CHEMISTRY OF TWO LEPRARIOID LICHENS FROM SRI LANKA

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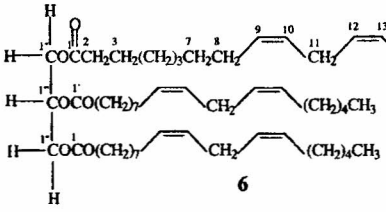
We reported the two species of lichens *Leproloma sipmanianum* and *Lepraria atrotomentosa* from Sri Lanka in 2000. The former which was collected from Beragala, was previously reported from South Africa, Colombia and Brazil while the latter, collected from Ramboda, is a new species.

The compounds, atranorin **1**, β-sitosterol **2**, (+)-usnic acid **3**, zeorin **4** and a C_{43} fatty acid ester **5** have been isolated previously from the hexane and dichloromethane extracts of *L. sipmanianum*. In the present study the methanol extract and the lichen powder of this lichen yielded compounds **1-5** in addition to glyceryl trilinolate **6**, 3, 6-dimethyl-2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzoic acid **7** and a triterpenoid 3β-acetoxyfern-9(11)-ene **8**. Chromatography of the lichen powder of *L. atrotomentosa* led to the isolation of five compounds, including compounds **1-4** along with methyl-β-orcinolcarboxylate **9**. All compounds were characterized by the physical data (mp, TLC and co-TLC) and spectroscopic methods (UV, ^{1}H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, ^{2}D NMR and MS).



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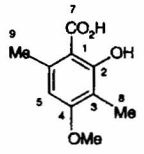

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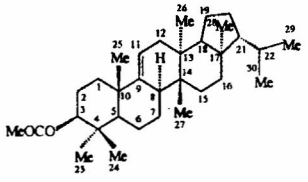

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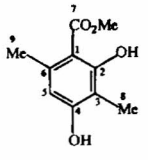

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