

L-11 Some Progress on Chemical Studies of Chinese Medicinal Plants

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China is rich in plant resources of various species. There are more than 3000 kinds of flowering plants distributed widely in the country. Throughout China's long history, many plants have been using for treatment of various diseases and playing very important role to support social civilization and prosperity. As present understanding, Chinese medicinal plants are rich sources of discovering and developing new natural drugs and lead compounds in China. To make the use of Chinese medicinal plants more scientific and more rational, its fundamental research should be strengthened, including studies on chemical constituents, pharmacological effects and its action mechanism.

In this paper, our recent results on chemical studies of some Chinese medicinal plants will be presented and discussed. These plants include *Isatis indigotica* (Cruciferae), *Euphorbia fischeriana*, *Euphorbia ebracteolata* (Euphorbiaceae), *Schisandra propinque*, *Kadsura angustifolia*, *Kadsura ananosma* (Schisandraceae), *Peries formasa*, *Rhododendron molle* (Ericaceae). From above species, a large number of chemical constituents, with structural diversity, including diterpenoids, triterpenoids, alkaloids, lignans have been isolated by solvent extraction and repeated chromatographic separation. Some bioassays such as brine shrimp test, cancer cell lines, limulus amebocyte lysate (LAL) test have been used for fractionation of crude plant extracts.