

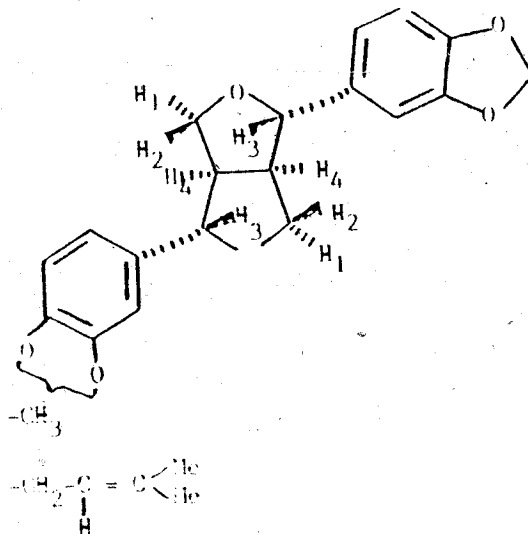
A NEW LIGNAN FROM ZANTHOXYLUM
TETRASPERMUM (RUTACEAE)

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Zanthoxylum tetraspermum (Sinhala - Katukeena, Tamil - Rhetsa) is a wide climbing shrub which is rather common in the montane zone of Sri Lanka and India¹. The plant is prescribed for dyspepsia, some forms of diarrhoea and rheumatism². There are no previous chemical studies reported on this plant.

Investigation of the petroleum ether extract of the stem bark yielded a new lignan (1) as a white sticky solid. The main structural feature of this lignan was confirmed by extensive spectral analysis (¹H N.M.R., ¹³C N.M.R., IR, U.V., Hetero-Cosy, Hetero NOESY and Mass).

Further investigation of the above extract afforded another known lignon sesamine³, myristic acid⁴ and β -sitosterol.



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