

Stereochemistry of Lignans in *Phaleria macrocarpa* (Scheff.) Boerl.

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Phaleria macrocarpa (Scheff.) Boerl., a member of the Thymelaeaceae, is traditionally used in Indonesia as medicinal plant against cancer. In this context, we isolated the lignans pinoresinol, lariciresinol and matairesinol from different parts of this plant. The enantiomeric composition of these lignans was determined by chiral column analysis. Pinoresinol and lariciresinol were mixtures of both enantiomers with $(79 \pm 4)\%$ and $(55 \pm 6)\%$ enantiomeric excess for the (–)-enantiomers, respectively, whereas matairesinol was found as pure (+)-enantiomer.

Key words: *Phaleria macrocarpa*, Lignan, Enantiomeric Composition