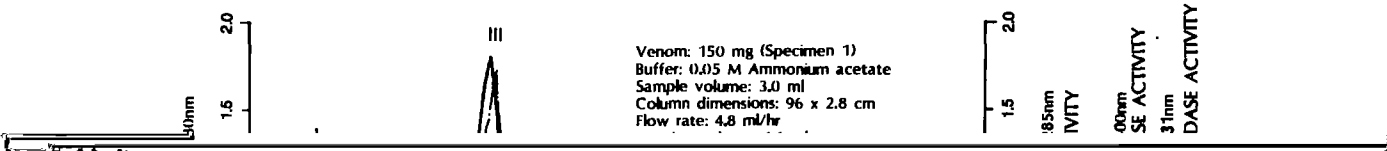
Crude venom was assayed for proteolytic activity (STEYN and DELPIERRE, 1973), L-amino acid oxidase activity (essentially the method of WEISSBACH *et al.*, 1961; reaction terminated by the addition of 10% (w/v) trichloracetic acid), elastinase-like activity (SIMPSON and TAYLOR, 1973) and phosphodiesterase activity (BJÖRK, 1963). The effects of phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), 1,10-phenanthroline, *N*-ethylmaleimide (*N*-EM) and EDTA at three concentrations (1, 10 and 100 μg/ml) were evaluated using hide powder azure as substrate. Venom (30 μg), inhibitor and 0.05 M *N*-2-hydroxyethyl-

room temperature (21 – 23°C) for 30 min. Proteolytic activity was then assayed as above. All assays were run in duplicate and compared to control hydrolysis.

Adult *C. ruber* venom (150 mg) was fractionated on a 2.8 × 96 cm column of BioGel P-

to fractionation, the column was calibrated with albumin (mol. wt 67 000), ovalbumin


2.0
1.5
III
Venom: 150 mg (Specimen 1)
Buffer: 0.05 M Ammonium acetate
Sample volume: 3.0 ml
Column dimensions: 96 x 2.8 cm
Flow rate: 4.8 ml/hr
2.0
1.5
DASE ACTIVITY