

# Antioxidant and Cytotoxic Flavonols from *Calotropis procera*

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Phytochemical investigations of *Calotropis procera* leaves have led to the isolation of two new compounds: quercetagenin-6-methyl ether 3-*O*- -D-<sup>4</sup>C<sub>1</sub>-galacturonopyranoside (**3**) and (*E*)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl-2-*O*- -D-<sup>4</sup>C<sub>1</sub>-glucopyranoside)-methyl propenoate (**4**), along with eleven known metabolites: nine flavonol and two cinnamic acid derivatives. All metabolites were isolated for the first time from the genus *Calotropis*, except for **1** isolated previously from *Calotropis gigantea*. The structures were determined by spectroscopic methods (UV, ESI-MS, <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, HSQC, and HMBC). The radical scavenging activity of the aqueous methanol extract and compounds **8**–**13** was measured by the 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) method. Cytotoxic screening of the same compounds was carried out on brine shrimps as well.

*Key words:* *Calotropis procera*, Flavonols, Antioxidant