Chemical investigation of *Myristica ceylanica* (*Myristicaceae*).

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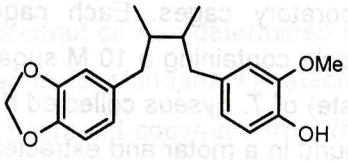
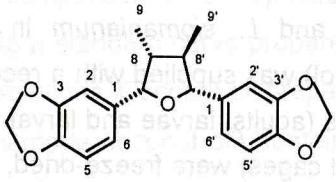
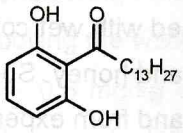
Myristica ceylanica is the only endemic species among the three *Myristica* species found in Sri Lanka. Bark of this plant is used as a gargle for throat ailment in Ayurvedic medicine and in the treatment of wounds in cattle. The plant was collected from Lamazooriyagama and Adikarigama (Hanguranketta, Nuwara Eliya) in the central province of Sri Lanka. Air-dried, powdered root bark was successively extracted with hexane, dichloromethane and methanol at room temperature for two days periods. Crude hexane extract upon silicagel chromatography yielded two lignanans **1**, **2** (compounds **1** and **2** are new to this plant) and an arylalkanone **3**. Compound **2** exhibited 50% mosquito larvicidal activity against the second instar larvae of *Aedes aegyppti* at 10 ppm after 48 h.



1



2



3

rel. 3,4- methalenedioxy-3'-methoxy-4'-hydroxy-8,8'-neolignan (**1**)

rel. (8R,8'R)-dimethyl-(7S,7'R)-bis-(3,4- methalenedioxyphenyl)tetrahydrofuran (**2**)

1-(2',6'-dihydroxyphenyl)tetradecan-1-one (**3**)

These structures were established by comparison with spectroscopic and previously reported physical data.

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