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Cycloartane triterpenoid saponins and flavones from *Passiflora* species and their antidepressant-like activity

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The genus *Passiflora* comprises approximately 500 species, which are mainly distributed in the warm and tropical regions of America and a few of them in Southeast Asia and Australia. *P. edulis* is usually called the passion fruit and there are two types of this fruit: the purple form (*P. edulis* Sims) and the yellow form (*P. edulis* var. *flavicarpa* Degenerer), which are currently being cultivated in many countries for commercial purpose as edible fruits due to their health benefits. Passion fruit juice is now an important source of many of the beverage industry, its unique taste and flavor coupled with beneficial health effects led to a more and more important position in the juice industry. Chemical research of these two kinds fruit juice has revealed the main components and further animal activity is still ongoing. Furthermore, their leaf extracts have long been used in traditional folk medicines as a remedy for many neurogenic diseases, such as anxiolytic, anticonvulsant and sedative activities etc. in Europe and America. Chemical research of these two various, *P. edulis* Sims and *P. edulis* var. *flavicarpa* Degenerer lead to the conclusion that cycloartane triterpenoid and C-glycosyl flavones were the main compositions of this genus.

Biography

Hu Jiang-Miao completed his PhD at 2007 from Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences and mainly engaged in chemical research of natural products. He has completed chemical research of 20 *Dendrobium* species and got over 400 compounds from these plants. Furthermore, pharmaceutical research of *Passiflora* species reveals that cycloartane triterpenoid and flavones were the main components of this genus and play the material basis of biological activity. He has published more than 40 papers in reputed journals and 30 of them were indexed by SCI.

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