

## E2-16: Sesquiterpene lactones from *Michelia nilagirica* stem and root barks

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*Michelia nilagirica* (Sinh: Wal sapu, Family Magnoliaceae) is one of the best mountain timbers of Sri Lanka. As part of the search for insecticidal compounds from Sri Lankan plants, the biological activity and chemistry of its stem and root barks were investigated. The root extract showed moderate herbicidal and nematocidal activities. There has been no previous work on *Michelia nilagirica*.

The dichloromethane extracts of the stem and root barks, contained sesquiterpene lactones. The stem bark contained parthenolide and costunolide, previously isolated from *Michelia champaca* root bark, while the root bark contained these 2 compounds and a derivative of parthenolide, 8-acetoxyparthenolide. Structural elucidation was carried out using NMR techniques.

Financial assistance from International Program in Chemical Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden is acknowledged.