

Chemical and Pharmacological Investigations of *Metaxya rostrata*

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In a bioassay-guided approach the chemical composition of rhizomes of *Metaxya rostrata* (Kunth C. Presl) was studied for the first time. Investigations of the cytotoxicity of extracts and fractions on SW480 colorectal carcinoma cells resulted in the isolation of two polyphenols – cinnamtannin B-1 and aesculitannin B. The structures of the compounds were elucidated by different NMR experiments. Additionally, sugars, common sterols, such as sitosterol, stigmasterol and campesterol, as well as chlorogenic acid and caffeic acid were identified in *Metaxya rostrata*.

Key words: *Metaxya rostrata*, Polyphenols, Cytotoxic Effects