

The chemotaxonomic identification using structure types of secondary metabolites and their bioactivities of Bornean litophyton arboretum

ABSTRACT

The structure types and bioactivities of secondary metabolites derived from *Litophyton arboretum*, distributed in Sepanggar Bay, Sabah, Malaysia, were investigated as additional tools for establishing their species identification. As a result, a total of two secondary metabolites (alismol (1) and 10 α -methoxy-4 β -hydroxy guaian-6-ene (2)) were isolated from Bornean soft coral *L. arboretum*. Their structures were elucidated based on spectroscopic data analysis and the antifungal activities of compounds 1 and 2 were determined. In addition, the compound 2 showed highest antifungal activity against *Haliphthoros milfordensis*. As a result of comparison with previous literature, significant variations were observed in relation to structure types of secondary metabolites and bioactivities. Information from this study gives additional evidence of chemotaxonomic significance and baseline data for effective selection of suitable lead pharmaceuticals.