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# MINOR XANTHONES OF *HYPERICUM MYSORENSE* (GUTTIFERAE)

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2, 3-Dimethoxyxanthone has been isolated as the major xanthone from the timber of the non-endemic species, *Hypericum mysorense* Wight and Arn. (A. A. L. Gunatilaka *et al.*, 1979). The isolation and characterisation of the minor xanthones from this species is now being reported.

The chloroform extract of the timber of *H. mysorense* was methylated with dimethyl sulphate and was separated by column chromatography (silica gel). The following xanthones were eluted with light petroleum-methylene dichloride:

1-Hydroxy-7-methoxyxanthone (m.p. 124-6°), 1, 2-dimethoxyxanthone (m.p. 129-31°), 2-methoxyxanthone (m.p. 130-1°), and two other xanthones.

The NMR, MS, UV and IR data of one of the unknown xanthones indicated it to be 1-hydroxy-6-methoxyxanthone (m.p. 122-4°). This is the first report of this oxygenation pattern for naturally occurring xanthones.

The chloroform extract was separated into the neutral and phenolic fractions. From the phenolic fraction the following xanthones have been isolated; by column chromatography and preparative thin layer chromatography:

1-Hydroxy-6, 7-dimethoxyxanthone (m.p. 189-90°), 2-Hydroxy-3-methoxyxanthone and 2-Hydroxyxanthone (m.p. 216-8°).

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**Reference:**

1. Gunatilaka, A. A. L., Balasubramaniam, S. and Kumar, V. (1979), *Phytochemistry*, **18**, 182.