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CHEMISTRY OF SOME ANNONACEAE PLANTS

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ABSTRACT

CHEMISTRY OF SOME ANNONACEAE PLANTS

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This thesis describes the chemistry and biological activities of *Xylopia championii* Hook. f. & Thoms and *X. parvifolia* (Wight) Hook. f. & Thoms, antioxidant and mosquito larvicidal activities of some endemic Annonaceae plants, and antifeedant activity of *Goniothalamus gardneri* Hook. f. & Thoms.

The first section deals with the antioxidant and antifungal activities of alkaloids and terpenoid isolated from X. championii. Seven alkaloids, O-methylmoschatoline (9), (-)-discretine (97), (+)-laudanidine (100), oxopurpureine (160), demethyl-10 xylopinine (161), nordicentrine (162), dehydrocorytenchine (163) were isolated. The alkaloids (+)laudanidine (100) and (-)-discretine (97) showed potent antioxidant activity in the DPPH assay. (-)-Discretine (97) and nordicentrine (162) showed potent antifungal activity against the fungus Cladosporium cladosporioides. In addition, a terpenoid, entkaur-16-en-19-oic acid (23) isolated from X. championii showed moderate antifungal activity and weak antioxidant activity. However, it showed a good activity against the second instar larvae of Aedes aegypti (L.). None of the isolated pure alkaloids showed a positive response in the mosquito larvicidal assay against the second instar larvae of A. aegypti. Interestingly these alkaoids seem to be stimulating the growth of the larvae when compared to the control. Another terpenoid, 15β-hydroxy-(-)-kaur-16-en-19-oic acid (77) along with ent-kaur-16-en-19-oic acid (23), O-methylmoschatoline (9), (-)discretine (97), (+)-laudanidine (100), oxopurpureine (160), nordicentrine (162), dehydrocorytenchine (163) was isolated from the stem bark of X. parvifolia.

The next section deals with the antioxidant and mosquito larvicidal activities of some endemic Annonaceae plants namely, *Alphonsea hortensis* H. Huber, *Desmos*

zevlanica Hook. f. & Thoms., Enicosanthum acuminata (Thw.) Airy-Shaw, Goniothalamus hookeri Thw., G. salicina Hook. f. & Thoms., Phoenicanthus coriacea (Thw.) H. Huber, Uvaria semecarpifolia Hook. f. & Thoms., U. sphenocarpa Hook. f. & Thoms., Xylopia championii Hook. f. & Thoms. and X. nigricans Hook. f. & Thoms. The results obtained from the DPPH assay revealed that some of the extracts had superior ability to neutralize free radicals. For example, the MeOH extract of stem of A. hortensis (56.30 %), MeOH extract of leaves of U. semecarpefolia (57.33 %), CH₂Cl₂ and MeOH extracts of stem bark of X. championii (67.05 % and 79.03 %, respectively), MeOH extracts of leaves of G. salicina (59.98 %), and MeOH extract of seeds of X. nigricans (62.06 %) showed high radical scavenging activity compared to the standard DL-α tocopherol (55.84 %). In the mosquito larvicidal assay, the CH₂Cl₂ and MeOH extracts of G. hookeri demonstrated high larvicidal activity (LC₅₀ = 1.9 and 2.1 ppm, respectively) while its leaves exhibited even higher activity (LC₅₀ = 0.4 ppm). The CH_2Cl_2 extracts of stem of A. hortensis and leaves of E. acuminata (LC₅₀ = 46.9 and 41.5 ppm, respectively) and the MeOH extracts of seeds of D. zeylanica and bark of A. hortensis (LC₅₀ = 44.6 ppm and 46.9 ppm, respectively) showed significant activity. The most active was the CH₂Cl₂ extract of leaves of G. hookeri with an LC₅₀ value of 0.4 ppm.

The latter part of the study describes the antifeedant activity of two acetogenins **164** and **165** isolated from *G. gardneri* Hook. f. & Thoms. Both **164** and **165** showed potent antifeedant activity against the second instar larvae of *Plutella xylostella* (L.).

The results obtained from this study revealed that the family Annonaceae is a good source of antioxidants and larvicides.