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ISOLATION OF A NOVEL BROMINATED DITERPENE DERIVATIVE FROM AN OPISTOBRANCH SPECIES

L. M. V. Tillekeratne, K. D. V. Weerasuria
(*Department of Chemistry, University of Colombo, Colombo 3*)

and

A. A. Leslie Gunatilaka
(*Department of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya*)

An opistobranch species (a specimen deposited at the Museum of the Zoology Department, University of Colombo) collected at Duwa, Negombo was air dried (340 g) and extracted in an ultra turrax with petroleum ether (60–80, 1l) followed by chloroform (1l). The residue was subjected to successive hot extraction with petroleum ether (60–80) and chloroform. The extracts were combined and chromatographed on a column of Silica Gel using mixtures of petroleum ether (60–80) and ether as eluants.

A crystalline solid obtained, on recrystallisation from Chloroform–ether gave large colourless prisms, (90 mg), mp. 171–172°, $C_{22}H_{32}Br_2O_4$,

IR ν_{max} (KBr) cm^{-1}, 2960, 1780, 1720, 1440, 1370, 1250, 1010 ;
H^1NMR, *delta* 1.05(3H,S), 1.12(3H,S), 1.43(3H.S), 1.62(3H,S), 2.02(3H,S), 1.25–2.6(15H, br m), 3.93(1H, dd, J=12,5), 4.10 (1H, dd J=13,6) ;

MS : m/e 462, 460, 458(M^+–60), 447, 445, 443(M^+–60–15), 380, 378(M–60–80), 337, 335, 316, 314, 274, 215, 213 147, 133, 107, 91, 79, 55, 43(100), 31.

Based on the above spectroscopic data and C^{13}–NMR data, a tentative structure was assigned to the compound.