

**D-07: The occurrence of flavonoids in the genus *Lathyrus***

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*Lathyrus* is a genus with 144 herbaceous species belonging to the family Leguminosae. The species are distributed throughout the temperate regions of both hemispheres.

Flavonoids are one of the largest groups of naturally occurring phenolics in plants. In plant tissues, flavonoids occur in a variety of structural forms based on the flavonoid skeleton. A survey was carried out to study the occurrence and distribution of flavonoids in 38 species of the genus *Lathyrus*.

Four flavonoid aglycones and 22 glycosides were detected, isolated and identified using paper chromatography, thin layer chromatography, and uv-vis spectrophotometry.

Flavonols, kaempferol and quercetin were uniformly present in all species examined except in *L. pratensis*. The flavonols were glycosylated at the 3- and 3,7 - positions and 12 of those glycosides were new to the genus *Lathyrus*.