

## A second florist with dermatitis from *Trachelium caeruleum*

P. Banerjee and R. J. G. Rycroft

St John's Institute of Dermatology, St Thomas's Hospital, London SE1 7EH, UK

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### Case Report

A 38-year-old florist gave a 3-month history of itchy red blistering on her forearms and hands. She had been allergic to sticking plaster since childhood. There were red papules on the flexor forearms, and scaling

and fissuring of the flexor digits, especially the right thumb, index and middle fingers.

The petal and leaf of *Trachelium caeruleum*, as well as those of an alstroemeria cultivar, gave ++ patch test reactions at D2. 10 controls were negative. The patient was also ++ to colophonium. Avoidance of both flowers, by wearing gloves at work, resulted in clearance of the forearms, and great improvement in the hands, within 2 weeks.

### Comment

Contact dermatitis from *Trachelium caeruleum* (Fig. 1) has been reported only 1× before (1), also involving the flexor forearms, as well as the hands, of a florist. This cut flower is increasingly being used all the year round in mixed bouquets, so further cases are to be expected.

Alstroemeria dermatitis is already well known. Cross-sensitization would be most unlikely between these two plants of different families. In the previous case there was equally separate sensitization to chrysanthemum.

### References

1. Van Baar H M J, van der Valk P G M. Contact allergy due to *Trachelium caeruleum*. *Contact Dermatitis* 1994; 31: 118–119.

Address:  
R J G Rycroft  
St John's Institute of Dermatology  
St Thomas's Hospital  
London SE1 7EH  
UK  
Tel: +44 20 7922 8076  
Fax: +44 20 7620 0890



Fig. 1. Close-up of the tiny flowers of *Trachelium caeruleum*.