

Antifungal stilbene derivatives from the stem bark of *Artocarpus nobilis*

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In a continuation of our research work on search for biologically active compounds from Sri Lankan plants, the present investigation was carried out on the stem bark of *Artocarpus nobilis*. *A. nobilis* is an endemic tree of the family Moraceae growing in mid country regions of Sri Lanka. This is the only endemic species of genus *Artocarpus* abundant in Sri Lanka. Several pyranodihydrobenzoxanthenes, chromenoflavonoids, triterpenes 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 stem bark of *A. nobilis* showed a positive response in the antifungal bioassay against *Cladosporium cladosporioides* by the TLC bio-autography method. Antifungal activity guided fractionation of the *n*-butanol extract from the methanol extract of the stem bark of *A. nobilis* furnished two stilbene derivatives *trans*-4-isopentenyl-3,5,2',4'-tetrahydroxystilbene and *trans*-4-(3-methyl-*E*-but-1-enyl)-3,5,2',4'-tetrahydroxystilbene. Both compounds showed strong antifungal activity at 10 μ g/spot against *C. cladosporioides*.