GRAPHICAL ABSTRACTS

Camptothecin, over four decades of surprising findings

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Here we describe the distribution of camptothecin (CPT) and its metabolites, the present understanding of its mechanism of action, the biosynthetic route leading to CPT formation in plants and we conclude with strategies that might aid in the development of alternative and more sustainable sources of this family of outstanding antitumor agents.

Selection of high ginsenoside producing ginseng hairy root lines using targeted metabolic analysis

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Ginseng hairy root lines which varied significantly in ginsenoside production were selected by principal component analysis and ginsenoside profiling using LC/MS and HPLC-UV analyses.

Phytochemistry, 2004, 65, 2751 Ginseng hairy roots LC/MS HPLC Ginsenoside profiling PCA Hairy root selection

Hydrophobic metabolites of 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) in cultured coconut tissue

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Metabolites of 2,4-D, synthesised by coconut plumules cultured in vitro, included lipophilic chain-elongated forms with aliphatic chains of up to 16 carbons esterified to form triacylglycerol analogues.

Chemical forms of aluminum in xylem sap of tea plants (*Camellia sinensis* L.)

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Identification of the chemical forms of aluminum (Al) transported from roots to shoots, e.g., in the xylem sap, of tea plants (*Camellia sinensis* L.) by using ²⁷Al NMR and ¹⁹F NMR was reported.

Phytochemistry, 2004, 65, 2775 Camellia sinensis (Al accumulating plant) Leaves xylem sap 27Al-NMR 19F-NMR Al complexes Roots

Carotenoid composition in petals of chrysanthemum (*Dendranthema grandiflorum* (Ramat.) Kitamura)

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Sixteen xanthophylls which contained (3*S*,5*S*,6*R*,3′*R*,6′*R*)-5,6-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxylutein and five di-*Z* geometrical isomers of lutein-5,6-epoxide were isolated from the petals of chrysanthemum (*Dendranthema grandiflorum* (Ramat.) Kitamura).

Phytochemistry, 2004, 65, 2781

Antimicrobial and cytotoxic agents from Calophyllum inophyllum

Marie C. Yimdjo, Anatole G. Azebaze, Augustin E. Nkengfack, A. Michele Meyer, Bernard Bodo, Zacharias T. Fomum

The study of the chemical constituents of the nut and root bark of *Calophyllum inophyllum* has led to the isolation of a xanthone derivative, inoxanthone, 3, along with 12 known compounds. The structures of these compounds were determined by spectroscopic methods. The isolates were evaluated for their antimicrobial and cytotoxic activities.

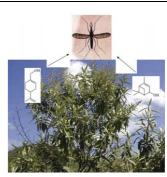
Phytochemistry, 2004, 65, 2789

Repellency of essential oils of some Kenyan plants against *Anopheles gambiae*

Maurice O. Omolo, Denis Okinyo, Isaiah O. Ndiege, Wilber Lwande, Ahmed Hassanali

Five mosquito repellents have been identified from the essential oils of 6 plants growing in Kenya. These include (S)-(-)-cis-perillyl alcohol, (S)-(-)-cis-verbenol, (S)-(-)-cis-perillyl alcohol. (S)-(-)-cis-perillyl alcohol. (S)-(-)-cis-perillyl alcohol and (S)-(-)-cis-verbenol were the most potent.

Phytochemistry, 2004, 65, 2797



Isolation of an α -methylene- γ -butyrolactone derivative, a toxin from the plant pathogen *Lasiodiplodia theobromae*

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An α -methylene- γ -butyrolactone derivative, (3*S*,4*R*)-3-carboxy-2-methylene-heptan-4-olide (1), having a toxic effect on inducing fruit rot was isolated from *Lasiodiplodia theobromae*. This compound tends to isomerize at the double bond to afford inactive decumbic acid (1).

Phytochemistry, 2004, 65, 2803

Biosynthesis of gallic acid in *Rhus typhina*: discrimination between alternative pathways from natural oxygen isotope abundance

Roland A. Werner, Andreas Rossmann, Christine Schwarz, Adelbert Bacher, Hanns-Ludwig Schmidt, Wolfgang Eisenreich

Studies on the ¹⁸O natural abundance of the phenolic oxygen atoms in gallic acid from *Rhus typhina* support its direct formation from dehydroshikimate.

Phytochemistry, 2004, 65, 2809

The fellowship of natural abundance ²H-isotopomers of monoterpenes

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NMR investigation of site specific natural isotope fractionation (SNIF-NMR) is used for investigating stereochemical affiliation of monoterpenes to their precursors, in the light of the new DOXP biosynthetic pathway (²H NMR sites of geraniol).

Phytochemistry, 2004, 65, 2815

Phragmalin limonoids from Chukrasia tabularis

Munehiro Nakatani, Samir A.M. Abdelgaleil, Mona M.G. Saad, Ruo C. Huang, Matsumi Doe, Tetsuo Iwagawa

The structures of six phragmalin limonoids were elucidated by spectroscopic methods and their antifeedant activity was evaluated.