ABSTRACT

MINOR CASSANE DITERPENOIDS OF CAESALPINIA BONDUC (FABACEAE)

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This thesis is divided into two chapters:

A review of the genus *Caesalpinia* is dealt with in chapter one. This reveals that diterpenoids, homoisoflavones and peltogynoids are the main compounds isolated within this genus.

A chemical investigation of Caesalpinia bonduc is reported in chapter two. The cassane diterpenoids previously isolated from the seeds and roots of C. bonduc are discussed. Further investigation of the roots of C. bonduc resulted in the isolation of six cassane furanoditerpenoids, one of which is the known caesaldekarin a. The other five compounds have not been reported previously.