

(i) Heat 0.1 g of the residue with 1 mL of sodium hydroxide TS: a red color develops, and it disappears upon addition of excess hydrochloric acid (phenovalin).

(ii) Heat 0.1 g of the residue with 3 mL of diluted ethanol (7 in 10) and 4 drops of sulfuric acid: the odor of ethyl acetate is perceptible (phenovalin).

(2) Shake 1 g of Phenovalin and Magnesium Oxide Powder with 5 mL of dilute hydrochloric acid, add water to make 50 mL, and filter: the filtrate responds to the qualitative Test (1) for magnesium salt.

Purity (1) Heavy metals—Incinerate 1.5 g of Phenovalin and Magnesium Oxide Powder by strong heating, dissolve the residue in 20 mL of dilute hydrochloric acid, and evaporate on a water bath to dryness. Dissolve the residue in 35 mL of water and 2 mL of dilute acetic acid. Filter, if necessary. Wash the filter paper with water, combine the washing with the filtrate, and add water to make 50 mL. Perform the test using this solution as the test solution. Control solution: evaporate 20 mL of dilute hydrochloric acid to dryness, and add 2 mL of dilute acetic acid, 4.0 mL of Standard Lead Solution and water to make 50 mL (not more than 27 ppm).

(2) Arsenic—Incinerate 0.30 g of Phenovalin and Magnesium Oxide Powder by strong heating, dissolve the residue in 5 mL of dilute hydrochloric acid. Perform the test using Apparatus B with this solution as the test solution (not more than 6.6 ppm).

Assay To about 0.4 g of Phenovalin and Magnesium Oxide Powder, accurately weighed, add 10 mL of water and 4.0 mL of dilute hydrochloric acid, and shake. To this solution add water to make exactly 100 mL, and filter. Discard the first 20 mL of the filtrate, pipet 25 mL of the subsequent filtrate, and shake with two 5-mL portions of chloroform. Separate the water layer, add 50 mL of water and 5 mL of ammonia-ammonium chloride buffer solution, pH 10.7, and titrate with 0.05 mol/L disodium dihydrogen ethylenediamine tetraacetate VS (indicator: 0.04 g of eriochrome black T-sodium chloride indicator).

Each mL of 0.05 mol/L disodium dihydrogen ethylenediamine tetraacetate VS
= 2.0152 mg of MgO

Containers and storage Containers—Well-closed containers.

Picrasma Wood

Picrasmae Lignum

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Picrasma Wood is the wood of *Picrasma quassioides* Bennet (*Simarubaceae*).

Description Light yellow chips, slices or short pieces of wood; a transverse section reveals distinct annual rings and thin medullary rays; tissue dense in texture. Odorless; taste, extremely bitter and lasting.

Under a microscope, it reveals medullary rays consisting of 1 – 5 cells wide for transverse section, and 5 – 50 cells high for longitudinal section; vessels of spring wood up to about

150 μ m in diameter, but those of autumn wood only one-fifth as wide; vessels, single or in groups, scattered in the xylem parenchyma; membrane of wood fibers extremely thickened; medullary rays and xylem parenchyma cells contain rosette aggregates of calcium oxalate and starch grains. Vivid yellow or red-brown, resinous substance often present in the vessels.

Purity Foreign matter—The amount of foreign matter contained in Picrasma Wood does not exceed 1.0%.

Total ash Not more than 4.0%.

Powdered Picrasma Wood

Picrasmae Lignum Pulveratum

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Powdered Picrasma Wood is the powder of Picrasma Wood.

Description Powdered Picrasma occurs as a grayish white to light yellow powder. It is odorless, and has an extremely bitter and lasting taste.

Under a microscope, Powdered Picrasma Wood reveals fragments of vessels of various sizes, xylem fibers and xylem parenchyma cells; fragments of medullary rays containing starch grains; all tissues lignified; a few crystals of calcium oxalate observed. Starch grains are 5 to 15 μ m in diameter.

Total ash Not more than 4.0%.

Acid-insoluble ash Not more than 1.0%.

Pinellia Tuber

Pinelliae Tuber

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Pinellia Tuber is the tuber of *Pinellia ternata* Breitenbach (*Araceae*), from which the cork layer has been removed.

Description Slightly flattened spherical to irregular-shaped tuber; 0.7 – 2.5 cm in diameter and 0.7 – 1.5 cm in height; externally white to grayish white-yellow; the upper end dented, where the stem has been removed, with root scars dented as numerous small spots on the circumference; dense in texture; cross section white and powdery. Almost odorless; tasteless at first, slightly mucous, but leaving a strong acrid taste.

Under a microscope, a transverse section reveals mainly tissue of parenchyma filled with starch grains, and scattered with a few mucilage cells containing raphides of calcium oxalate. Starch grains mostly 2- to 3-compound grains, usually 10 – 15 μ m in diameter, and simple grains, usually 3 – 7 μ m in diameter; raphides 25 – 150 μ m in length.

Purity Rhizome of *Arisaema* species and others—Under a microscope, no mucilage canal is revealed on the outer layer of cortex.