Phytochemicals from Lauraceae Species

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The family of Lauraceae comprising a group of flowering plants contains about 55 genera and over 2,000 species worldwide. In Malaysia there are 213 species of Lauraceae known as *medang* or *tejur*. Studies on these plant species resulted in various types of compounds such as alkaloid, flavonoids, chalcone, terpenoid and simple aromatic compounds. Some of these compounds have shown biological activity such as antimicrobial, antiplasmodium and anticancer. This paper describes the phytochemicals and some biological activity of isolated compounds from Lauraceae species.

**Keywords:** Lauraceae, phytochemicals, biological activity.