

CHEMICAL INVESTIGATION OF SOME SRI LANKAN EUPHORBIACEAE SPECIES

R. C. Carpenter, S. Sotheeswaran and M. U. S. Sultanbawa

*(Dept. of Chemistry, University of Sri Lanka,
Peradeniya Campus)*

and

S. Balasubramaniam

*(Dept. of Botany, University of Sri Lanka,
Peradeniya Campus)*

As a first step towards a detailed chemical investigation of the Sri Lankan Euphorbiaceae species, studies on Euphorbiaceae species belonging to different genera have been undertaken. Timber and bark extractives of *Podadenia thwaitesii* (Baill)

Muell Arg, *Apurosa cardiosperma* (Gaertn.) Merr, *Bridelia moonii* Thw., *Glochidion moonii* Thw., and another unnamed *Glochidion* species have been analysed.

The timber extractives of all except that of the unnamed *Glochidion* species were devoid of triterpenes. But they had large amounts of liquid hydrocarbons. The possibility of using the hydrocarbons obtained from other Euphorbiaceae species as a liquid fuel is being currently investigated in the United States. The bark extractives gave different types of triterpenoids. The results are given for each species studied.

P. thwaitesii: Sitosterol (0.02%), Acetoxy aleuritic acid (0.154%) and aleuritic acid (0.0015%).

A. cardiosperma: Friedelin (0.040%), friedelan-3 β -ol (0.06%) and sitosterol (0.035%)

B. moonii: Friedelin (0.026%), friedelan-3 β -ol (0.009%), friedelan-3 α -ol (0.001%), sitosterol (0.0051) and glochidone (0.00081).

G. moonii: Sitosterol (0.018%), Glochidonol (0.094%), lup 20-(29)-ene-3 α , 23-diol (0.044%) and glochidiol (0.011%)

Glochidion (unnamed) sp: Glochidone (0.0043%), glochidonol (0.030%) lup-20 (29)-ene-3 α , 23-diol (0.060%); and glochidiol (0.111%)

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