

REVISION OF CONFIGURATION OF THE 12-HYDROXYL GROUP OF EURYCOMANONE AND EURYCOMANOL, QUASSINOIDS FROM *EURYCOMA LONGIFOLIA*

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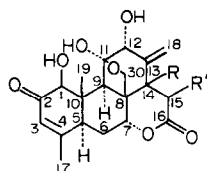
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Key Word Index—*Eurycoma longifolia*; Simaroubaceae; quassinoids.

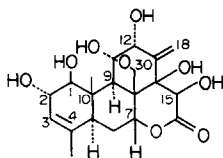
Abstract—As a result of the recent structural revision of ailanthone, the configuration of the 12-hydroxyl group of eurycomanone and eurycomanol has been amended to be α .

Recently, we reported the isolation and structure elucidation of two new quassinoids eurycomanone (1) and eurycomanol (2) from roots of *Eurycoma longifolia* collected in Indonesia [1]. The β -orientation of the 12-hydroxyl group of both compounds was proposed mainly on the basis of the observation of the NMR signals of their 9- and 12-carbons at the almost same positions as those of ailanthone (3) reported by Polonsky *et al.* [2–4] who assigned the β -configuration for the 12-hydroxyl group.



1 R = R' = OH

3 R = R' = H



2

be α . It follows now that the configuration of the 12-hydroxyl group of both 1 and 2 must be also amended to be α .

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However, reinvestigation of the structure of 3 by means of X-ray diffraction analysis by Naora *et al.* [5] led to the revision of the configuration of its 12-hydroxyl group to