

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ABSTRACT

I would like to thank my supervisor, Dr. A.R. Maxwell, for Phytochemical Investigations of *Piper reticulatum* and *Piper aequale* and support throughout this project. His help and understanding is gratefully acknowledged.

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Thanks also to Prof. W.F. Reynolds and Prof. S. McLean (University of Toronto) for provision of the isolated from a variety of *Piper* species and their biological activity are reviewed.

The isolation and structure elucidation of two novel 6-substituted-5,6-dihydro-2H-pyran-2-ones, a pyrrolidine amide alkaloid and benzoic acid obtained from the aerial parts of *Piper reticulatum* are the subject of **Chapter Two**.

In **Chapter Three** the isolation, structure elucidation and characterization of ten benzofuran type neolignans, of which two are novel, isolated from the leaves and stems of *Piper aequale* are discussed.

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Keywords: Darrin R. Dabideen; Piperaceae; *Piper reticulatum*; *Piper aequale*; lactone; amide alkaloids; neolignans; benzofuran.