Youichi HISATA, Kazuyo OKUDA, Tomoko KAWAMURA and Toshihiro TANAKA*

The alkaloid contents in the seeds of nine species of the genus *Datura* were measured by GC. The ratio of the hyoscyamine content to the scopolamine content, and their amount were compared. The seeds of *D.metel*, *D.meteloides* and *D.fastuosa* contained more scopolamine. However, in *D.innoxia*, the hyoscyamine content was higher than or equal to the scopolamine content. *D.stramonium* and its varieties, var. *tatula*, var. *inermis*, var.*godronii*, and *D.ferox* contained mainly hyoscyamine, and their ratios of the hyoscyamine contents to the scopolamine contents were about the same. The results agree with those on the ovaries alkaloid and the previously reported. It was shown that the section *Datura* plants differ from the section *Stramonium* plants in the alkaloid composition of the seeds.

[Natural Medicines, 53, 178-182(1999)]

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Physical and Chemical Features of Vietnamese and Chinese Cinnamon Barks on the Market.

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The amounts of six essential oils, total ash and acid-insoluble ash and the loss of weight on drying of commercial cinnamon barks from China and Vietnam were determined by the provisions under the General Rule for Crude Drugs of the Pharmacopoeia of Japan. Vietnamese cinnamon barks were higher in the amount of total essential oils, especially of Corrine, than Chinese ones, Of Vietnamese cinnamon barks, Mien Nam cinnamon samples can be distinguished from Yen Ab samples by the presence of eugenol. The total ash content of Vietnamese cinnamon barks was higher than that of Chinese barks, but the acid-insoluble ash content of the Vietnamese barks was lower, indicating Vietnamese barks do not contain much external inorganic impurities.

[Natural Medicines, **53**, 183-197(1999)]

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Pharmacognostical Studies of Catalpae Fructus (2) Botanical Origin of Commercial Crude Drugs from China.

Tomoko KWAMURA, Youichi HISATA, Yazuyo OKUDA, Yukio Noro, Yoshihisa HIGUCHI and Toshihiro TANAKA*

According to the Pharmacopoeia of Japan, the crude Drug Catalpae Fructus is fruit of *Catalpa ovata* and *C. bungei*. They are distinguished from each other by the infructescence and the pedicel length. *C.bungei*, which does not grow in Japan, has simple infructescence of once branching with a few fruits, and with long pedicel of length over 3 cm, whereas *C. ovata*, whose fruits has been used for medicinal purposes in Japan, has plural infructescences of thrice branching, many fruits, and short pedicel of length about 1 cm. Short pedicel and branching stalks, were found in the fourteen commercial samples imported from China. The long pedicel was not detected. Accordingly, the Chinese commercial samples assayed in the study were shown to be derived not from the fruit of *C.bungei*.