

ABSTRACT

To sustain the continuing interests of this department in the chemical constituents of medicinal plants for the eventual chemical taxonomy, two further species of known medicinal plants, *Clinacanthus nutans* of the Acanthaceae family and *Zingiber cassumunar* Roxb. of the Zingiberaceae family, were investigated in this study. The report is divided into two parts: the results from *Clinacanthus nutans* are discussed first and those from *Zingiber cassumunar* Roxb. are to follow in Part II.

The major components isolated from *Clinacanthus nutans* were lupeol and a mixture of β -sitosterol and stigmasterol. The other minor components were long-chain compounds (such as alcohols, esters, and hydrocarbons), polyhydroxy compound, and potassium salt. Traces of alkaloids were also detected.

The "active hexane fraction" of *Zingiber cassumunar* Roxb. was found to be consisted of compound B, B', C, C' and D. Their structures were studied and characterized.

Various spectroscopic methods, i.e., IR, NMR, UV, MS, were employed in this work. Microanalysis and physical data of these compounds were also given.

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