

Quick Preparative Separation of Natural Naphthopyranones with Antioxidant Activity by High-Speed Counter-Current Chromatography

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The natural naphthopyranones paepalantine (**1**), paepalantine-9*O*- β -D-glucopyranoside (**2**) and paepalantine-9-*O*- β -D-allopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 6)-*O*- β -D-glucopyranoside (**3**) were separated in a preparative scale from the ethanolic extract of the capitula of *Paepalanthus bromelioides* by high-speed counter-current chromatography (HSCCC). The solvent system used was composed of water-ethanol-ethyl acetate-hexane (10:4:10:4, v/v/v/v). This technique led to the separation of the three different naphthopyranone glycosides in pure form in approximately 7 hours. Paepalantine showed a good antioxidant activity when assayed by the DPPH radical spectrophotometric assay.