

Menthalactone, a New Analgesic from *Mentha cordifolia* Opiz. Leaves

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Menthalactone, a new long-chain alkene with a bicyclic lactone moiety, was isolated as an analgesic constituent from the leaves of *Mentha cordifolia* Opiz. At a dosage of 100 mg/kg mouse, it decreased the number of squirms induced by acetic acid by 67.3%. Statistical analysis using Kruskal Wallis one-way analysis of variance by ranks showed that menthalactone is different from the solvent control at $p = 0.01$ and approximates the analgesic activity of mefenamic acid at 0.001 level of significance.

Key words: *Mentha cordifolia* Opiz., Analgesic, Menthalactone