

Chemical constituents from two weed species of Spermaceae (Rubiaceae)

ABSTRACT

Spermaceae *articularis* and *Spermaceae exilis* are weeds commonly growing in wastelands but widely used as traditional medicines. The separation works on the two plant species had been carried out using various solvents and chromatographic methods. The structures of the isolated compounds were determined by using spectroscopic methods such as IR, MS, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, 2D-NMR and by comparison with the data reported previously. Extracts from *Spermaceae articularis* gave two compounds, identified as ursolic acid (1) and stigmasterol, while extracts from *Spermaceae exilis* yielded four compounds, ursolic acid (1), benzo[*g*]isoquinoline-5, 10-dione (2), stigmasterol and hexadecanoic acid (3). There was no previous phytochemical investigation on *Spermaceae exilis*.

Keyword: Weed; Spermaceae; Rubiaceae; Ursolic acid