

DISTRIBUTION OF PYRANOCOUMARINS IN *CALOPHYLLUM MOONII*

H. Ranjith W. Dharmaratne*, Chandima S. Wickramasinghe and Gishanthi P. K. Marasinghe

Natural Products Programme, Institute of Fundamental Studies, Kandy, Sri Lanka

Received 2nd November 1998

Abstract

Twigs of *Calophyllum moonii* Planch and Triana have been shown to contain soulattrolide and inophyllum A, two known pyranocoumarins, friedelin and taraxarone. The buds were found to contain large quantities of the above pyranocoumarins with small amounts of friedelin, sitosterol and unidentified triterpenoid. Present results are well in agreement with our previous hypothesis based on the results of *C. cordato-oblongum*, which says that the amount of coumarins present and the percentage of living cells in various plant parts have a significant correlation. These observations further confirm that the coumarin synthesising tissues are mainly located at the non-woody young plant parts of *Calophyllum* species, probably as a defensive measure.