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Parts of the plant of Moringa (Moringa oleifera; Moringaceae) is used in the Ayurvedic system of medicine. Its fruits and leaves are also used as a vegetable. The stem of Moringa yields a gum on incision of its bark. The chemistry of this gum has not been reported. Moringa gum could be separated to polysaccharide fraction and a polymeric proanthocyanidin fraction. The polysaccharide fraction was separated and purified using a polyamide column. TLC and HPLC analysis of the hydrolysate of purified polysaccharide fraction showed the presence of galactose (41.5%), arabinose (26.9%), xylose (25.9%), rhamnose (5.6%) and uronic acid (galacturonic acid + glucuronic acid) (traces) as the monomer units.

Hydrolysis of the phenolic fraction showed presence of cyanidin as the monomer unit of the proanthocyanin fraction.

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#### Reference

1. Jayeweera, D.M.A. (1982) Medicinal plants used in Sri Lanka pt 4 102.