10th Brazilian Conference on Natural Products
XXXVI RESEM
4-7 November 2025, Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil

Section: 06

ADDITIONAL QUINONES ISOLATED FROM THE BULBS OF Eleutherine bulbosa (Miller) Urban (IRIDACEAE)

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Eleutherine bulbosa (Mill.) Urb. is an herbaceous plant of the family Iridaceae, popularly known as “marupari” and “marupazinho.” It is native to tropical countries of South America and also occurs in Africa and Asia. In Brazil, it is distributed across the Amazon, Cerrado, Atlantic Forest, Pantanal, and Caatinga biomes. Several classes of compounds have already been described for this species, with emphasis on the identification and isolation of quinones, particularly naphthoquinones and anthraquinones, both in E. bulbosa and its synonyms. This chemical diversity has motivated the continuation of phytochemical studies, with a focus on the isolation and structural elucidation of metabolites. In this context, the aim of the present study was to investigate the chemical composition of the bulb of E. bulbosa using both classical and modern phytochemical approaches. The dichloromethane extract, obtained by maceration at room temperature (24 g after drying), was subjected to chromatographic analyses using open column chromatography (CC), thin-layer chromatography (TLC), and preparative thin-layer chromatography (PTLC). Structural elucidation of the isolated compounds was carried out mainly by Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy, including one-dimensional (^{1}H, ^{13}C, and DEPT-135) and two-dimensional (COSY, HSQC, and HMBC) experiments, complemented by Mass Spectrometry (MS). Two compounds were isolated: the anthraquinone methyl ester of 8-hydroxy-3,4-dimethoxy-1-methylanthracene-9,10-dione-2-carboxylic acid and the naphthoquinone 3-[2-(acetoxy)propyl]-2-hydroxy-8-methoxy-1,4-naphthoquinone. The results obtained are relevant to the chemotaxonomy of the genus *Eleutherine*, particularly for the species under study.

Keywords: *Marupazinho, chromatographic analyses, NMR, quinones, chemotaxonomy.*