

STRUCTURE OF A NOVEL QUINONE FROM (*PLUMBAGO ZEYLANICA*)
(PLUMBAGINACEAE)

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In continuing our chemical studies on the phenolic fraction derived from the hot light petroleum extract of the roots of the medicinal plant, *Plumbago zeylanica*(1), we have isolated a minor (0.004%) quinone, $C_{34}H_{34}O_6$, m.p. 246-48°C, (α_D) 0°. This paper deals with the elucidation of its structure as 5, 6, 11, 13 (5a, 5b H)-tetrone-11a. 5b, 12, 12a-tetrahydro-1, 7-dihydroxy-5a, 11a-dimethyl-5b (3-(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-1, 4-naphthoquinone))-5H-dibenzo (b, h) fluorene, with the aid of spectral data (UV, IR, MS, 1H and ^{13}C NMR). An x-ray study has been undertaken to determine the absolute configuration at C-5a, C-5b, C-11a and C-12a.

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Reference

1. Gunaberath, G. M. K. B., Gunatilaka, A. A. L., Sultanbawa, M.U. S. and Balasubramaniam, S., *Proc. Sri Lanka Ass. Advmt. Sci.*, **38**, 64 (1982).