

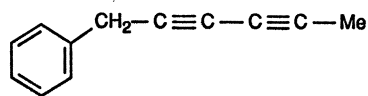
24.1 Introduction

Yinchen, *Herba Artemisiae scopariae* is the dry young sprout of *Artemisia scoparia* Waldst. et Kit. or *A. capillaris* Thunb. (Asteraceae) collected in spring when the sprouts have reached a height of 6–10 cm. It is listed officially in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia and used mainly as a choleric, antiinflammatory, and diuretic agent in the treatment of epidemic hepatitis.

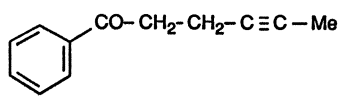
24.2 Chemical Constituents

24.2.1 Chemical Constituents of *Artemisia capillaris*

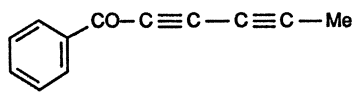
A number of polyacetylene derivatives were isolated from the essential oil of *A. capillaris*. Thus, capillene (24-1), capillone (24-2), capillin (24-3), capillarin (24-4), dehydrofalcarinone (24-5), dehydrofalcarinol (24-6) [1], norcapillene (5-phenyl-1,3-pentadiyne, 24-7) [1, 2], capillanol (24-8) [3], methoxycapillene (24-9) [4], and neocapillene (24-10) [5] were detected. Neocapillene may be an artifact produced from capillene by UV irradiation [5]; capillarin is an isocoumarin derivative with an acetylenic side chain.



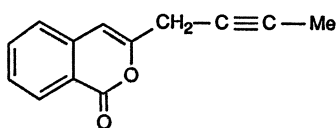
Capillene (24-1)



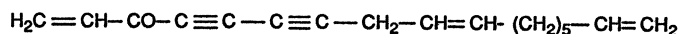
Capillone (24-2)



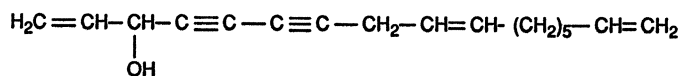
Capillin (24-3)



Capillarin (24-4)



Dehydrofalcarinone (24-5)



Dehydrofalcarinol (24-6)