E2-20: Isocordato-oblongic acid, a new chromen acid from *Calophyllum cordato-oblongum*

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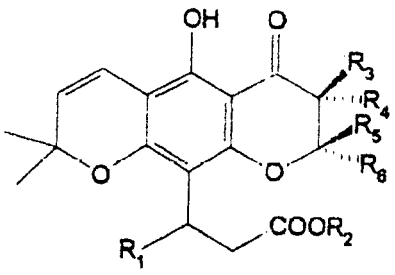
Calophyllum cordato-oblongum (local name Kalu Keena) of the family Cluciaceae (Guttiferae) is a rare endemic plant that grows in the lowland, evergreen, wet zone forests in Sri Lanka. Four xanthones, five pyranocoumarins, a chromen acid and three triterpenoids have been reported from the stem wood, stem bark, leaves, twigs and buds of this plant. Recently we reported the anti HIV-1 Reverse Transcriptase activity of some of the above pyranocoumarins from this species. In this communication we report the isolation of a new chromen acid from the hexane extract of the stem bark of *C. cordato-oblongum.*

Calophyllum species is a rich source of chromen acids (bark acids) and they were first reported only from the stem barks of various *Calophyllum* species. Later they were isolated from the leaves of several *Calophyllum* species. Most of these acids possess a phloroglucinol ring system, such as a cyclohexadienone system in calozelanic acid. During our investigation, previously reported Cordato-oblongic acid and isocordato-oblongic acid were isolated from the

sodium carbonate soluble fraction of the hexane extract of the stem bark of *Calophyllum cordato-oblongum*. Isocordato-oblongic acid is a stereoisomer of cordato-oblongic acid and this is the first report of the occurrence of isocordato-oblongic acid in nature. The structural elucidation of the above compounds were carried out by means of spectroscopic methods such as ^{1}H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, DEPT, COSY, HETCOSY



	R_1	R_2	R_3	R_4	R_5	R_6
Isocordato-oblongic acid methyl ester	CH_3	CH_3	CH_3	H	CH_3	H