

[Phytochemistry, 45, 835-838 (1997)]

[Lab. of Herbal Garden]

Three Pterocarpan from *Erythrina crista-galli*.

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Erythrina crista-galli is widely distributed in subtropical and tropical regions and has antimicrobial activity against gram-positive bacteria (*Staphylococcus aureus* and *Mycobacterium smegmatis*). From the methanol extract of the wood of *E. crista-galli*, several pterocarpan have been isolated. Three new pterocarpan, erystagalhn A-C, were isolated from the wood of *E. crista-galli*, together with the three known pterocarpan, cristacarpin, phaseollidin and 2-(γ , γ -dimethylallyl)-6a-hydroxyphaseollidin. Their structures were elucidated on the basis of the spectroscopic evidence.

[Yakushigaku Zasshi, 32, 26-32 (1997)]

[Lab. of Herbal Garden]

The Medicinal Plants in Kiso on the "Saiyaku-ki" of the Mid-Edo Period.

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In the Mid-Edo Period, the Shogunate actively promoted the expansion of medicinal products, and the results of the investigation were recorded as "Sanbutsu-cho". Also, the Shogunate and the Owari Clan dispatched "Saiyaku-shi" and recorded "Saiyakuki". In order to define the characters of these records, we studied the name, distribution of wild plants, relevance to "Honzo-sho" and utilization, and comparisons with "Chikuma-Sanbutsu" in view of pharmaceutical history. In the result, Kiso-Saiyakuki mentioned more kinds of plants than "Dochukii", but the frequency of the plants that appeared was lower. Each of the archives have relevance to a specific "Honzo-sho". In "Chikuma-Sanbutsu" the number of kinds of medicinal plants which made use of "Kiso-Yakushuki" and traditional medicinal plants were mentioned. We thought that this was useful for the development of production, Not only was the name "Saiyakuki" mentioned, but the geographical and historical matters and customs were recorded, These three archives were valuable materials, and they were precious historical materials on the understanding of the progress from "Honzo-gaku" to natural history.

[Yakushigaku Zasshi, 32,150-158 (1997)]

[Lab. of Herbal Garden]

Vicissitude of the Organization for the Protection of Herbs on Mt. Ibuki.

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The files about an organization formed for protecting herbs on Mt. Ibuki were found in Kasuga Village Gifu Prefecture. There were papers about the rules and acts of this organization. In the papers written during 1903. There were rules of the days permitted for gathering herbs on Mt. Ibuki and the eligibility to protect herb resources. There was a memorandum of the meeting dates from 1904 to 1929. In 1930, the members introduced regulations for cooperative production and soles of the herbs, restructuring the organization. In papers written dated from 1938 to 1947, there were permits for consent to gather herbs, too. They showed the relations to the policies of Gifu Prefecture. In 1930, the rules of the organization changed sharply, from the goal of protecting the herbs to the cooperative production and sales of herbs.

[Yakushigaku Zasshi, 32,159-164 (1997)]

[Lab. of Herbal Garden]

The Records of Jingoro Kodera, a Broker on Herbs in Kasuga Village (2).**About the Names of Locations in His Sales Ledgers.**

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A broker of herbs, Jingoro Kodera (1868-1940), sold herbs in three districts. One district consisted of the cities and towns on the east side of Lake Biwa, including Hikone, Omihachiman and so on. The second was Ichinomiya City and the surrounding area. The third consisted of the cities on the west side of Ise Bay, including Kuwana, Tsu, Matusaka and Yokkaichi. In "Uri-age-cho", his sales ledgers, he wrote down the names of the cities and towns where his customers lived. We translated those names into the names now used for the cities and towns. Observing the dates in his sales ledgers, we found that dates were frequently consecutive. His trips ranged from two to twelve days. In one trip the broker would sell herbs in one of these three districts. Perhaps he carried the herbs by train or ship as the town's cities were near rail lines or seaports.