



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

**ISOLATION, CHARACTERIZATION AND CYTOTOXICITY OF  
PHYTOCHEMICALS FROM SEKOBANG KECHIL (*ANAXAGOREA  
JAVANICA*)**

**SITI MARIAM BTE ZAKARIA**

**IB 2009 11**

**ISOLATION, CHARACTERIZATION AND CYTOTOXICITY OF  
PHYTOCHEMICALS FROM SEKOBANG KECHIL (*ANAXAGOREA  
JAVANICA*)**

**By**

**SITI MARIAM BTE ZAKARIA**

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra  
Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of  
Science**

**August 2009**



## **DEDICATION**

*This thesis is dedicated to my beloved family*

*My father, Zakaria Bin Daud*

*My mother, Rose Bte Abdullah*

*My siblings  
Mohd. Taufiq  
Muhammad Hidhir  
Ahmad Aqbar  
Ahmad Yusran  
Tsuraiya*

*Also to  
Md Razak Bin Salleh  
Asmah Bte Hassan*

*In loving memory of  
My departed sister, Hidayah*



Abstract of the thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in  
fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science

**ISOLATION, CHARACTERIZATION AND CYTOTOXICITY OF  
PHYTOCHEMICALS FROM SEKOBANG KECHIL (*ANAXAGOREA  
JAVANICA*)**

By

**SITI MARIAM BTE ZAKARIA**

**August 2009**

**Chairman : Professor Md Nordin Hj. Lajis, PhD**

**Institute : Bioscience**

Thirty-one plant extracts were obtained from the extract bank of Natural Product Laboratory, Institute of Bioscience, Universiti Putra Malaysia. The whole plant extracts were tested for cytotoxic effect on human breast cancer (MCF-7), prostate cancer (DU-145) and lung cancer (H-460) cell lines using MTT assay. The results of the preliminary cytotoxicity tests showed that eight extracts exhibited very strong activity against one or more of the cell lines at  $100 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ , with cell viability of 10% or less. The methanolic extract of *Anaxagorea javanica* leaves exhibited the strongest activity against all three cell lines with cell viability of less than 2% and further dose-response tests against the MCF-7 cell line showed that it had an  $\text{IC}_{50}$  value of  $2.4 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ . This sample was thus selected and recollected in larger quantities for further phytochemical investigation.

The dichloromethane (DCM) fraction of the first collection was subjected to chromatographic purification from which a known flavonoid, 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (**41**), was obtained. From the chromatographic separation of the DCM extract of the second collection batch, a mixture of long chain alkanes, predominated by nonacosane (**42**) and a mixture of stigmasterol (**43**) and  $\beta$ -sitosterol (**40**) were isolated, in addition to three pure phytochemicals, namely an aliphatic acid, hexadecanoic acid (**44**), and two alkaloids, 11-methoxyeupolauridine (**45**) and 4,11-dimethoxyeupolauridine (**46**). The latter two compounds were found to be new naphthyridine alkaloids with eupolauridine nuclei and reported for the first time for this species.

Compounds that had been obtained in sufficient quantities were tested for cytotoxic activity against the MCF-7 cell line. The samples assayed were 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (**41**), nonacosane (**42**), stigmasterol (**43**) and  $\beta$ -sitosterol (**40**) mixture, and 11-methoxyeupolauridine (**45**). Only 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (**41**) showed cytotoxic effect with an IC<sub>50</sub> value of 3.4  $\mu$ M, and this was its first report for this activity. Plausible biogenetic pathways of the new compounds were also discussed.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia bagi memenuhi keperluan Ijazah Sarjana Sains

**PENGASINGAN, PENGENALPASTIAN DAN KESITOTOKSIKAN  
FITOKIMIA DARIPADA SEKOBANG KECHIL (*ANAXAGOREA  
JAVANICA*)**

Oleh

**SITI MARIAM BTE ZAKARIA**

**Ogos 2009**

**Pengerusi : Profesor Md Nordin Hj. Lajis, PhD**

**Institut : Biosains**

Tiga puluh satu ekstrak pelbagai tumbuhan diperolehi daripada bank ekstrak di Laboratori Hasilan Semulajadi, Institut Biosains, Universiti Putra Malaysia. Keseluruhan ekstrak tumbuhan tersebut telah diuji aktiviti sitotoksik menggunakan kaedah mikrotitratan (MTT) terhadap sel kanser payudara (MCF-7), kanser prostat (DU-145) dan kanser paru-paru (H-460). Kesimpulan daripada perbandingan hasil ujian saringan itu menunjukkan bahawa terdapat lapan ekstrak yang menunjukkan aktiviti yang tinggi terhadap satu atau lebih jenis titisan sel, dengan viabiliti sel sebanyak 10% atau kurang pada kepekatan  $100 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ . Ekstrak metanol daripada daun tumbuhan *Anaxagorea javanica* menunjukkan aktiviti yang sangat tinggi terhadap ketiga-tiga jenis sel dengan viabiliti sel kurang daripada 2% dalam ujian saringan. Seterusnya, ujian tindakbalas dos yang dijalankan terhadap sel MCF-7 menunjukkan aktiviti sitotoksik dengan  $\text{IC}_{50}$

sebanyak  $2.4 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ . Sampel ini kemudian dipilih dan dikumpulkan dalam kuantiti yang lebih besar untuk penyelidikan fitokimia seterusnya.

Penulenan menggunakan kaedah kromatografi terhadap fraksi diklorometana daripada pengumpulan tumbuhan kali pertama telah menghasilkan sebatian flavonoid iaitu 3',4',5-trihidroksi-3,7-dimetoksiflavon (**41**). Pengasingan dan penulenan ekstrak diklorometana daripada pengumpulan tumbuhan kali kedua pula telah membawa kepada penemuan sebatian campuran alkana berantai panjang, didominasi oleh nonakosana (**42**), campuran stigmasterol (**43**) dan  $\beta$ -sitosterol (**40**), serta tiga fitokimia tulen, iaitu sebatian asid alifatik, asid heksadekanoik (**44**), dan juga dua alkaloid, 11-metoksieupolauridina (**45**) dan 4,11-dimetoksieupolauridina (**46**) telah diperolehi. Kedua-dua sebatian alkaloid tersebut dikenalpasti buat kali pertama.

Sebatian yang telah diperolehi dalam kuantiti yang mencukupi telah diuji tahap aktiviti sitotoksikan terhadap sel MCF-7. Sampel yang diuji adalah 3',4',5-trihidroksi-3,7-dimetoksiflavon (**41**), nonakosana (**42**), campuran stigmasterol (**43**) dan  $\beta$ -sitosterol (**40**), dan 11-metoksieupolauridina (**45**). Hanya satu sebatian menunjukkan kesan sitotoksik iaitu 3',4',5-trihidroksi-3,7-dimetoksiflavon (**41**), dengan  $\text{IC}_{50} 3.4 \mu\text{M}$ . Ini adalah laporan pertama bagi kajian kesan sitotoksik (**41**) terhadap sel MCF-7. Cadangan tapak jalan biogenetik sebatian baru tersebut turut dibincangkan.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Glory and praises be to God, the Most Gracious and Merciful, for guiding me and holding me steadfast in seeking knowledge and completing this research, despite the many challenges.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to my supervisor, Professor Dr. Md. Nordin Hj Lajis, for kindly accepting me as his student, and Associate Professor Dr. Khozirah Shaari and Associate Professor Dr. Johnson Stanslas for kindly being in my supervisory committee. Through the past several years, they not only gave me guidance in their respective field of expertise, encouragement and support, but also helped me become a better human being.

Over the past several years, I have spent a wonderful time with all the present and former members of the Natural Products Laboratory. To them, I wish to extend my warmest and best regards and appreciation for their help and friendship. I am particularly grateful to Maulidiani, Khairana, Ayu, Pei Jean, Lam, Sagi, Dr. Faridah, Dr. Ibrahim, Dr. Nadeem and Dr. Seema for the helpful discussions on the natural products chemistry aspects of this research. Thanks are also due to Maulidiani for training me on how to operate the HPLC instrument and Lim for teaching me on how to run the *in vitro* MTT assays, as well as Tang, Wong and Jonathan for running some of the bioassays. In addition, I am indebted to Dr. Babak, Rizal Fahmi and Nazirah for their support and friendship. To friends I



have found in the Bioscience Postgraduate Club, thank you for the cooperation and motivation.

I sincerely appreciate the assistance of Mr Shamsul, Mr Tajuddin and Mr Fauzi in obtaining plant samples, as well as of Mr Salahudin, Mr Zainal, Mdm Rusnani, Ms Shareena, Mdm Mazina and Mdm Zurina in acquiring spectroscopic data. Special thanks go to the lecturers of the undergraduate and postgraduate Spectroscopy classes, especially Associate Professor Dr. Gwendoline, for their understanding and for making spectroscopy comprehensible. I am also grateful to the Malaysian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation for granting me fellowship support for a semester.

To my parents, who have always supported me to pursue my interests and encouraged me through challenging moments, I owe a debt that I can never repay. I wish to thank my siblings for their continuous support and understanding, and my departed sister, who had always inspired me with her zest and ingenuity. The love that my family has provided transcends time and distance. To them, this thesis is dedicated.



I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 26 August 2009 to conduct the final examination of Siti Mariam Binte Zakaria on her thesis entitled “Isolation, Characterization and Cytotoxicity Evaluation of Phytochemicals from Sekobang Kechil (*Anaxagorea javanica*)” in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [(P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the degree of Master of Science.

Members of the Thesis Examination Committee were as follows:

**MAWARDI RAHMANI, PhD**

Professor

Faculty of Science

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Chairman)

**MOHD ASPOLLAH SUKARI, PhD**

Professor

Faculty of Science

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Internal Examiner)

**GWENDOLINE EE CHENG LIAN, PhD**

Professor

Faculty of Science

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Internal Examiner)

**FAREDIAH AHMAD, PhD**

Associate Professor

Faculty of Science

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)

Malaysia

(External Examiner)

---

**BUJANG BIN KIM HUAT, PhD**

Professor and Deputy Dean

School of Graduate Studies

Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date:



Saya mengesahkan bahawa satu Jawatankuasa Peperiksaan Tesis telah berjumba pada 26 August 2009 untuk menjalankan peperiksaan akhir bagi Siti Mariam Binte Zakaria bagi menilai tesis beliau yang bertajuk “Pengasingan, Pengenalpastian Dan Kesitotoksikan Fitokimia Daripada Sekobang Kechil (*Anaxagorea javanica*)” mengikut Akta Universiti dan Kolej Universiti 1971 dan Perlembagaan Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 Mac 1998. Jawatankuasa tersebut telah memperakukan bahawa calon ini layak dianugerahi Ijazah Sarjana Sains.

Ahli Jawatankuasa Peperiksaan Tesis adalah seperti berikut:

**MAWARDI RAHMANI, PhD**

Profesor

Fakulti Sains

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Pengerusi)

**MOHD ASPOLLAH SUKARI, PhD**

Profesor

Fakulti Sains

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Pemeriksa Dalam)

**GWENDOLINE EE CHENG LIAN, PhD**

Profesor

Fakulti Sains

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Pemeriksa Dalam)

**FAREDIAH AHMAD, PhD**

Profesor Madya

Fakulti Sains

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)

Malaysia

(Pemeriksa Luar)

---

**BUJANG BIN KIM HUAT, PhD**

Profesor dan Timbalan Dekan

Sekolah Pengajian Siswazah

Universiti Putra Malaysia

Tarikh:

This thesis was submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science. The members of Supervisory Committee were as follow:

**Md. Nordin Hj. Lajis, PhD**

Professor

Institute of Bioscience

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Chairman)

**Khozirah Shaari, PhD**

Associate Professor

Institute of Bioscience

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Member)

**Johnson Stanslas, PhD**

Associate Professor

Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

Universiti Putra Malaysia

(Member)

---

**HASANAH MOHD. GHAZALI, PhD**

Professor and Dean

School of Graduate Studies

Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date: 16 November 2009



## **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotation and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also decree that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.

---

**SITI MARIAM BINTE ZAKARIA**

Date: 18 January 2010



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<b>DEDICATION</b>	ii
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	iii
<b>ABSTRAK</b>	v
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	vii
<b>APPROVAL</b>	ix
<b>DECLARATION</b>	xii
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	xvi
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	xviii
<b>LIST OF SCHEMES</b>	xxii
<b>LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS</b>	xxiii

## CHAPTER

<b>1      INTRODUCTION</b>	1
1.1     Natural Products in Drug Discovery	1
1.2     Drug Discovery From Terrestrial Plants	2
1.3     Screening for Biological Activity of Plants Extracts	3
1.4     Cancer and its Treatment	4
1.5     Natural Products in Cancer Treatment	5
1.6     Natural Products Research in Malaysia	10
1.7     Research Objectives	12
<b>2      LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	
2.1     Natural Habitat of The Collected Plants for Screening	14
2.1.1   Endau Rompin Forest Reserve	14
2.1.2   Royal Belum State Park	15
2.2     The Annonaceae Family	16
2.2.1   Use and Commercial Importance of Annonaceae Species	17
2.2.2   Phytochemical and Pharmacological Studies of Annonaceae	18
2.3     Botany, Distribution and Ethnobotany of <i>Anaxagorea javanica</i>	21
2.4     Phytochemical and Bioactivity Studies on <i>Anaxagorea</i>	24
2.4.1   Alkaloids	24
2.4.2   Lignoids	25
2.4.3   Flavonoids	26
2.4.4   Xanthones	27
2.4.5   Terpenes and Essential oils	28

2.4.6	Other compounds	28
<b>3</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY</b>	30
3.1	Melting Points	30
3.2	Instrumentations	30
3.3	Chromatographic Methods	31
3.4	Solvents	35
3.5	Preliminary Cytotoxicity Screening of Plant Extracts	36
3.5.1	Plant Materials	36
3.5.2	Preparation of Crude Extracts	36
3.6	Isolation of Chemical Phytochemicals from leaves of <i>Anaxagorea javanica</i> Blume (First Collection)	39
3.6.1	Plant Materials	39
3.6.2	Extraction and Chemical Investigation of <i>A. javanica</i> Leaves (First Collection)	39
3.6.3	Physical and Spectral Data of 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (Coll1A, <b>41</b> )	43
3.7	Isolation of Chemical Phytochemicals from leaves of <i>A. javanica</i> Blume (Second Collection)	44
3.7.1	Plant Materials	44
3.7.2	Extraction of <i>A. javanica</i> Leaves (Second Collection)	44
3.7.3	Chemical Investigation of DCM Extract of <i>A. javanica</i> Leaves (Second Collection)	44
3.7.4	Physical and Spectral Data of Nonacosane (in mixture of long chain alkanes) (DA1, <b>42</b> )	50
3.7.5	Physical and Spectral Data of Stigmasterol ( <b>43</b> ) and β-Sitosterol ( <b>40</b> ) (DBCS2)	51
3.7.6	Physical and Spectral Data of Hexadecanoic Acid (DCC, <b>44</b> )	52
3.7.7	Physical and Spectral Data of 11-Methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> )	53
3.7.8	Physical and Spectral Data of 4,11-Dimethoxy-eupolauridine (DGGH2, <b>46</b> )	54
3.8	Cytotoxicity Assay	55
3.8.1	Preparation of Extracts, Fractions and Phytochemicals	55
3.8.2	MTT Colorimetric Assay	56
<b>4</b>	<b>RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS</b>	58
4.1	Cytotoxic Evaluation of Plant Extracts	58
4.1.1	Preliminary Cytotoxic Screening of Plant Extracts	58
4.1.2	Dose-Response Test of <i>A. javanica</i> Leaves Extract	62
4.2	Cytotoxic Activity of the Extracts and Fractions of the First and Second Collections of <i>A. javanica</i> leaves	64
4.3	Characterization of the Phytochemicals from <i>A. javanica</i>	66

leaves		
4.3.1	3',4',5-Trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (Coll1A, <b>41</b> )	68
4.3.2	Nonacosane (DA1, <b>42</b> ) (mixture of long chain alkanes)	82
4.3.3	Mixture of Stigmasterol ( <b>43</b> ) and β-Sitosterol ( <b>40</b> ) (DBCS2)	88
4.3.4	Hexadecanoic acid (DCC, <b>44</b> )	92
4.3.5	11-Methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> )	97
4.3.6	4,11-Dimethoxyeupolauridine (DGGH2, <b>46</b> )	110
4.4	Biogenesis of 11-Methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> ) and 4,11-Dimethoxyeupolauridine (DGGH2, <b>46</b> )	123
4.5	Cytotoxic Activity of the Isolated Phytochemicals	128
<b>5</b>	<b>GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION</b>	130
5.1	General Discussion	130
5.2	Conclusion	133
5.3	Recommendations	135
<b>REFERENCES</b>		137
<b>APPENDIX</b>		150
<b>BIODATA OF STUDENT</b>		153
<b>LIST OF PUBLICATIONS</b>		154

## LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1.1 Source, treatment and mechanism of action of anticancer drugs	6
3.1 HPLC eluting gradient in preliminary analysis of samples.	34
3.2 Selected extracts for cytotoxicity screening	37
3.3 Optimized time program for the isolation of 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (Coll 1A, <b>41</b> ).	41
3.4 Optimized time program for the isolation of 11-methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> ) and 4,11-dimethoxyeupolauridine (DGGH2, <b>46</b> ).	48
4.1 Cytotoxicity of crude extracts screened in preliminary cytotoxicity assay	59
4.2 IC <sub>50</sub> values of extracts and fractions of first collection of <i>A. javanica</i> leaves on MCF-7 cell line	64
4.3 IC <sub>50</sub> values of extracts of second collection of <i>A. javanica</i> leaves on MCF-7 cell line	65
4.4 Assignment of protons of 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (Coll1A, <b>41</b> ).	71
4.5 Assignment of carbons of 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (Coll1A, <b>41</b> ).	72
4.6 <sup>1</sup> H (500 MHz, Acetone- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> ) and <sup>13</sup> C (125 MHz, Acetone- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> ) NMR data of Coll1A ( <b>41</b> ) and its short ( <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> ) and long ranges ( <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> & <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> ) <sup>1</sup> H- <sup>13</sup> C connectivity established by gHSQC and gHMBC, respectively.	73
4.7 Comparison of <sup>1</sup> H (500 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) NMR data of 11-methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> ) with <sup>1</sup> H (90 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) NMR data of eupolauridine ( <b>15</b> ).	101
4.8 <sup>1</sup> H (500 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) and <sup>13</sup> C (125 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> ) NMR data of 11-methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> ), its short ( <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> ) and long ranges ( <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> & <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> ) <sup>1</sup> H- <sup>13</sup> C connectivity established by gHSQC and gHMBC, respectively, its short ( <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> ) and spatial <sup>1</sup> H- <sup>1</sup> H connectivity	102

established by COSY and NOESY, respectively, and comparison with  $^{13}\text{C}$  (90.56 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) NMR data of eupolauridine (**15**).

4.9	Comparison of $^1\text{H}$ -NMR assignments of 3-methoxyeupolauridine ( <b>49</b> ), 11-methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> ) and 4,11-dimethoxy-eupolauridine (DGGH2, <b>46</b> ). 115
4.10	$^1\text{H}$ (500 MHz, $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) and $^{13}\text{C}$ (125 MHz, $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) NMR data of 4,11-dimethoxyeupolauridine ( <b>46</b> ), its short ( $^1J$ ) and long ranges ( $^2J$ & $^3J$ ) $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ connectivity established by gHSQC and gHMBC, respectively, and its $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ connectivity established by COSY 116
4.11	Aporphine alkaloids in <i>E. laurina</i> , <i>C. odorata</i> and <i>C. patens</i> 123
4.12	Cytotoxicity of purified phytochemicals on MCF-7 cell line at 10 $\mu\text{M}$ . 128



## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
2.1 Flower and fruits with the leaves of <i>Anaxagorea javanica</i> Blume.	22
2.2 <i>Anaxagorea javanica</i> Blume. (Annonaceae) A. flowering and fruiting branch; B. half-flower and flower parts; C. aggregate fruit; D. cross-section of a single fruit (with two seeds inside); E. seed; F. seedling (Source: Keng 1983).	23
3.1 Flowchart of the isolation of 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (Coll 1A, <b>41</b> ).	42
3.2 Isolation of nonacosane (DA1, <b>42</b> ), mixture of stigmasterol ( <b>43</b> ) and $\beta$ -sitosterol ( <b>40</b> ) (DBCS2), and hexadecanoic acid (DCC, <b>44</b> ).	46
3.3 Flow chart of the isolation of 11-methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> ) and 4,11-dimethoxyeupolauridine (DGGH2, <b>46</b> ).	49
3.4 Conversion of MTT to formazan catalyzed by dehydrogenases in viable cells.	57
4.1 Dose-response curve for cytotoxicity of <i>A. javanica</i> leaves extract on MCF-7 cell-line with $IC_{50}$ value at $2.4 \pm 1.1 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ . The absorbance at 550 nm determined by MTT assay is proportional to the number of cells. <i>Point</i> , mean of 3 tests. <i>Bars</i> , standard deviation.	63
4.2 $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (Coll 1A) ( <b>41</b> ) in $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ .	74
4.3 $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (Coll 1A) ( <b>41</b> ) in Acetone- $d_6$ with insert showing resonance at $\delta$ 12.80.	75
4.4 $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone (Coll 1A) ( <b>41</b> ) in Acetone- $d_6$ .	76
4.5 (a) Full $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ COSY spectrum of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> ) with the internal box indicating selected area for expansion; (b) Expansion of selected area of $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ COSY spectrum of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> ).	77
4.6 (a) Full $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HSQC spectrum of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> ) with the internal box indicating selected areas for expansion; (b) Expansion of	78

selected areas of  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC spectrum of Coll 1A (**41**).

4.7	(a) Full $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HMBC spectrum of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> ) with the internal box indicating selected area for expansion; (b,c) Expansion of selected areas of $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HMBC spectrum of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> ).	79
4.8	(a) Diagram of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> ) with arrows indicating $^2J$ and $^3J$ HMBC ( $\rightarrow$ ) and NOESY ( $-->$ ) correlations; (b) Full NOESY spectrum of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> ).	80
4.9	EIMS spectrum of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> )	81
4.10	IR spectrum of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> ).	81
4.11	UV spectrum of Coll 1A ( <b>41</b> ).	81
4.12	$^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of nonacosane (DA1, <b>42</b> ) in a mixture of long chain alkanes in $\text{CDCl}_3$	84
4.13	$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of nonacosane (DA1, <b>42</b> ) in a mixture of long chain alkanes in $\text{CDCl}_3$	85
4.14	GCMS spectrum of DA1 ( <b>42</b> ).	86
4.15	EIMS spectrum of DA1 ( <b>42</b> ).	86
4.16	IR spectrum of DA1 ( <b>42</b> ).	87
4.17	$^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of stigmasterol ( <b>43</b> ) and $\beta$ -sitosterol ( <b>40</b> ) (DBCS2) in $\text{CDCl}_3$	90
4.18	EIMS spectrum of DBCS2 ( <b>40 &amp; 43</b> )	91
4.19	IR spectrum of DBCS2 ( <b>40 &amp; 43</b> )	91
4.20	$^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of hexadecanoic acid (DCC, <b>44</b> ) in $\text{CDCl}_3$	94
4.21	$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of hexadecanoic acid (DCC, <b>44</b> ) in $\text{CDCl}_3$	95

4.22	EIMS spectrum of DCC ( <b>44</b> )	96
4.23	IR spectrum of DCC ( <b>44</b> )	96
4.24	$^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of 11-methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> ) in $\text{CDCl}_3$	103
4.25	$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of 11-methoxyeupolauridine (DGGH1, <b>45</b> ) in $\text{CDCl}_3$	104
4.26	(a) Full $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ COSY spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> ) with the internal box indicating selected area for expansion; (b) Expansion of selected area of $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ COSY spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> ).	105
4.27	(a) Full $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HSQC spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> ) with the internal box indicating selected areas for expansion; (b, c) Expansion of selected areas of $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HSQC spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> )	106
4.28	(a) Full $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HMBC spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> ) with the internal box indicating selected area for expansion; (b) Expansion of selected areas of $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HMBC spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> ); (c) Diagram of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> ) with arrows indicating selected $^2J$ and $^3J$ correlations.	107
4.29	Diagram showing NOESY correlations and full NOESY spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> )	108
4.30	EIMS spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> )	109
4.31	IR spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> )	109
4.32	UV spectrum of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> )	109
4.33	$^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of 4,11-dimethoxyeupolauridine (DGGH2, <b>46</b> ) in $\text{CDCl}_3$	117
4.34	Selected $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ COSY spectrum of 4,11-dimethoxyeupolauridine (DGGH2, <b>46</b> ).	118
4.35	$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of 4,11-dimethoxyeupolauridine (DGGH2, <b>46</b> ) in $\text{CDCl}_3$	119
4.36	(a) Full $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HSQC spectrum of DGGH2 ( <b>46</b> ) with the internal box indicating selected areas for expansion; (b) Expansion of selected areas of $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HSQC spectrum of DGGH2 ( <b>46</b> ).	120

4.37	(a) Full $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HMBC spectrum of DGGH2 ( <b>46</b> ) with the internal box indicating selected area for expansion; (b,c) Expansion of selected areas of $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ HMBC spectrum of DGGH2 ( <b>46</b> ); (d) Diagram of DGGH2 ( <b>46</b> ) with arrows indicating selected long range $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ correlations.	121
4.38	EIMS spectrum of DGGH2 ( <b>46</b> )	122
4.39	IR spectrum of DGGH2 ( <b>46</b> )	122
4.40	UV spectrum of DGGH2 ( <b>46</b> )	122
4.41	Dose-response curve for cytotoxicity of 3',4',5-trihydroxy-3,7-dimethoxyflavone ( <b>41</b> ) on MCF-7 cell-line with $\text{IC}_{50}$ value at $3.4 \pm 0.2 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ . The absorbance at 550 nm determined by MTT assay is proportional to the number of cells. <i>Point</i> , mean of 2 tests. <i>Bars</i> , standard deviation.	129

## LIST OF SCHEMES

Scheme	Page
4.1    EI mass fragmentation of DGGH1 ( <b>45</b> )	97
4.2    EI mass fragmentation of DGGH2 ( <b>46</b> )	111
4.3    Proposed biosynthesis of eupolauridine (adapted from Taylor 1984)	126
4.4    Proposed biosynthetic pathways of 11-methoxyeupolauridine ( <b>45</b> ) and 4,11-dimethoxyeupolauridine ( <b>46</b> )	127



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

$\delta$	Chemical shift in ppm
$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Degree in Celsius
$^{13}\text{C}$	Carbon-13
$^1\text{H}$	Proton
Acetone- $d_6$	Deuterated acetone
<i>br</i>	Broad
BuOH	Butanol
CC	Column chromatography
$\text{CDCl}_3$	Deuterated chloroform
$\text{CHCl}_3$	Chloroform
<i>d</i>	Doublet
<i>dd</i>	Doublet of doublets
<i>ddd</i>	Doublet of doublets of doublets
DCM	Dichloromethane
DEPT	Distortionless Enhancement by Polarization Transfer
DMSO	Dimethylsulfoxide
DMSO- $d_6$	Deuterated dimethylsulfoxide
DNP	Dictionary of Natural Products
DPPH	1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl
EIMS	Electron Impact Mass Spectrum
ESI	Electro-Spray Ionization
EtOAc	Ethyl acetate
eV	Electron volt
FTIR	Fourier Transform Infrared
GC-MS	Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry
gHMBC	Gradient Heteronuclear Multiple Bond Correlation
gHSQC	Gradient Heteronuclear Single-Quantum Coherence
gCOSY	Gradient Correlation Spectroscopy
HPLC	High Performance Liquid Chromatography

Hz	Hertz
IC	Inhibition concentration
i.d.	Internal diameter of chromatographic column
IR	Infrared
<i>J</i>	Coupling in Hz
LHS	Laboratori Hasilan Semulajadi
Lit.	Literature
<i>m</i>	Multiplet
M	Molar
<i>m/z</i>	Mass per charge
MeOH	Methanol
MHz	MegaHertz
mp	Melting point
MS	Mass Spectrum/ Mass Spectrometry
nm	Nanometer
NMR	Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
NOESY	Nuclear Overhauser Enhancement Spectroscopy
PTLC	Preparative Thin Layer Chromatography
s	Singlet
<i>t</i>	Triplet
THMF	3,5,7,4'-tetrahydroxy-2'-methoxyflavone
TLC	Thin Layer Chromatography
TMS	Tetramethylsilane
UV	Ultraviolet
UV-VIS	Ultraviolet-visible