

E2-20: Preliminary studies on the chemical constituents of *Barringtonia racemosa* (Lecythideae)

G W R M C Palamakumbura, A S Amarasekera, S A Deraniyagala
(Dept of Chemistry, Univ of Colombo, Colombo 3)

In studies on biological active metabolites from endemic medicinal plants of

Sri Lanka, the bark of *Barringtonia racemosa* was extracted with cold methanol. The crude extract was subjected to chromatographic separation.

The 1:2 CH₂Cl₂ - hexane flash column fraction, after repeated chromatography yielded a crystalline compound which was identified as β-amyrin.

The combined 1:2 CH₂Cl₂, pure CH₂Cl₂ and 2% methanol in CH₂Cl₂ flash column fractions, after repeated chromatography yielded a pure compound, which was tentatively identified as an unsaturated diester of glycerol.

The structures were elucidated by ¹H, ¹³C NMR, IR, UV spectroscopy and GC-MS.