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The distribution of cathinone and d-norpseudoephedrine in Catha edulis plants from 2 different geographical localities have been investigated. There was no difference in the chemical constituents of Catha material from 2 localities. D-norpseudoephedrine was present in all parts of the plant examined except the root but cathinone was only detected in the young shoots and branchlets. It is concluded that the psychostimulant effect following chewing of young Catha shoots is due to both cathinone and d-norpseudoephedrine with the cathinone being more important since it is 7-10 times more potent than d-norpseudoephedrine.