E 2 ISOLATION OF FURODYSININ FROM A CHROMODORIS SP.

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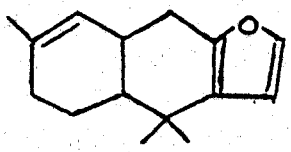
Chemical defense plays a major role in the survival of nudibranchs which are colourful shell-less marine molluscs[3]. In our investigations of Sri Lanka nudibranchs we have previously reported the isolation of six furanoditerpenoids from Casella atromarginata[1] and a sesquiterpenoid isonitrile from a Phyllidia sp.[2] We now report the isolation of furodysinin (I) from a Chromodoris sp. collected off Colombo. The organic extract of the animal was partitioned



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between CH_2Cl_2 and aqueous methanol and the CH_2Cl_2 solubles were chromatographed on silica gel/hexane (first Sep-pak then Chromatotron) to obtain the major metabolite as a clear colourless liquid. Spectral characterization (^{1}H-NMR, HRMS, IR, UV) proved this to be furodysinin, a furanosesquiterpenoid with antifeedent properties which previously has been isolated from a marine sponge and the nudibranch Cadlina luteomarginata[4].

References

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