

Flavonoids of *Oenothera* (Onagraceae) in Taiwan

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Abstract

A survey of foliar flavonoids in four species of *Oenothera* (Onagraceae) from Taiwan revealed ten flavonol-O-glycosides based on kaempferol, quercetin, and myricetin. Each species can be distinguished by its own characteristic complement of these compounds. Intra-specific variation in flavonoid profile is apparent in *O. stricta* and *O. tetraptera* when literature is consulted and compared. Our analyses on the flavonoids of *O. glazioviana* and *O. laciniata* represent first reports.

Introduction

Oenothera is an Onagraceous genus of some 123 species native to North and South America (Stubbe & Raven, 1979). Four species have been introduced to Taiwan. Except for *O. laciniata*, which is naturalized in northern coast of Taiwan (Peng & Huang, 1986), plants of *Oenothera* usually occur in middle elevations of this island as escapes from cultivation (Raven, 1977). As part of the comprehensive survey of the flavonoids of

the Onagraceae in Taiwan, we report the isolation and identification of ten flavonol-O-glycosides based on kaempferol, quercetin, and myricetin in *Oenothera*.

Materials and Methods

Foliar flavonoids of four species of *Oenothera*, namely *O. glazioviana* Mich., *O. stricta* Ledeb. ex Link, *O. laciniata* Hill, and *O. tetraptera* Cav., collected from Taiwan were studied. Voucher information is provided in Table 1.

Experimental techniques for

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