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MARINE NATURAL PRODUCTS: 3-FORMYLINDOLE FROM THE RED ALGAE *BOTRYOCLADIA LEPTOPODA*

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3-Formylindole has been isolated from the red alga *Botryocladia leptopoda*. (J. Ag) Kylin.

EXPERIMENTAL

B. leptopoda was collected in April 1985, around Patcha near Karachi, and a voucher specimen has been deposited in the Department of Botany, University of Karachi.

After soaking 1.5 kg (wet weight) of the alga in MeOH for 1 week and evaporation under reduced pressure yielded 5.8 g of crude extract which was partitioned between EtOAc and H₂O. The EtOAc extract thus obtained was subjected to column chromatography. The fraction eluted with hexane-Et₂O (75:25) yielded a crystalline compound (8 mg). Further recrystallization was carried out with MeOH. This compound, mp 180°, was identified as 3-formylindole on the basis of comparison of its mass, ¹H-nmr (1) and ¹³C-nmr spectra with literature values (2).

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CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS OF THE BARK OF *TERMINALIA ALATA*¹

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In continuation of our chemical studies on *Terminalia alata* Heyne ex Roth (Combretaceae) (1,2), we report here the isolation of betulinic acid (3), arjunic acid (4), arjunolic acid (1,2), arjunetin (5), and ellagic acid (6) from the trunk bark. This is the first report of the isolation of betulinic acid from the genus *Terminalia*. It is also obtained from the heartwood.

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