

TRANSITION METAL COMPLEXES OF 8-HYDROXYQUINOLINE-4-CARBOXALDEHYDE ISOLATED FROM THE TIMBER OF ALLAENTHUS ZEYLANICUS

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8-hydroxyquinoline complexes of transition metals have been intensively studied for use as analytical reagents (Hollingshead 1956) 8-hydroxyquinoline-4-carboxaldehyde occurs in the timber of the endemic plant *Allaenthus zeylanicus* (Gunathileka, Perera, Sultanbawa, Thomson, Brown, 1977). Several transition metal complexes of the above oxine were prepared by mixing ethanolic solutions of this ligand with ethanolic or aqueous solutions of metal salts at a suitable pH. These complexes were characterised by chemical analysis and infrared spectra. The colours, solubilities and the optimum pH values of precipitation of these complexes differed considerably from the parent 8-hydroxyquinoline complexes.

These studies show that 8-hydroxyquinoline-4-carboxaldehyde forms complexes with some metal ions that are important to plants. This may be a significant factor in the transport and / or storing of metal ions in plants. These complexes may find uses in analytical chemistry since the presence of the additional—CHO group has considerably modified the properties of the complexes.

Gunathileka A. A. L., Perera J. S. H. Q., Sultanbawa M. U. S., Thomson R. H., Brown M., (1977). Proceedings, 3rd Asian Symposium. Medicinal plants and spices. 23.

Hollingshead, R. G. W. (1956) *Oxine and its Derivatives*, Butterworths, London.