

Sesquiterpene Lactones from *Elephantopus scaber*

Ni Ni Than^{a,b}, Serge Fotso^b, Madhumati Sevvana^c, George M. Sheldrick^c, Heinz H. Fiebig^d, Gerhard Kelter^d, and Hartmut Laatsch^b

^a Department of Chemistry, University of Yangon, P.O. 11041, Yangon, Myanmar

^b Department of Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry, University of Göttingen, Tammanstraße 2, D-37077 Göttingen, Germany

^c Department of Inorganic Chemistry, University of Göttingen, Tammanstraße 4, D-37077 Göttingen, Germany

^d Oncotest GmbH, Am Flughafen 12-14, D-79108 Freiburg, Germany

Reprint requests to Prof. Dr. H. Laatsch. Fax: +49(0)551-399660.
E-mail: hlaatsc@gwdg.de

Z. Naturforsch. **60b**, 200 – 204 (2005); received September 16, 2004

The ethanolic and acetone extracts of the whole plant of *Elephantopus scaber* were found to contain ethyl hexadecanoate, ethyl-9,12-octadecadienoate, ethyl-(*Z*)-9-octadecenoate, ethyl octadecanoate, lupeol, stigmasterol, stigmasterol glucoside, deoxyelephantopin (**1**) and two new germacranolide sesquiterpene lactones named 17,19-dihydrodeoxyelephantopin (**2**) and *iso*-17,19-dihydrodeoxyelephantopin (**3**) whose stereostructures were determined by spectroscopic methods, comparison with reported data and single-crystal X-ray analysis.

Key words: *Elephantopus scaber*, Sesquiterpene Lactones, Deoxyelephantopin, 17,19-Dihydrodeoxyelephantopin, *Iso*-17,19-dihydrodeoxyelephantopin