

E2-48: A new isofuroquinoline alkaloid from *Aegle marmelos* root bark

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Aegle marmelos (Family:Rutaceae, Sinh. Beli) is used in the indigenous system of medicine practised in Sri Lanka.

Several coumarins, terpenes and furoquinoline alkaloids have been previously isolated from various parts of this tree. In our insecticidal screening programme, we have found the root bark of *Aegle marmelos* to be insecticidal to *Heliothis* and *Aedes* larvae.

The dichloromethane extract of its root bark contained a new isofuroquinoline alkaloid together with coumarins, furoquinoline, lupeol and the quinolone alkaloid, 4-methoxy-1-methyl-2-quinolone. The quinolone alkaloid and one of the furoquinolines, robustine have not been previously reported from this plant.

The new isofuroquinoline alkaloid was shown by chemical and spectroscopic methods to have the 7,8-dimethoxyfuro[2,3-*b*]quinoline-4(9H)-one structure.

Financial assistance from the International Program in Chemical Sciences, Sweden and Ciba-Geigy, Switzerland is acknowledged.