

Antifungal chalcones from the leaves of *Artocarpus nobilis*

U L B Jayasinghe^{1*}, B A I S Balasooriya¹, W C Padmini¹ and Y Fujimoto²

¹Institute of Fundamental Studies, Hantana Road, Kandy, Sri Lanka

²Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan

In a continuation of our research work on the search for bioactive compounds from Sri Lankan plants the present investigation was carried out on *Artocarpus nobilis* of the family Moraceae. *A. nobilis* is the only endemic species of the genus *Artocarpus* found in Sri Lanka. Several phenolic compounds have been reported from the stem bark of the plant. The preliminary investigation of the methanol extract and the *n*-butanol extract from the methanol extract of the leaves of *A. nobilis* showed a positive response in the antifungal bioassay against *Cladosporium cladosporioides* by TLC bio-autography. Antifungal activity guided fractionation of the *n*-butanol extract from the methanol extract of the leaves of *A. nobilis* furnished

2',4,4'-trihydroxy-3'-geranylchalcone(1),

2',4,4'-trihydroxy-3'-[(*E*)-6"-hydroxy-3",7"-dimethyl-2",7"octadienyl]chalcone(2),

2',4',4-trihydroxy-3'-[(*E*)-2"-hydroxy-3"-methene-7"-methyl-6"-octaenyl]chalcone(3),

2',4',4,5-tetrahydroxy-3'-geranylchalcone(4),

2',4',4,5-tetrahydroxy-3'-[(*E*)-6"-hydroxy-3",7"-dimethyl-2",7"octadienyl]chalcone(5).

All these compounds showed fungicidal activity on TLC bio-autography method at very low concentrations.

