Termiticidal Activity of Diterpenes from the Roots of *Euphorbia kansui*

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Z. Naturforsch. **63c**, 51–58 (2008); received August 13, 2007

Five ingenane compounds, **1**–**5**, kansuinins A and B, isolated from *Euphorbia kansui*, and their derivatives **7** and **9** were tested for termiticidal activity against the Japanese termite, *Reticulitermes speratus*. At 72 hours after treatment, the ingenane compounds **1** to **5** caused 100% mortality in *R. speratus* at 50, 25 and 12.5 μg/disk, respectively, except for compound **1**, which gave a mortality rate of (93.06 ± 5.56)% at 12.5 μg/disk. At 36, 48 and 60 hours after treatment, compounds **1** to **5** showed more termiticidal activity than kansuinins A and B and their derivatives. The kansuinins showed no or only slight activity against termites in the filter paper bioassay under the conditions tested compared with a solvent control.

Key words: Euphorbia kansui, Diterpenoid, Termiticidal Activity, *Reticulitermes speratus*