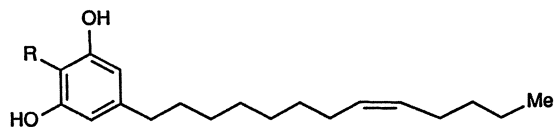


19.1 Introduction

Ardisia japonica (Thunb.) Bl. (Myrsinaceae) is a medicinal herb used in Chinese folk medicine. The whole plant is used as a bacteriostatic, tuberculostatic, hemostatic, and antiasthmatic drug in the treatment of tuberculosis, chronic asthma, and other diseases of the respiratory tract.

19.2 Chemical Constituents

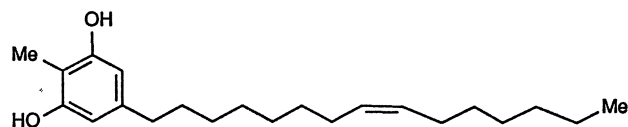
Two new resorcinol derivatives, ardisinols I (19-1) and II (19-2), were isolated from a tuberculostatic fraction obtained from the water insoluble portion of an alcohol extract of *A. japonica* [1]. The structures of the ardisinols were determined as tridecylresorcinol derivatives [2–4].



Ardisinol I (19-1): R = CH₃

Ardisinol II (19-2): R = H

Besides ardisinols, methylcardol (19-3), embelin (19-4) [1], 5-methoxy-3-(*cis*-pentadec-10-enyl)-1,4-benzoquinone (19-5) [5], bergenin (19-6), ilexol (19-7), and quercetin were also isolated from *A. japonica* [1]. Methylcardol is a homologue of ardisinol I with a C₁₅ side chain, embelin is a 1,4-benzoquinone derivative with a saturated side chain.



Methylcardol (19-3)