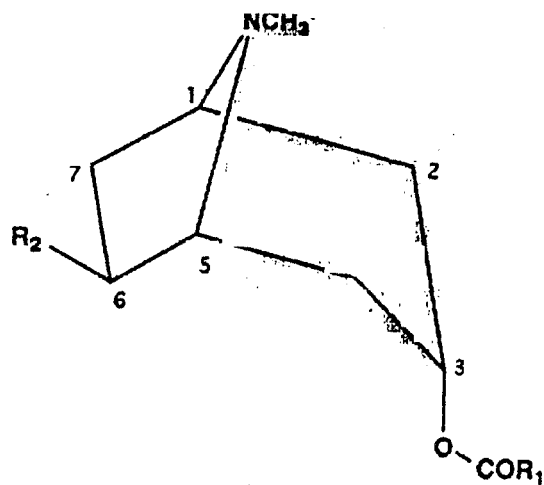


E2-61 Alkaloids of *Erythroxylum zeylanicum* (Erythroxylaceae)

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Only 5 species of the family Erythroxylaceae are found in Sri Lanka including *E. zeylanicum* which is the only endemic *Erythroxylum* species in the country. The leaf of this plant is used in traditional medicine as a very effective anthelmintic for round worms. There are no reports of phytochemical work on Sri Lankan *Erythroxylum* except *E. monogynum*.

The methylene chloride extract of the twigs and leaves gave 6 β -acetoxy-3 α -cinnamoyloxytropane which has already been reported from *E. hypericifolium*. The methylene chloride extract of the root yielded 2 alkaloids, one of which was identified as 1 α H, 5 α H-tropan-3 α -yl 3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoate, which has also been reported from *E. monogynum*. The other alkaloid which is a new compound was identified as 1 α H, 5 α H, 6 β -acetoxytropan-3 α -yl 3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoate. Compounds were characterized using mass spectroscopy and by combinations of 1-D and 2-D NMR techniques including homonuclear (COSY) and heteronuclear (HETCOR) shift correlations.



- (I) R₁ = -CH=CHPh, R₂ = -OCOCH₃
(II) R₁ = -Ph(OCH₃)₃, R₂ = H
(III) R₁ = -Ph(OCH₃)₃, R₂ = -OCOCH₃