ALAMARIDINE, A NOVEL ISOQUINOLINE ALKALOID FROM ALANGIUM LAMARCKII THW.

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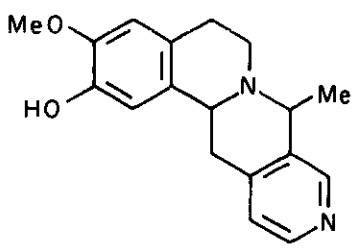
The versatility of Alangium lamarckii Thw. (Alangiaceae) in producing alkaloids is well-established. Thus, the so-called Ipecac alkaloids with varied substitution pattern in ring A, the isoquinoline - β-carboline hybrids, their biogenetic intermediates and pyridobenzoquinolizine - a new class of alkaloids, have earlier been reported[1] from different parts of this plant. More recently, we encountered a unique protoberberine alkaloid, bharatamine[2], devoid of any oxygen function in ring D clearly indicating its genesis from a monoterpenoid precursor, a pathway hitherto unknown.



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We now report yet another new biogenetically interesting pyridobenzoquinolizine alkaloid designated as alamaridine(I), m.p. 196°, from the same source in 0.0001% yield. The structure elucidation and the biogenesis of the compound will be presented.

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1. E. Ali, R. R. Sinha, B. Achari and S. C. Pakrashi, Heterocycles, 19, 2301 (1982) and the references cited therein.
2. S. C. Pakrashi, R. Mukhopadhyay, P. P. Ghosh Dastidar, A. Bhattacharjya and E. Ali, Tetrahedron Letters, 24, 291 (1983).