Short communication

Antimicrobial activity of xanthones from *Calophyllum* species, against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA)

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Received 17 August 1998; received in revised form 18 November 1998; accepted 18 November 1998

Abstract

During the past 5 years, a considerable number of known and new xanthones from the *Calophyllum* species of Sri Lanka have been isolated and characterized. We have investigated the antimicrobial activity of *Calophyllum* xanthones, with a special reference to methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). These activity studies were carried out using the agar plate method. Calozeloxanthone, a xanthone which has been isolated from *C. moonii* and *C. lankensis*, showed the highest activity against methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* (MRSA) strains at a concentration of 8.3 μg/ml. Hence, calozeyloxanthone appears to hold promise as an antimicrobial agent in the treatment of infections with *S. aureus*, including methicillin-sensitive *S. aureus* (MRSA), and should be investigated further.

Keywords: *Calophyllum moonii*; *Calophyllum thwaitesii*; Clusiaceae; Calozeloxanthone; MRSA