

## A New Phytochemical Survey of Malaya<sup>1)</sup>—Chemical Screening

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Reported here (Table II) are the results of screening of Malayan plants from 82 families, representing 169 genera and 226 species, for presence of alkaloids, saponins, and steroids and triterpenes. Results of ensuing detailed chemical investigations on some plants are summarized (Table I), and the potentials of others discussed.

While many plants of the rich Malayan flora have long found use in folk medicine,<sup>3)</sup> it is only recently that systematic studies have been undertaken with the aim of discovering substances of pharmaceutical interest. A phytochemical survey of Malaya was initiated in 1957 by the University of Malaya (then in Singapore) in collaboration with the Malayan Government Department of Chemistry. The earlier results of chemical<sup>4-7)</sup> and pharmacological<sup>7)</sup> screening of some Malayan plants have been reported. Since 1965, the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, has taken over this survey. This paper outlines the organisation of the new systematic survey and presents the first set of results of screening tests.

### Experimental Methods

**Collection and Identification**—By far the greatest number of species of the flora of Malaya is to be found in the forests. There is seldom a forest area with one or a few dominant species; more often many species occur together in a small area. The basic survey has therefore been organised in the forest.

Six different floristic areas of forest have so far been selected. The survey of each area is planned in four stages. (a) A one chain square quadrat is laid out and all trees of five inch girth and over are numbered and measured. (b) With the assistance of the local foresters, the numbered trees are given Malay names. (c) The survey team makes initial collections, and, for accurate identification, subsequent visits are made when the trees are in flower or fruit. (d) Further chain-square quadrats are laid out beside the original one, up to a total area of an acre, and new species encountered are numbered and collected.

Apart from the basic survey, general collections are made in areas which do not lend themselves to systematic treatment by means of quadrats. In this way the entire flora of the country will be very efficiently covered.

**Chemical Tests**—The procedures adopted in the screening tests for alkaloids and saponins were in accordance with those described by Douglas, *et al.*<sup>5)</sup> and Simes, *et al.*<sup>8)</sup> The crude residue of the chloroform extract of plant material was treated with dilute hydrochloric acid (2N). The acid extract was tested for alkaloids using Bouchardat, Dragendorff and Meyer reagents while the residue left after extraction with acid

- 1) For preceding part of the series, see *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **13**, 882 (1965).<sup>5)</sup>
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- 3) I.H. Burkill, "Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula," Vol. I and II, Government Printing Press, Singapore, 1935; J.D. Gimlette, "Malay Poisons and Charm Cures," Churchill, 3rd edition, London, 1929.
- 4) B. Douglas and A.K. Kiang, *Malayan Pharmaceutical Journal*, **6**, 138 (1957).
- 5) B. Douglas, A.K. Kiang, and F. Morsingh, *J. Pharm. Pharmacol.*, **13**, 98 (1961).
- 6) R.D. Amarasingham, N.G. Bisset, A.H. Millard, and M.C. Woods, *Economic Botany*, **18**, 270 (1964).
- 7) K. Nakanishi, S. Sasaki, A.K. Kiang, J. Goh, H. Kakisawa, M. Ohashi, M. Goto, J. Watanabe, H. Yokotani, C. Matsumura, and M. Togashi, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* (Tokyo), **13**, 882 (1965).
- 8) J.J.H. Simes, J.G. Tracey, L.J. Webb, and W.J. Dunstan, "Australian Phytochemical Survey, Bulletin No. 281," Pt. III, C.S.I.R.O., 1959.

Family	Species	Parts	Chemical tests for			Family	Species	Parts	Chemical tests for		
			Alkaloids	Saponins	Steroids Triterpenes				Alkaloids	Saponins	Steroids Triterpenes
Aizoaceae	<i>Sesuvium portulacastrum</i> (L.) L.	W	2+	-	-	Dilleniaceae	<i>Thoreostachyum bancanum</i> Kurz.	W	-	-	
Alangiaceae	<i>Alangium griffithii</i> (Clarke) Harms.	B, L F, Wd	-	-	-	Dilleniaceae	<i>Dillenia suffruticosa</i> (Griff.) Mart.	S, L, F S, L	-	-	
Anacardiaceae	<i>Campnosperma auriculata</i> Hk. f.	L, S	1+	-	-	Dilleniaceae	<i>Tetracera scandens</i> (L.) Merr.	F	1+	-	
Anacardiaceae	<i>Campnosperma montana</i> Laut.	L, S	-	-	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Dioscorea laurifolia</i> Wall.	W	-	-	
Anacardiaceae	<i>Mangifera caesia</i> Jack. ex Wall.	S, L	1+	-	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Balanocarpus heimi</i> King	B, Wd	-	-	
Anacardiaceae	<i>Ancistrocladus tectorius</i> (Lour.) Merr.	S, L	2+	+	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Dryobalanops aromatica</i> Gaertn. f.	B, L, Wd	-	+	
Annonaceae	<i>Drepanthus pruriifolius</i> Maing.	B, L	-	-	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Hopsea pubescens</i> Ridl.	L, B, Wd	-	2+	
Apocynaceae	<i>Xylopiya ferruginea</i> Hk. f. & Th.	F, S	1+	-	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Shorea acuminata</i> Dyer	B, L, Wd	-	+	
Apocynaceae	<i>Allamanda cathartica</i> L.	L, S	1+	+	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Shorea bracteolata</i> Dyer	S, L	-	+	
Apocynaceae	<i>Alstonia macrophylla</i> Wall.	S, L	1+	-	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Shorea curtisii</i> Dyer ex King	B, L, Wd	1+	+	
Araliaceae	<i>Lochnera rosea</i> Reichb.	S, L	3+	+	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Shorea glauca</i> King	L, S	1+	+	
Araliaceae	<i>Aralia ferox</i> Miq.	L, S	4+	-	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Shorea leptostyla</i> Miq.	S, L	-	-	
Araliaceae	<i>Aralia montana</i> Bl.	W	-	+	-	Dioscoreaceae	<i>Shorea resina-negra</i> Foxw.	B, L, Wd	1+	-	
Aristolochiaceae	<i>Apama corymbosa</i> Soler.	S, L	-	+	-	Ebenaceae	<i>Diosphyos lanceifolia</i> (cf. Corner)	S, L	-	+	
Asteraceae	<i>Calotropis gigantea</i> (Willd.) Dryand ex Ait. f.	F	1+	-	-	Ebenaceae	<i>Elaeocarpus patilatus</i> (Jack.) Wall.	S, L	1+	+	
Asteraceae	<i>Hoya coronaria</i> Bl.	S, L	1+	-	-	Ebenaceae	<i>Elaeocarpus robustus</i> Roxb.	S, L	1+	+	
Bixaceae	<i>Bixa orellana</i> L.	S, L	-	-	-	Ebenaceae	<i>Syphelia malayana</i> (Jack.) Spr.	S, L	-	+	
Bombacaceae	<i>Durio zibethinus</i> Muir.	Sd	1+	-	+	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Bridelia tomentosa</i> Bl.	F, S, L	1+	-	
Boraginaceae	<i>Cordia cylindrostachya</i> Roem. & Schutt.	W	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Croton eryngatum</i> Bl.	L, S	1+	-	
Boraginaceae	<i>Elveta busifolia</i> Roxb.	S, L	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia atoto</i> Forst. f.	S	2+	-	
Burseraceae	<i>Dacryodes rugosa</i> (Bl.) H. J. Lam. (glabrous)	B, Wd	1+	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia kirta</i> L.	L	-	-	
Burseraceae	<i>Dacryodes rugosa</i> (Bl.) H. J. Lam. (hairy)	F, Sd	1+	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia synadenium</i> Ridl.	L, S	-	-	
Caesalpiniaceae	<i>Cassia alata</i> L.	L, Pp	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Excoecaria agallocha</i> L.	L, S	-	-	
Caesalpiniaceae	<i>Saraca thaipongensis</i> Cantley	S, L	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Flueggea virosa</i> Baill.	S, L	4+	-	
Campanulaceae	<i>Laurentia longiflora</i> (L.) Petermann	W	3+	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Glochidion obscurum</i> (Willd.) Bl.	F, L, S	-	-	
Clusiaceae	<i>Garcinia parvifolia</i> (Miq.) Miq.	S, L	1+	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Glochidion wallichianum</i> Muill.	B, L, Wd	-	+	
Commelinaceae	<i>Anetiema nudiflora</i> R. Br.	W	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i> L.	F	1+	+	
Commelinaceae	<i>Forrestia mollis</i> Hassk.	W	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga gigantea</i> M. A.	S	2+	+	
Compositae	<i>Elephantopus tomentosus</i> L.	W	1+	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga hosei</i> King	L, Fc, Sd	-	3+	
Compositae	<i>Tridax procumbens</i> L.	W	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga huilettii</i> King (male)	S	-	-	
Convolvulaceae	<i>Vernonia arborea</i> Buch.-Ham.	W	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga huilettii</i> King (female)	F, L, S	-	-	
Convolvulaceae	<i>Wedelia triflora</i> (L.) DC.	S, L	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga hypoleuca</i> M. A.	S, L	1+	-	
Convolvulaceae	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i> Roth.	S, L, F	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga javanica</i> (Bl.) M. A. (male)	F, L, S	-	-	
Cucurbitaceae	<i>Ipomoea stolonifera</i> (Cyr.) Gmel.	W	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga javanica</i> (Bl.) M. A. (female)	L, S	-	-	
Cunoniaceae	<i>Hodgsonia capnicarpa</i> Ridl.	L, S, F	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga tenarius</i> (L.) M. A.	L, S	-	-	
Cyperaceae	<i>Wimmermannia blumei</i> Panch.	S, L	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Macaranga trioba</i> M. A.	L, S	-	-	
Cyperaceae	<i>Scleria sumatrensis</i> Retz.	W	-	-	-	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Mallothus macrostachyus</i> M. A. (female)	F, L, S	-	-	
Cyperaceae						Euphorbiaceae	<i>Mallothus macrostachyus</i> M. A. (male)	F, L, S	-	-	
Cyperaceae						Euphorbiaceae	<i>Mallothus paniculatus</i> (Lmk.) M. A.	L, S	-	-	
Cyperaceae						Euphorbiaceae	<i>Omalanthus populneus</i> (Geisler) Pax.	L, S	1+	-	

<b>Fagaceae</b>	<i>Phyllanthus nirvi</i> L.	W	-	-	-	L, S	Macrolepis muscosa (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Quercus hians</i> King	L, S	+	+	+	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Flacourtiaceae</b>	<i>Cassaria lobliana</i> Turcz.	L, S	3+	+	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Flagellariaceae</b>	<i>Flagellaria indica</i> L.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Gnetaceae</b>	<i>Gnetum gnemon</i> L. var <i>brunonianum</i> (Griff.) Mgf.	L, S	+	+	+	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Goodeniaceae</b>	<i>Scaevola taccada</i> (Gaertn.) Roxb.	L, S	3+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Gramineae</b>	<i>Oplismenus compositus</i> Beauv.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Themeda arguens</i> Hack.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Hernandiaceae</b>	<i>Hernandia ovigera</i> L.	L, S	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Hyperiaceae</b>	<i>Cratogeomys arborescens</i> Bl.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Cratogeomys formosum</i> (Jack.) Dyer	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Iridaceae</b>	<i>Trimeza martinicensis</i> (Jacq.) Herb.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Juglandaceae</b>	<i>Engelhardtia voburgiana</i> Wall.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Engelhardtia spicata</i> Lechten. ex Bl.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Labiatae</b>	<i>Hyptis capitata</i> Jacq.	F, L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Hyptis suaveolens</i> (L.) Poit.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> L.	L, S	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Lauraceae</b>	<i>Cassytha filiformis</i> L.	W	2+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Cinnamomum paraneuron</i> Miq.	L, S	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Lindera lucida</i> (Bl.) Boerl.	L, S, F	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Lindera oxyphylla</i> Hk. f.	R, B, Wd	1+	+	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Litsea umbellata</i> Merr.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Neolitsea zeylanica</i> Merr.	S	3+	+	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Notaphoebe panduriformis</i> Gamble	L, L	2+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Liliaceae</b>	<i>Dianella ensifolia</i> Red.	S	3+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Sansertia zeylanicum</i> Willd.	Rh, L	-	+	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Linaceae</b>	<i>Rouquieria griffithiana</i> Planch.	S	4+	+	-	L, S, F	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Loganiaceae</b>	<i>Fagraea crenulata</i> Maing. ex Clarke	L, S, F	2+	+	-	Ped	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Fagraea fragrans</i> Roxb.	S	2+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Fagraea racemosa</i> Jack. ex Wall.	F, L	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Malvaceae</b>	<i>Fagraea fragrans</i> Jack. ex Wall.	L, S	-	-	-	F	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i> L.	F	3+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Sida retusa</i> L. (dwarf)	L, S	-	-	-	W	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Sida retusa</i> L. (normal)	W	-	-	-	W	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Sida rhombifolia</i> L.	W	-	-	-	W	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Marantaceae</b>	<i>Donax grandis</i> Ridl.	W	2+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Melastomataceae</b>	<i>Allomorphia malaccensis</i> Ridl.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Anplectrum divaricatum</i> Triana.	L, S	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Citidemia hirta</i> D. Don.	F	2+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Dissochaeta amulata</i> Hk. f.	L, S	-	+	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Dissochaeta aff. bracteata</i> (Jack.) Bl.	F, L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Pandanus recurvatus</i> St. John	L	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Melastoma muticum</i> Ridl.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Melastoma sanguinatum</i> Sims.	F, L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Melastoma schizocarpha</i> Ridl.	S	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Memecylon garcinoides</i> Bl.	L	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Phyllagathis rotundifolia</i> Bl.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Plernandra echinata</i> Jack.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Sonerita heterostemon</i> Naud.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Sonerita rudivis</i> Stapf.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Meliaceae</b>	<i>Carafea guianensis</i> Aubl.	S, Sd	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Melita azedarach</i> L.	L, Pc	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Melita azedarach</i> L.	F, S	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Menispermaceae</b>	<i>Tinospora crispa</i> (L.) Miens. ex Hk. f. & Thoms.	S	2+	-	-	L	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Mimosaceae</b>	<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> L.	S	1+	-	-	L, Sd	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, Sd	-	-	-
	<i>Mimosa invisa</i> Mart.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Parkia speciosa</i> Hassk.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Pithecolobium ellipticum</i> (Bl.) Hassk.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Moraceae</b>	<i>Ficus alba</i> Reinw.	F	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Ficus annulata</i> Bl.	F, L, S	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Ficus deltoidea</i> Jack.	S	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Ficus fulva</i> Reinw. ex Bl.	L, F	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Ficus hirta</i> L. f.	S	2+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Knema hookeriana</i> Warb.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Myrsinaceae</b>	<i>Ardisia crispa</i> (cf. Corner)	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Maesa vamentacea</i> Wall.	F	2+	-	-	S, B	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	S, B	-	-	-
<b>Myrtaceae</b>	<i>Eugenia grandis</i> Wight	L	2+	-	-	L	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L	-	-	-
	<i>Eugenia longiflora</i> (Presl.) F. Vill.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Eugenia palembanica</i> Merr.	F, L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Melaleuca leucadendron</i> L.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Rhodamnia cinerea</i> Jack.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Rhodomythus tomentosa</i> (W. Alt.) Hassk.	S	-	-	-	L	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L	-	-	-
	<i>Ochanostachys amentacea</i> Mast.	L, S	1+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Olacaceae</b>	<i>Jussiaea hirsutifolia</i> Vahl.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Onagraceae</b>	<i>Arundina graminifolia</i> Schlechter	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Orchidaceae</b>	<i>Spathoglottis plicata</i> Bl.	W	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
	<i>Avorraha bilimbi</i> L.	L, S	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Oxalidaceae</b>	<i>Pandanus recurvatus</i> St. John	F	2+	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-
<b>Pandanaceae</b>	<i>Pandanus recurvatus</i> St. John	L	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Macrolepis muscosa</i> (Bl.) Bakh. f.	L, S	-	-	-

Papilionaceae	<i>Aeschynomene americana</i> L.	W	-	-	-	-	L, S	<i>Sawanta cf. tristylia</i> DC.	+
	<i>Dalbergia juguhnii</i> Benth.	L, S	1+	-	-	-	W		-
	<i>Derris heterophylla</i> (Willd.) Back.	L, S	1+	-	-	-	L, S		2+
	<i>Desmodium heterocarpon</i> (L.) DC.	L, S	-	-	-	-	F, L, S		-
	<i>Desmodium umbellatum</i> (L.) DC.	L, S	1+	-	-	-	S		+
	<i>Millettis decipiens</i> Prain.	S	1+	3+	-	-	L		+
		L	1+	-	-	-	Et, S, L		+
	<i>Moghania macrophylla</i> (Willd.) O. K.	L, S	-	-	-	-	T		-
		F	1+	-	-	-	L, S		+
Pedaliaceae	<i>Sesamum indicum</i> L.	W	-	-	-	-	F		-
Piperaceae	<i>Peperomia pellucida</i> H. B. K.	W	-	-	-	-	F, S		-
	<i>Piper aduncum</i> L.	L, S	1+	-	-	-	L		2+
Polygalaceae	<i>Polygala paniculata</i> L.	W	2+	2+	-	-	L		+
Restionaceae	<i>Leptocarpus disjunctus</i> Mast.	Rh, S	-	-	-	-	L, S		-
Rubizopheraceae	<i>Bruguiera cylindrica</i> (L.) Bl.	S	1+	+	-	-	L, S		+
		L	-	-	-	-	L, S		-
	<i>Pellacalyx saccharatus</i> Scop.	S	2+	-	-	-	L, S		-
		L	-	-	-	-	L, S		-
		L	-	-	-	-	L, S		-
Rubiaceae	<i>Argemone involucratum</i> Hemsl.	W	1+	-	-	-	B, Wd		+
	<i>Borreria lasiocarpa</i> Ridl.	W	-	-	-	-	L		-
	<i>Borreria alata</i> (Aubl.) DC.	W	-	-	-	-	L, S		-
	<i>Chonemorpha penangensis</i> Ridl.	L, S	4+	-	-	-	L, S		+
	<i>Gustaria spectiosa</i> L.	F, L, S	-	+	+	-	S		+
	<i>Lasianthus stipularis</i> Bl.	W	-	-	-	-	L		-
	<i>Morinda citrifolia</i> L.	S	-	-	-	-	L		-
		S	2+	-	-	-	L, S		+
	<i>Morinda umbellata</i> L.	L	1+	-	-	-	L, S		-
	<i>Ophiorrhiza discolor</i> R. Br.	W	1+	-	-	-	L, S		+
	<i>Randia cochinchinensis</i> (Lour.) Merr.	W	1+	-	-	-	S		2+
		S	-	5+	-	-	L		-
	<i>Uncaria cinctata</i> (Lour.) Merr.	L, F	-	+	+	-	L, S		-
		S	2+	2+	-	-	L, Wd		-
		L	-	-	-	-	B, F		1+
	<i>Uncaria gambir</i> (Hunt.) Roxb.	L, S	4+	-	-	-	L, S		+
	<i>Uncaria ovalifolia</i> Roxb.	S	2+	+	-	-	W		-
		L	-	-	-	-	L, S		+
	<i>Uncaria pteropoda</i> Miq.	S, L, B	4+	-	-	-	L, S		2+
	<i>Uncaria sclerophylla</i> Roxb.	S	-	+	-	-	L, S		3+
		L	2+	-	-	-	L		2+
		S	2+	-	-	-	W		-
Rutaceae	<i>Evodia latifolia</i> DC.	L	-	-	-	-	S		+
		L	-	-	-	-	L, F		1+
Sapindaceae	<i>Gutca pteroptera</i> Radlk.	S, F	-	3+	-	-	L, S		-
	<i>Pometia pinnata</i> J. R. & C. Forst.	L	-	-	-	-	F, R, S		-
Sapotaceae	<i>Maduca utilis</i> H. J. L.	B, L, Wd	-	-	-	-	W		-
	<i>Palagium ridleyi</i> King	S	1+	+	+	-	W		-
		L	-	+	-	-	W		-
		L, S	-	2+	-	-	I, L, S		-
Sauraniaceae	<i>Sawanta tristylia</i> DC.	L, S	-	2+	-	-	L, S		-

Abbreviations—Plants parts; B=leaf; F=fruit; F=flower; I=inflorescence; L=leaf; P=pulp; R=root; Rh=rhizome; S=stem; Sd=seed; T=thorn; W=whole plant; Wd=wood. Visual assessment of the result is denoted as follows: (a) slight decrease in results using Buchander, DeGroot and Meyer reagents; 4+=heavy precipitate, 3+=strong precipitate, 2+=weak precipitate, 1+=faint precipitate, and -=no precipitate; (b) separate, each plus (+) means 1 cm permanent foamy, and (c) steroids and terpenes, + denotes a positive Liebermann-Burchard reaction (see experimental).

was tested with the Liebermann–Burchard reagent.<sup>9)</sup> The basis of visual quantitative estimation of the presence of alkaloids and saponins was the same as outlined by Douglas, *et al.*<sup>5)</sup> and Arthur.<sup>10)</sup> In the Liebermann–Burchard reaction, a transient reddish purple colour turning to green is considered as positive.

### Conclusion

In this work 226 species of plants belonging to 82 families and 169 genera have been tested and the results are shown in Table II. 46 species have positive tests for alkaloids, 60 for saponins, and 71 for steroids and triterpenes (Liebermann–Burchard reaction); these species represent respectively 20%, 27% and 31% of those tested.

Very strong tests for alkaloids were given by the following plants which are known sources of alkaloids: *Lochnera (Vinca) rosea*<sup>11)</sup> (Apocynaceae), *Flueggea (Securinega) virosa*<sup>12)</sup> (Euphorbiaceae) and *Chonemorpha pennangensis*<sup>13)</sup> (Rubiaceae). Species which reacted very strongly to alkaloid reagents but have not been reported to yield alkaloids are *Roucheria griffithiana* (Linaceae), *Clerodendron serratum*, and *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis* (Verbenaceae). All three are used medicinally by the Malays<sup>3)</sup>; furthermore, *Roucheria* is used as a dart-poison,

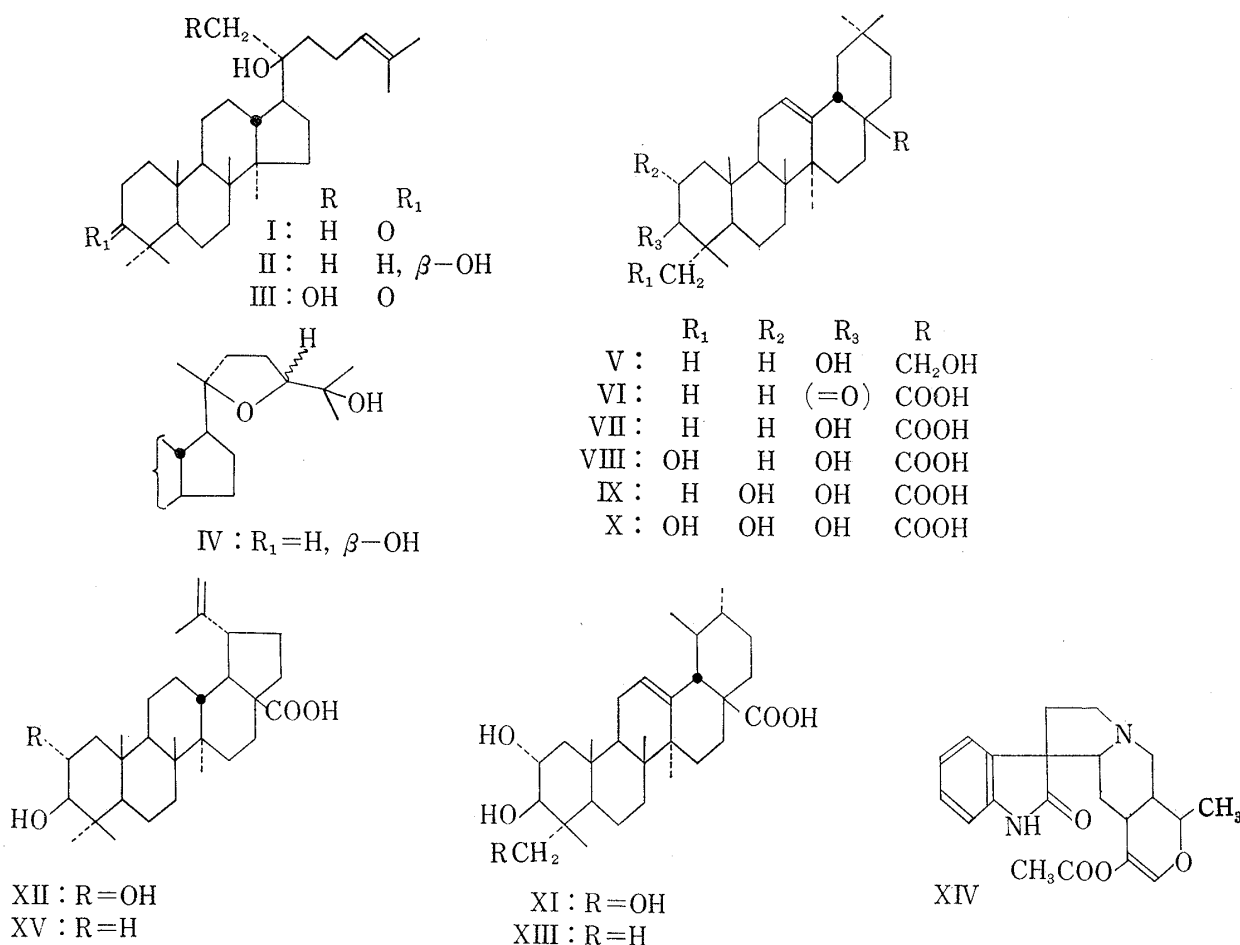
TABLE I. Constituents isolated from Malayan Plants Surveyed

Plant	Part	Compounds	Structure	Reference
Dipterocarpaceae				
<i>Dryobalanops aromatica</i> Gaertn. f.	resin	dipterocarpol	I	14)
		dammarendiol-II	II	14)
		dryobalanone	III	14)
		ocotillol-II	IV	14)
		erythrodiol	V	14)
		oleanonic acid <sup>a)</sup>	VI	15)
		oleanolic acid <sup>a)</sup>	VII	15)
		hederagenin <sup>b)</sup>	VIII	15)
		maslinic acid <sup>a)</sup>	IX	15)
		arjunolic acid <sup>b)</sup>	X	15)
		asiatic acid <sup>a)</sup>	XI	15)
		alphitolic acid <sup>a)</sup>	XII	15)
<i>Shorea acuminata</i> Dyer	resin	asiatic acid <sup>a)</sup>	XI	16)
		2 $\alpha$ -hydroxyursolic acid <sup>a)</sup>	XIII	16)
Rubiaceae				
<i>Uncaria gambir</i> (Hunt) Roxb.	stem	mitraphylline	XIV	17)
		gambirdine	XIV	17)
		isogambirdine	XIV	17)
<i>Uncaria pteropoda</i> Miq.	stem	pteropodine	XIV	18)
		isopteropodine	XIV	18)
Theaceae				
<i>Eurya acuminata</i> DC.	bark	betulinic acid	XV	15)

a) Isolated as methyl esters.

b) Isolated as artifact derivatives.<sup>14)</sup>

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*Clerodendron* in magic practices, and *Stachytarpheta* by the local Chinese as well.<sup>9)</sup> Two *Uncaria* species (Rubiaceae), *U. gambir* and *U. pteropoda*, also gave very strong tests, and the presence of alkaloids has been confirmed by us (see below).

Exceptionally strong tests for saponins were afforded by *Maesa ramentacea* (Mysinaceae), a local medicinal plant, and *Randia cochinchinensis* (Rubiaceae). The genus *Randia* is a known source of saponins.<sup>19)</sup>

Arising from the screening tests, detailed chemical studies have been made of certain plants which gave positive screening tests. The results of isolation, identification, and structural elucidation of alkaloid and triterpene constituents are summarized in Table I, and are a confirmation of the usefulness of the preliminary tests.

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