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## Synthesis of a hydrophilic derivative of ecdysterone and development of its water-soluble form

The article presents materials on the isolation of ecdysterone substance from medicinal plant raw materials *Silene wolgensis* (Hornem.) Bess. ex. Spreng (Volga smolyovka). For the first time, the optimization of the method for ecdysterone substance obtaining from the aboveground part of the superconcentrator of phytoecdysteroids of the *Silene wolgensis* was carried out and based on it a pilot industrial regulation for the isolation of ecdysterone and an encapsulated water-soluble form were developed. It was found, that the interaction of the substrate molecule and the clathrate forms a substance that can dissolve in water and other more polar solvents, thereby solving the problem of bioavailability of the main hydrophobic drug. The method developed for producing the substance ecdysterone and its water-soluble encapsulated with  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin form was implemented into production at the Karaganda pharmaceutical plant. NMR studies of changes in the chemical shifts of protons of substrates and receptors illustrated that ecdysterone interacts with  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin to form supramolecular inclusion complexes with stoichiometric composition of 1:1.

**Keywords:** ecdysterone, optimization of isolation, *Silene wolgensis*,  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin, encapsulation, water solubility, NMR, supramolecular complexes.

### Introduction

Ecdysteroids (ecdysones or polyoxysteroids) regulate the molting processes of insects and crustaceans [1]. Additionally, they are also isolated from plant sources [2, 3]. To date, more than 500 ecdysteroids are known, among which ecdysterone (20-hydroxyecdysone or 20E) is found in plants in large quantities.

In modern conditions, the problem of developing new drugs and biologically active food supplements containing minor components of phytoecdysteroids is becoming paramount to correct the body's adaptive reactions under stress, exposure to unfavorable technogenic and environmental factors, and high physical and emotional stress. Ecdysteroids have a wide spectrum of biological activity, are non-toxic and do not possess androgenic properties.

Ecdysteroids are found in plants, as a rule, in trace and minor amounts — 0.001–0.1 %, but there are also superproducer species containing up to 3.0 % [4]. Phytochemical methods for the isolation of phytoecdysteroids and ecdysteroid preparations are usually traditional. For their production, such basic methods are used as grinding of raw materials, extraction, separation of solid and liquid phases, evaporation of the extract, isolation and purification of the target product [5].

The main problem in the development and creation of phytopreparations based on secondary plant metabolites is their water solubility and bioavailability. The rate and degree of bioavailability of a pharmaceutically active substrate directly depends on its water solubility and, therefore, on the ability of the drug to penetrate through obstacles to the intended target organ. However, it should be noted that along with the high and diverse biological activity and low toxicity of many natural compounds, the issues of water solubility of phytopreparations based on them, in most cases remain open. The water solubility of the substance and drugs can be increased by grinding them to nanoparticles, microemulsions, solid dispersions, or by extrusion. An alternative method to increase the solubility of phytopreparations is to obtain water-soluble cyclodextrin inclusion complexes (CIC) with many lipophilic poorly soluble compounds [6]. The main distinguishing feature of cyclodextrins (CD) is their ability to hydrophobic binding of the “guest” molecule in its cavity (encapsulation) in an aqueous medium.

A promising source of raw materials for producing the substance of ecdysterone is a plant of the genus *Silene* L. of the *Caryophyllaceae* family. This genus includes about 500 species, 62 of which grows in Kazakhstan (12 endemic species) in almost all floristic regions [7–9]. Currently, *Silene wolgensis* (Hornem.)

Bess. ex. Spreng (*Caryophyllaceae* Juss. family), widespread in Central Kazakhstan, attracts special attention as another type of super-concentrator (1.76 %), as well as an alternative and promising industrially significant source of biologically active substances, primarily 20E [10].

The aim of this work is to obtain a water-soluble bioactive supramolecular complex based on 20-hydroxyecdysone and its commercially available clathrate with  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin in a stoichiometric ratio of 1:1, followed by the subsequent development of a technology for the production of a substance for pharmaceutical purposes. One of the important tasks in the production of medicinal substances is standardization, thus, using the physicochemical parameters of the study, a number of works were conducted on which criteria for the inclusion complex of 20E with  $\beta$ -CD were set, on the basis of which emphasis will be placed in the production of a water-soluble adaptogen in industrial scales.

The physicochemical properties and structural features of the obtained water-soluble complex of ecdysterone with  $\beta$ -CD were studied applying modern physicochemical methods, namely HPLC, UV-, IR-,  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectroscopy, on the basis of which data on complex formation are presented.

### Experimental

$\beta$ -Cyclodextrin (99 %) produced by Fluka was used in this work.

$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded by the spectrometer Jeol JNM-ECA 400 (399.78 and 100.53 MHz on nuclei  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$ , respectively) in solutions of DMSO- $d_6$  CDCl $_3$  and D $_2$ O at room temperature. Chemical shifts were measured relative to the residual signals of the protons or carbon atoms of the solvent.

The melting points of the isolated and obtained samples were determined on a Boetus instrument. IR spectra were recorded on an Avatar 360 ESP spectrometer in KBr pellets. UV absorption spectra were recorded on an Agilent Technologies "CARY 60 UV-Vis" spectrometer.

The purity of the isolated compound was controlled by thin layer chromatography (TLC) on Sorbfil plates using a chloroform-ethanol 60:40 system, as well as by HPLC (purity 97.85 % and higher).

Quantitative analysis of studied samples was carried out by high-pressure reversed-phase HPLC on a Hewlett Packard Agilent 1100 Series instrument in isocratic mode under the following conditions:

- analytical column filled with Zorbax SB-C $_{18}$  sorbent, 4.6\*150 mm, with a particle size of 5 microns;
- mobile phase composition: 10 % isopropyl alcohol;
- detection at a wavelength of 254 nm;
- column temperature — room temperature;
- the speed of the mobile phase — 0.75 ml / min;
- the volume of the injected sample — 20  $\mu\text{l}$ .

The processing data was carried out using the ChemStation software.

The aerial part of *Silene wolgensis* raw material was collected in the Bukhar-Zhyrau region, in vicinity of village of Kyzyl-Kaiyn, Karaganda region in the flowering phase.

Extraction of the aerial part (leaves, buds, stems) of the crushed air-dry raw material of *Silene wolgensis* with a mass of 1.0 kg was carried out four times with 10 liters of 96 % ethanol by heating on ERSND-1 extractor at the boiling point of the solvent for 1–1.5 hours. The extract was cooled, decanted, and evaporated on a rotary evaporator at a temperature not exceeding 50 °C. After that 0.2 l of ethanol was added to the resulting thick brown syrupy mass. Next, the resulting ethanol extract was treated with a mixture of petroleum ether and ethyl acetate in a ratio of 2:1 (0.4:0.2 l) in order to remove non-polar components, the remaining water-soluble part was extracted with isobutanol (0.6 l), resulting in a thick extract. Isobutanol extracts were combined, then distilled off to dryness under vacuum. Sum of ecdysteroids (86.5 g) with related substances in the form of a thick green syrupy mass was obtained. The presence of ecdysterone was established by TLC and qualitative analysis. By repeated column chromatography on Al $_2$  O $_3$  (I<sup>th</sup> degree of activity according to Brockmann, sorbent weight 1.6 kg) and elution of the column with a mixture of chloroform-ethanol (60:40), a fraction (1.0 g) was isolated on the basis of TLC ("Sorbfil"), physicochemical constants and spectral data. It was characterized as a chromatographically individual substance — ecdysterone.

The inclusion complexes of ecdysterone with  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin were obtained by the interaction of equimolar amounts of 20E and CD solutions. 113 mg CD (0.1 mmol) dissolved in 4 ml of distilled water was added to 50 mg (0.1 mmol) of 20E dissolved in 3 ml of absolute ethanol. The solution was stirred using a magnetic stirrer at 50 °C for 8 hours. The formed precipitate was filtered off, washed with ethanol and dried at 40 °C. The 20E- $\beta$ -CD inclusion complexes were obtained in the form of white powders. In a similar way,

inclusion complexes 1:2 were obtained. 226 mg  $\beta$ -CD (0.2 mmol) were dissolved in 4 ml of distilled water and added to 0.05 g (0.1 mmol) of 20E dissolved in 3 ml of absolute ethanol.

### Results and Discussion

In this regard, the optimization of the technology for producing ecdysterone was carried out in order to increase the yield. In particular, reextraction of a thick total alcoholic extract (the sum of substances extracted with 96 % ethanol by maceration with solvent boiling followed by distillation of the extractant in vacuum to obtain a thick essence) using petroleum ether (extraction gasoline) was used to remove lipophilic components.

On the basis of the described optimized technology, a pilot industrial regulation for the isolation of ecdysterone was developed, the technological scheme for production of which includes the stage of preparation of materials (preparation of the extractant and processing of raw materials), 7 main stages (Fig. 1): preparation of raw materials, extractant; obtaining of thick extract of *Silene wolgensis* after extraction with ethanol; treatment of thick extract of *Silene wolgensis*; chromatographic separation on aluminum oxide; recrystallization of native ecdysterone; obtaining a water-soluble form of ecdysterone; packaging and labeling of the water-soluble form of ecdysterone.

The superconcentrator plant *Silene wolgensis*, characterized by a high yield of ecdysterone (1.76 %), exceeding its content in *Serratula coronata* L. (1.5 %), the plant basis of the domestic adaptogenic preparation "Ecdiphyt", is a promising and alternative species [10, 11].

Therefore, the aim of this work is to optimize the extraction of 20E isolation from this plant, collected in the Karaganda region, for its further use as an industrially available and alternative plant source. The influence of a number of technological factors (concentration of the selective extractant, temperature and time) on the quantitative extraction of 20E from the aerial parts and roots of the plant under study was also investigated in order to develop optimal conditions and carry out effective extraction of *silene wolgensis*.

A herb, crushed to 8 mm and a GMP-compliant extractant were applied to determine the optimal degree of extraction of ecdysterone from plant raw materials. The ecdysterone content was determined within 3, 24 and 48 hours, at extraction temperatures of 20° and 78 °C. The obtained results are presented in Table 1.

Table 1

#### Results of the study of the dynamics of the extraction of *silene wolgensis* raw materials depending on technological factors

Extraction	part of a plant	grinding degree of raw materials, mm	Extraction temperature, °C	Extraction time, hour	The quantitative content of ecdysterone, %
Water-ethanol (70 %)	aerial part	before 8	20	24	0.3
Water-ethanol (50 %)	aerial part	before 8	20	24	0.26
Ethanol (96.2 %)	aerial part	before 8	20	24	1.7
Ethanol (96.2 %)	aerial part	before 8	78	3	<b>5.24</b>
Ethanol (96.2 %) in percolator	aerial part	before 8	20	48	1.0
Water-ethanol (70 %)	root	before 8	80	3	<b>5.24</b>

It was experimentally established that ethyl alcohol is the main selective extractant providing the quantitative extraction of 20E from *silene wolgensis*.

During extraction under different temperature and times conditions with other identical parameters, it was identified that an increase in temperature as one of the main factors (extractions 3 and 4 at 20 °C and 78 °C) does not significantly affect the yield of 20E.

Further search for optimal conditions for the extraction of *silene wolgensis* led to the conclusion that the increase in the yield of 20E is mainly influenced by the change in the concentration of the extractant.

It should be also noted that the complex processing of plant raw materials as a renewable material is one of the priority approaches in the rational use and chemical study of plants in terms of obtaining practically valuable substances.

Table 1 illustrates that when the aerial parts are extracted using 96.2 % ethanol, and the roots with 70 % ethyl alcohol, the yield of 20E from this plant is 5.24 % and 5.24 %, respectively.

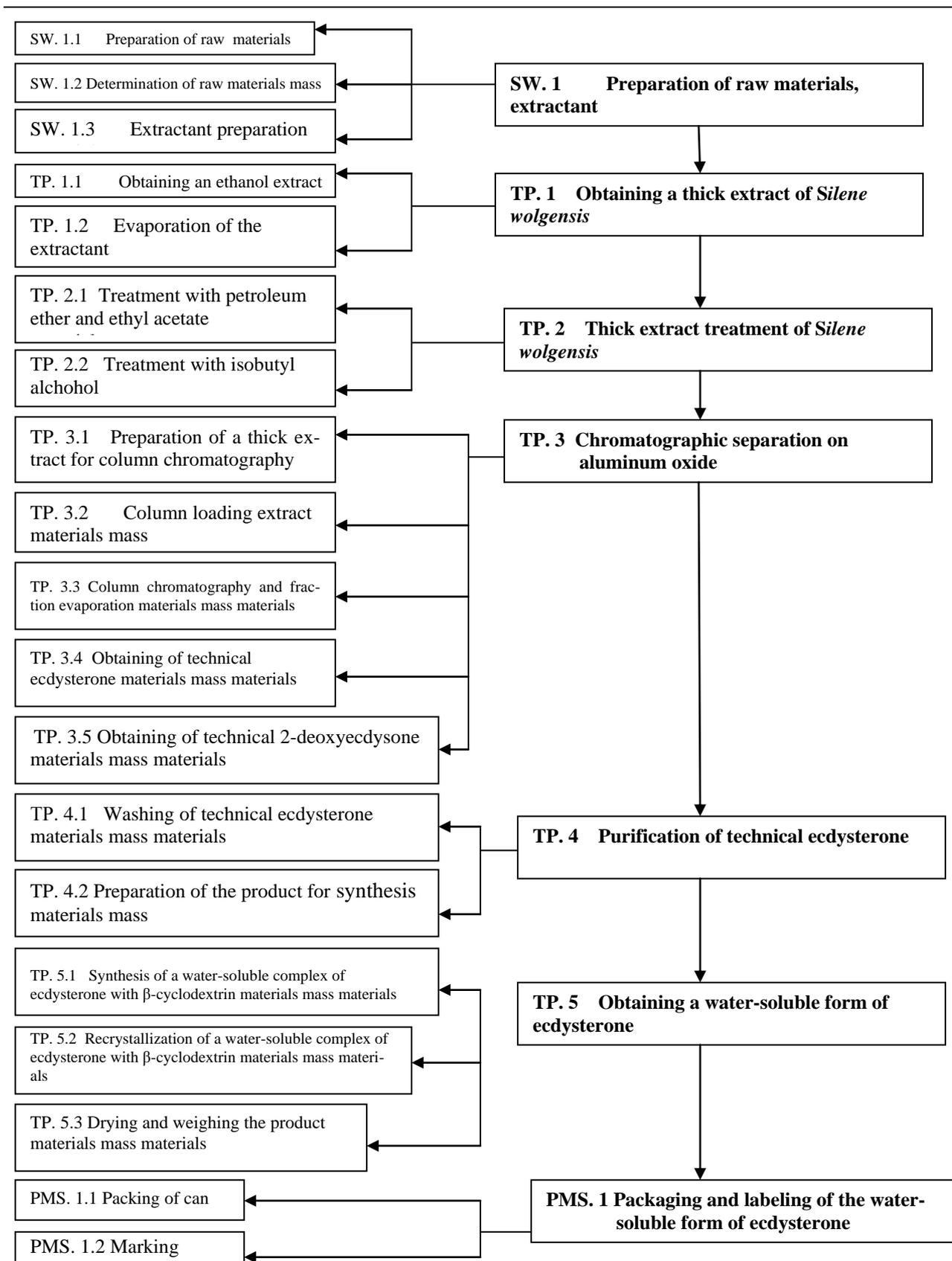


Figure 1. Technological scheme for the production of a water-soluble form of ecdysterone

As a result of the research, effective, express, and economical in terms of hardware execution conditions for the release of 20E were developed, using an extractant that meets GMP standards from industrially significant raw materials *Silene wolgensis*.

On the basis of the results of one-factor experiments, the above factors and intervals of variation (concentration of the extractant, duration of the process, extraction temperature, degree of grinding of raw materials) were selected. The result of the application is the first developed experimental industrial regulations for the isolation of ecdysterone and the production of a water-soluble form on its basis [12–16].

As result of the work conducted to optimize the extraction of bioactive steroid compounds and column chromatography of the ethanol extract *Silene wolgensis*, the main phytosteroid ecdysterone  $2\beta,3\beta,14\alpha,20R,22R,25$ -hexahydroxy- $5\beta(H)$ -cholest-7-en-6-one)  $C_{27}H_{44}O_7$  was obtained as a white odorless powder with a purity of 98 % according to HPLC. In order to establish the basic data on the physicochemical constants characteristic of ecdysterone, the following results were obtained: M.p. 236–238 °C (ethyl acetate-methanol);  $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 66.0^\circ$  (1.0, methanol); IR (KBr)  $\nu_{max}$ ,  $cm^{-1}$ : 3450, 2950, 1652, 1450, 1390, 1060, 880; UV spectrum (EtOH),  $\lambda_{max}$ , nm: 243 (log  $\epsilon$  4.10). The substance is soluble in ethanol, dioxane, insoluble in water, ethyl acetate and chloroform. According to the data of primary analyzes, all available results completely coincide with the target compound ecdysterone, which is confirmed by the literature data [17].

The finished product is also a substance of a water-soluble form of ecdysterone; it is a supramolecular inclusion complex with  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin, obtained according to the scheme in Figure 2 and representing an odorless white powder with a basic substance content of at least 98 %.

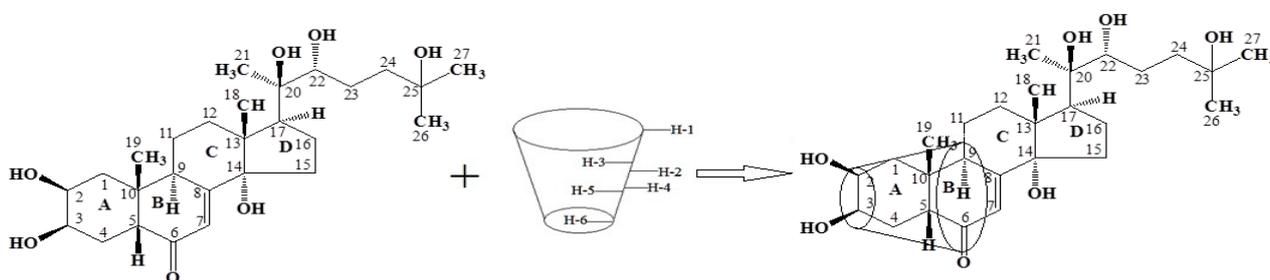


Figure 2. Scheme of the ecdysterone molecule entry into the  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin cavity

The possibility of creating nanocapsulated complexes of a biologically active component helps not only to increase the solubility and physicochemical stability of the substrate, but also to improve its bioavailability and local tolerance.

Thus, to establish the type of the formed inclusion complex of ecdysterone with  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin, the values of chemical shifts of  $^1H$  of the substrate and receptors in the free state and in the composition of the supramolecule were studied (Table 2). Ecdysterone is poorly soluble in water, and its spectra are difficult to record in deuterated water. Upon complexation of 20E with  $\beta$ -CD, supramolecular complexes are formed, which have a relatively high solubility in water compared to the initial 20E. Therefore, to confirm the water solubility of the complexes, NMR spectra were obtained in water. In Table 2, the first two columns demonstrate the 20E NMR spectra in deuterated chloroform and DMSO. 20E dissolves in these solvents, and can be identified by NMR spectra. The 20E NMR data in chloroform and DMSO presented in columns 1 and 2 of the table were applied to correctly identify the 20E spectra in the supramolecular complex. The 20E NMR signals slightly decrease in the supramolecular complex. Comparative data on changes in the chemical shifts of protons in the inner sphere are presented for free  $\beta$ -CD-n and its complex with 20E, obtained in deuterated water.

The chemical shifts of  $\beta$ -CD in water are well-known and were not presented by us in Table 2.

The main results on the structure of complexes of 20E with  $\beta$ -CD were obtained from ROESY spectra recorded in deuterated water. Based on the tabulated data, it can be noted that the protons of the inner sphere of cyclodextrin, H-3 and H-5, experience the greatest shift.

One of our goals is to characterize and disclose more detailed information on the molecular geometry of complexes of 20E with  $\beta$ -CD. First, we tried to fully decipher the signals and reveal the intermolecular interactions between 20E and CD using 2D ROESY NMR experiments.

Full assignment of  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR signals was made for pure 20E in DMSO  $d_6$  (15.5 mg of pure 20E in 0.5 ml of water), excluding OH protons, which have two broad signals at 4.09 and 4.56 ppm, three broad superimposed signal at about 4.36 ppm, and a sharp signal at 4.63 ppm, which was designated as OH on carbon C14 due to the strong correlation of HMBC with carbon C13, and two weak correlations with carbon atoms C14 and C15.

Table 2

**$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR chemical shifts in the free state ( $\delta_0$ , DMSO- $d_6$ )  
and in the composition of the complexes ( $\delta$ ,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ), ppm**

No	20E in $\text{CDCl}_3$	20E in DMSO- $d_6$	20E- $\beta$ -CD in $\text{D}_2\text{O}$
1	2	3	4
20E Signals			
C1 H1 $\alpha$ H1 $\beta$	37.96	36.610 1.263, dd, 13.3, 12.0 1.598, dd, 13.3, 4.3	35.499 1.299, dd, 13.5, 12.5 1.788, dd, 13.5, 4.4
C2 H2	68.03	66.754 3.604, ddd, 11.9, 4.3, 3.1	67.367 3.880
C3 H3	68.12	66.570 3.764, ~q, 2.9	67.128 3.968, ~q, 2.9
C4 H4 $\alpha$ H4 $\beta$	32.41	31.526 1.473, ~dt, 13.7, 3.8 1.593, td, 13.4, 2.5	31.154 1.705, br d 1.627
C5 H5	51.37	50.072 2.200, dd, 13.1, 4.2	50.358 2.270, dd, 12.6, 5.0
C6	203.43	202.620	208.101
C7 H7	121.64	120.432 5.626, d, 2.6	121.017 5.891, d, 2.6
C8	166.03	165.187	168.242
C9 H9	34.43	33.144 3.007, ddd, 11.6, 7.1, 2.7	33.831 3.025, ddd 11.5, 7.2, 2.6
C10	38.64	37.601	38.161
C1 H1 $\alpha$ H1 $\beta$	37.96	36.610 1.263, dd, 13.3, 12.0 1.598, dd, 13.3, 4.3	35.499 1.299, dd, 13.5, 12.5 1.788, dd, 13.5, 4.4
C2 H2	68.03	66.754 3.604, ddd, 11.9, 4.3, 3.1	67.367 3.880
C3 H3	68.12	66.570 3.764, ~q, 2.9	67.128 3.968, ~q, 2.9
C4 H4 $\alpha$ H4 $\beta$	32.41	31.526 1.473, ~dt, 13.7, 3.8 1.593, td, 13.4, 2.5	31.154 1.705, br d 1.627
C5 H5	51.37	50.072 2.200, dd, 13.1, 4.2	50.358 2.270, dd, 12.6, 5.0
C6	203.43	202.620	208.101
C7 H7	121.64	120.432 5.626, d, 2.6	121.017 5.891, d, 2.6
C8	166.03	165.187	168.242
C9 H9	34.43	33.144 3.007, ddd, 11.6, 7.1, 2.7	33.831 3.025, ddd 11.5, 7.2, 2.6
C10	38.64	37.601	38.161
C15 H15a H15P	31.98	30.303 1.781, ~td, 11.6, 5.5 1.507, ~q, 9.6	30.454 1.979, ~td 10.4, 6.2 1.631, ~td
C16 H16a H16P	21.47	20.251 1.871 1.556	20.493 1.859, ~q, 11.1 1.759, ~dt, 14.1, 3.4

Continuation of Table 2

1	2	3	4
C17 H17	50.08	48.676 2.259, ~t, 9.0	49.216 2.250, dd, 10.0, 8.8
C18 H18	17.87	17.114 0.763, s	17.268 0.796, s
C19 H19	24.46	23.841 0.836, s	23.352 0.925, s
C20	76.82	75.682	77.599
C21 H21	21.68	20.959 1.062, s	20.095 1.175
C22 H22	77.52	76.182 3.115, dd, 10.5, 1.7	77.010 3.341, dd, 10.6, 1.9
C23 H23	27.45	26.073 1.475, ~td, 12.4, 3.9, 18. 1.111, dddd, 13.6, 11.6, 10.6, 4.5	26.018 1.535 1.237
C24 H24	42.62	41.377 1.645, ~td, 12.8, 5.0 1.253, ddd, 13.1, 11.6, 4.3	40.818 1.651, ddd 13.2, 10.6, 5.3 1.417, ddd, 13.2, 11.1, 4.3
C25	69.52	68.673	71.265
C26 H26	29.99	29.972 1.077, s	28.052 1.138, s
C27 H27	30.09	28.990 1.052, s	27.949 1.135, s
$\beta$ -cyclodextrin signals			
C1 H1	-	-	102.238 4.991, d, 3.8
C2 H2	-	-	72.161 3.575, dd, 9.9, 3.7
C3 H3	-	-	73.248 3.885, dd, 9.9, 9.0
C4 H4	-	-	81.466 3.512, ~t, 9.3
C5 H5	-	-	71.929 3.781
C6 H6(2H)	-	-	60.282 ~3.79

The formation of an internal complex with ecdysterone is assumed. The study of the integral intensities of the signals of the guest and host molecules allows us to conclude that the stoichiometric ratio is 1:1. To identify the fragment of the 20E molecule located in the inner sphere of the CD, the changes in the values of the chemical shift were studied. The overlapping of  $^1\text{H}$  signals of the substrate significantly complicates the analysis of NMR data; however, one can assume the formation of a supramolecular ensemble according to Figure 2.

Wide signal of residual water at 3.30 ppm has an intensity of 0.17 H. Other signals and most of their characteristics are shown in Table 2. JHH values, cross-peak intensities in HMBC and ROESY were used to establish the geometry of the 20E steroid part (aliphatic part from C23 rotates freely).

The signal of the  $^1\text{H}$   $\beta$ -CD proton was chosen as an internal reference, since this proton is located outside the  $\beta$ -CD cavity and therefore should be least affected by complexation. The changes ( $\delta 27^\circ\text{C} - \delta 1^\circ\text{C}$ ) on the signals H1, H2, H3, H4, and H5 of the CD part were 0, +4, -12, -7, and -8 ppb, respectively, i.e. a large change was observed on the internal H3  $\beta$ -CD. Similar changes were observed on H1 $\alpha$  (-2), H2 (+38), H3 (+18), H5 (-13), H7 (-8), H9 (+4), H17 (+3), H18 (-9), H19 (-19), H21 (-6), H22 (-3), H23 (-8), H24' (0), H26 (-2), H27 (-4) signals of 20E part; other signals were not observed due to overlap.

In general, an unambiguous conclusion about the geometry of the complex can be made by interpreting the intermolecular interactions in the ROESY spectra.

As expected, final ROEs between 20E and H1, H2, or H4 signals (outer hydrogen atoms)  $\beta$ -CD were not observed in all samples. This suggests that 20E forms a complex inside the  $\beta$ -CD cavity or that the concentration of other complexes was not detected under the studied conditions. This indicates that all the observed intermolecular ROEs are associated with the fact that 20E is located more or less inside the  $\beta$ -CD cavity. Despite a number of signal overlaps, it was possible to establish whether the aliphatic or steroid portion of 20E is in the  $\beta$ -CD at O6 (ROE to H5 / H6) or O3 (ROE to H3), based on the unambiguous presence/absence of ROE on the recognizable signals. H5 and both H6  $\beta$ -CD signals overlap; however, since they are within the  $\beta$ -CD molecule, this is not a serious problem. The H3  $\beta$ -CD signal overlaps with the H2 20E signals, thus only ROE cross-peaks that are not observed in pure 20E can be attributed to H3  $\beta$ -CD.

These signals were separated at 1 °C, allowing for a more unambiguous interpretation.

We identified a strong ROE H5 / H6  $\beta$ -CD for the 20E H23, H23', H24', H26/H27 signals, as well as the ROE H3  $\beta$ -CD for the 20E H17, H18, H19, and H22 signals. This suggests that the 20E aliphatic portion is inserted deep into the  $\beta$ -CD through the O3 rim. Surprisingly, there are also weak ROE H5 / H6  $\beta$ -CD for 20E H18, H21 and H22 signals and H3  $\beta$ -CD on 20E H26 and H27 signals. This can be explained by simultaneous complexation through the O6 rim or complex formation through the O3 rim, however, with  $\beta$ -CD has at least one inverted sugar unit. ROE H3  $\beta$ -CD for 20E signals H1 $\beta$ , H4 $\alpha$ , H4 $\beta$ , H5 and H19 suggests ring A complexation, but no ROE for H1 $\alpha$ . This can be understood as hindering H1 $\alpha$  from constant ROE by the nearby H19 methyl and OH group (s).

Pure 20E has a strong ROE between H9 and H2, and no ROE between H9 and H3, which is consistent with the molecular model where the H9-H2 distance is 0.18 nm and the H9-H3 distance is 0.38 nm. The change in the conformation of ring A can also be supported by the largest changes in chemical shifts on this ring with changes in temperature. Unfortunately, we were unable to identify significant changes in HMBC to reveal more details about the geometry changes.

Based on the obtained NMR spectroscopy data, which accurately describes the formation of a hydrophilic complex of ecdysterone entry into the cavity of the  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin molecule, thereby relying on the obtained result, we can confidently formulate the final data, which undoubtedly represent the characteristics of the supramolecular inclusion complex. Thus, the study of the target complex in D<sub>2</sub>O yielded a result in which the main proton signal of H-7 was revealed, that is precise characteristic for compounds of the cholestanic structure, indicating that this substance is already capable of dissolving in water, and thereby makes it possible to conduct experiments on the study of hydrophilicity.

### Conclusions

This work proposes the most optimal method for obtaining the inclusion complex of 20-hydroxyecdysone, isolated from the industrially significant plant *Silene wolgensis* with  $\beta$ -CD in a 1:1 ratio (substrate-clathrate). Based on the results obtained on preparative chromatography of the target product and the development of its chemically modified form, an optimal technological scheme has been proposed, in which the main stages of the production of a water-soluble substance are established. On the basis of the primary data on physicochemical constants, the criteria for standardization of the finished medicinal substance were established. The fine structure of the 20E inclusion complex with  $\beta$ -CD was fully confirmed by the data of two-dimensional correlation of the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra, thus, studying the main structural features of the supramolecular-clathrate inclusion complex. For the first time, on the basis of ecdysterone, a water-soluble drug substance of ecdysterone with  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin was obtained and its fine structure was confirmed. For the first time, a pilot industrial regulation for the isolation of ecdysterone from the *Silene wolgensis* and the production of a water-soluble form on its basis was developed. The developed method for obtaining a water-soluble form of ecdysterone is of great interest for the pharmaceutical industry as the basis for many actoprotective phytopreparations.

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### Экдистеронның гидрофильді туындысының синтезі және оның негізінде суда еритін түрін алу

Мақалада *Silene wolgensis* (Hornem.) Bess. ex. Spreng (волга сылдыршөбі) дәрілік өсімдік шикізатынан экдистерон субстанциясын бөліп алу бойынша мәліметтер келтірілген. Алғаш рет фитоэкдистероидтардың асқын концентраттары волга сылдыршөбінің жерүсті бөлігінен экдистерон алу әдісінің оңтайландырылуы жүргізілді және экдистерон мен оның негізіндегі инкапсуленген суда еритін түрін алудың тәжірибелік-өнеркәсіптік регламенті жасалынды. Субстрат молекуласы мен клатраттың өзара әрекеттесуінен суда және басқа полярлы еріткіштерде ери алатын зат түзілетіні, сол арқылы негізгі гидрофобты препараттың биожетімділігі мәселесі шешілетіні анықталды. Экдистерон субстанциясы және оның  $\beta$ -циклодекстринмен инкапсуленген суда еритін түрін алу әдісі Қарағанды фармацевтикалық зауытында өндіріске ендірілді. Субстраттар мен рецепторлар протондарының химиялық жылжуларының өзгерістерін ЯМР-зерттеулер кезінде, экдистеронның  $\beta$ -циклодекстринмен 1:1 стехиометриялық құрамдағы молекулаүстілік ену кешендерін түзе отырып әрекеттесетіні

табылды. Эктистеронның β-циклодекстринмен инкапсулденген кешенінің, фитоэктистеронның өзіне караганда суда ерігіштігінің 100 есе артатыны анықталды.

*Кілт сөздер:* эктистерон, бөліп алуды оңтайландыру, *Silene wolgensis*, β-циклодекстрин, инкапсулдеу, суда ерігішті.

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## Синтез гидрофильного производного эктистерона и разработка водорастворимой формы на его основе

В статье представлены материалы по выделению эктистерона субстанции из лекарственного растительного сырья *Silene wolgensis* (Hornem.) Bess. ex. Spreng (смолевка волжская). Впервые проведена оптимизация способа получения эктистерона из надземной части сверхконцентратора фитоэктистероидов смолевки волжской и разработан опытно-промышленный регламент выделения эктистерона и инкапсулированной водорастворимой формы на его основе. Найдено, что при взаимодействии молекулы субстрата и клатрата образуется вещество, способное растворяться в воде и других более полярных растворителях, тем самым решая проблему биодоступности основного гидрофобного лекарственного соединения. Разработанный способ получения эктистерона субстанции и его инкапсулированной с β-циклодекстрином водорастворимой формы внедрен в производство на Карагандинском фармацевтическом заводе. При ЯМР-изучении изменений химических сдвигов протонов субстратов и рецепторов найдено, что эктистерон взаимодействует с β-циклодекстрином с образованием надмолекулярных комплексов включения стехиометрического состава 1:1.

*Ключевые слова:* эктистерон, оптимизация выделения, *Silene wolgensis*, β-циклодекстрин, инкапсулирование, водорастворимость, ЯМР-спектроскопия, супрамолекулярные комплексы.

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