

PHYTOCHEMICAL STUDIES ON *ALPINIA ABUNDIFLORA*

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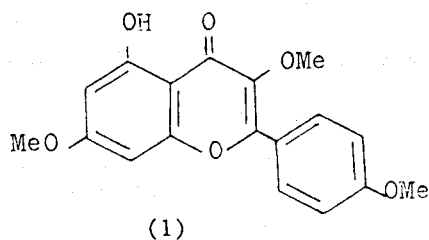
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*Alpina abundiflora* (Zingiberaceae) is a medicinal plant growing in Sri Lanka and South India.<sup>1</sup> We have investigated the organic extracts of the rhizome of *A. abundiflora*.

The powdered rhizome was sequentially extracted with hot petroleum ether (40-60°C) and hot dichloromethane. Chromatographic fractionation of the petroleum ether extract afforded three crystalline compounds. The compounds were identified as sitosterol m.p. 137-137°C and 5-hydroxy-3,7,4'-trimethoxyflavone (1) m.p. 147-148 (lit.<sup>2</sup>m.p. 144-147°C) from their spectroscopic data (IR, UV, <sup>1</sup>H NMR) and by comparison with authentic samples. The third compound was found to be a long chain hydrocarbon m.p. 69-70°C. Chromatographic separation of the dichloromethane extract yielded two liquids and a crystalline solid m.p. 63-65°C. To our knowledge this is the first report on the isolation of the flavone (1) from zingiberaceae.



Financial support from NARESA is gratefully acknowledged.

**References**

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