THE GLYCERYL ETHER DERIVATIVES FROM SRI LANKAN SOFT CORAL SINULARIA SP.

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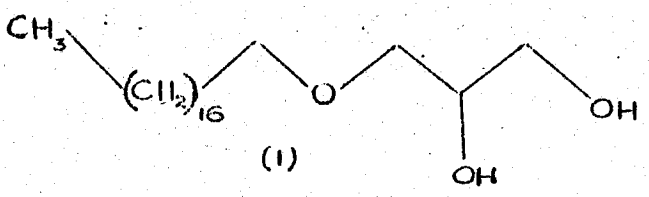
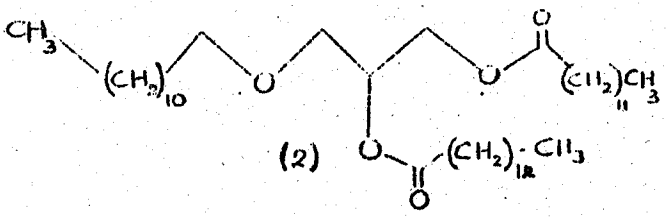
In continuing our search for biologically active secondary metabolites from Sri Lankan marine organisms[1,2,3], we have examined the chemical constituents of two Sinularian species, namely Sinularia crispa and Sinularia abrupta collected from the coastal waters off Unawatuna in the southern coast and Kalkudah in the eastern coast of Sri Lanka respectively.

Fresh specimens of Sinularia crispa were extracted with CH_2Cl_2 - MeOH at room temperature. The extract was partitioned into light petroleum and CH_2Cl_2 respectively. Gel - permeation and gel - partition chromatography of the light petroleum extract followed by medium pressure liquid chromatography on a C_{18} reverse phase column yielded a white solid, which on recrystallisation from MeOH gave crystalline needles of the glyceryl ether (1), m.p. 69°C which was identified using spectral data.

Fresh specimens of the softcoral Sinularia abrupta were extracted with CH_2CI_2-MeoH at room temperature. The extract was partitioned into light petroleum and CH_2CI_2- MeOH at room temperature. The extract was partitioned into light petroleum and CH_2CI_2 respectively. Repeated chromatographic separation of the CH_2CI_2 extract on silica in CH_2Cl_2- Meoh of increasing polarity yielded a white solid. Recrytallisation from MeOH gave white needles of the glyceride ether (2), m.p. 52°C which was identified by spectral data.



(1)



(2)

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