

grande proportion; il est localisé dans les cellules à huile essentielle de l'écorce et de la moelle ainsi que dans celles de l'épiderme, l'hypoderme et le liber.

Dans le rhizome frais d'*Acorus Calamus* on trouve de l'asarone dans les cellules à essence, localisées aux points de jonction des mailles.

Dans les rhizomes secs de ces deux plantes on ne trouve plus que de rares cellules à asarone.

Asarum canadense ne possède pas d'asarone. F. Jadin.

Evans, J., Testing of Drugs for Purity. (Pharm. Journ. July 21st 1906.)

Microscopical examination of ground ginger shows preponderating starch granules which are very characteristic in form and can be readily distinguished from adulterants. In the best ground gingers there is very little of the cortical tissue. One of the chief adulterants is exhausted ginger. A genuine sample should yield not less than 1.5 percent of soluble ash and not less than 8.5 percent of cold water extract.

Mustard is composed chiefly of soft parenchymatous cells without any starch granules. The presence of starch is a sure indication of adulteration. Wheat flower is often added and the tint restored by turmeric. E. Drabble (Liverpool.)

Fenton, H. J. H., New Test for Sugar. (Lancet. Jan. 26th 1907.)

Under action of hydrobromic acid in certain conditions all hexoses and polyhexoses yield a certain amount of bromomethylfurfural $\text{CH}_2\text{Br} - \text{C}_4\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{CHO}$. This substance reacts with malonic ester in presence of alkalis giving a substance with powerful blue fluorescence. A small quantity of the liquid to be tested is poured into a excess of solid anhydrous calciumchloride to form a pasty mass. 10 mils of toluene containing 2 to 3 drops of PBr_3 are added and the mixture is boiled for a few minutes, carefully as the toluene is inflammable. The toluene solution is now poured off and cooled. To it are added one mil. of malonic ester and a little alcohol. On neutralizing with KOH a pink colour is usually developed. The mixture is now diluted with alcohol and a few drops of water. If sugar were originally present the solution will exhibit a blue fluorescence. This reaction, seems to be given only by sugars with six or more atoms of carbon in the molecule. E. Drabble (Liverpool.)

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