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4', 6-DIHYDROXY-2,3'-DIPYRIDINE : A NEW ALKALOID FROM *BROUSSONETIA ZEYLANICA* MORACEAE

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We have recently described the occurrence of an antimicrobial alkaloid, 8-hydroxyquinoline-4-carboxaldehyde and two minor alkaloids possessing 8-hydroxyquinoline moiety from the endemic Moraceae, *Broussonetia zeylanica* (Corner) Thw. In this paper we report the isolation and structure elucidation of a new minor alkaloid, 4', 6-dihydroxy-2,3'-dipyridine, from the benzene extract of this plant. Its structure elucidation involved the interpretation of UV, IR, ^{1}H-and ^{13}C-NMR data and comparison with those of suitable model compounds.

Although neurotoxic 2,3'-dipyridyl derivatives are known to occur in some tobacco species and in cigarette smoke condensate this is the first reported occurrence of a 2.3'-dipyridyl alkaloid in a distinct higher plant.