

E2-19 : CONSTITUENTS OF *Aegle marmelos* ROOT BARK

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The root bark of *Aegle marmelos* (Sinn. Beli) is used as a fish poison in India and for intermittent fevers in indigenous Medicine. It was found to have insecticidal activity in our screening programme. The root has previously been worked on by Basu and Sen and by Chatterjee et al, and shown to contain furoquinoline alkaloids, coumarins and lupeol.

We have found the root bark to contain the furoquinoline alkaloid dictamnine, together with those previously isolated, γ -fagarine and skimmlanine. A new furoquinoline alkaloid isolated by us is shown to be a hydroxydimethoxyfuroquinoline.

The root bark also contained the previously isolated coumarins, auroptene and imperatorin, a new furanocoumarin and a new simple geranyloxycoumarin. The geranyloxycoumarin contained a chlorine atom in its sidechain and is believed to be an artefact. An attempt is being made to isolate the natural coumarin which is thought to be a new epoxycoumarin.