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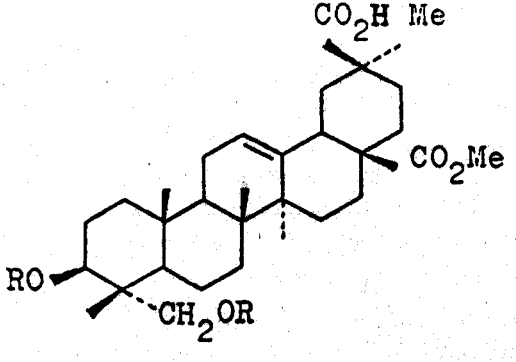
A NEW TRITERPENOID FROM *DIPLOCLISIA GLAUCESCENS* (MENISPERMACEAE)

B M R Bandara, N L V V Karunaratne, G P Wannigama
and W R Wimalasiri
Dept. of Chemistry, University of Peradeniya
and
S Sotheeswaran
University of the South Pacific, Fiji

Diploclisia glaucescens (Sinhala - Ata Thiththa Wel) is a creeper growing in the mid-country region of India and Sri Lanka. The plant is reported to be used for the treatment of biliousness and venereal diseases. Several phytoecdysteroids have been isolated from the seeds of the plant and their activity as insect control agents demonstrated[1]
The root of the plant has not been hitherto investigated.



1 : R=H

2: R=$COCH_3$

Roots of D. glaucescens (50 g) were defatted with hot light petroleum and extracted with methanol. The methanol extract was evaporated to dryness and partitioned between dichloromethane and 2N HCl. Evaporation of the solvent gave a light brown gum (1.25 g) which was chromatographed on silica. Elution with 2% CH_3OH/CH_2Cl_2 gave a white crystalline solid (853 mg) which was further purified by preparative layer chromatography to give the solid, 1, m.p. 285 - 287°; $[\alpha]_D^{30}$ +98.1 (c = 0.13 in methanol). Acetylation of 1 with acetic anhydride and pyridine gave 2.

Reference

1. Miller, R.W. et al (1985) Planta Medica 51 40.