UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

COLLECTION, EXTRACTION, FRACTIONATION AND ISOLATION OF PHYTOCHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS FROM *PANDANACEAE* SPECIES

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
TITI	LE PAGE	
APP	ROVAL FORM	
ACK	KNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
TAB	BLE OF CONTENTS	iv
LIST	Γ OF TABLES	vi
LIST	T OF FIGURES	vii
LIST	T OF PLATES	viii
LIST	T OF ABBREVIATIONS	ix
ABS	TRACT	X
CHA	APTER ONE (INTRODUCTION)	1
СНА	APTER TWO (LITERATURE REVIEW)	
2.1.	Description of plants of the genus Pandanus	3
2.2.	Traditional Use of Pandanaceae Species	4
2.3.	Chemical Constituents	6
СНА	APTER THREE (MATERIALS AND METHODS)	
3.1.	Materials	14
	3.1.1. Plant Materials	14
	3.1.2. Chemicals	14
3.2.	Experimental	15
	3.2.1. Preparation of Crude Extract	15
	3.2.2. Fractionation of Crude Extract	16
	3.2.3. Isolation of Compounds from Leaves	18
	3.2.3.1. Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC)	18
	3.2.3.2. Preparative TLC	18

ABSTRACT

The major objective of this project is to study the phytochemistry in *Pandanus* species. Several stages were taken in order to accomplish the project. A first stage is the collection of the sample which is *Pandanus* plants from the local forest. Then, several extraction methods had been done to purify the compound(s) by using several solvents and apparatus. Fractionation of the compound(s) had been done to remove the other impurity which comes together with the pure compound(s). Last but not least, the isolated processes were done to isolate the pure compound(s) that have been obtain. The pure compound(s) that were obtained undergoes several test methods to identify the structure of the compound(s) by using spectroscopic technique such as Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectrometer, Infrared (IR) spectrometer and UV Visible (UV-VIS) spectrometer.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Asia Pacific regions, especially Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand have been known as the tropical stores of many plant species. It is estimated that there are more than 12,000 species of higher plants available in Malaysia, and from the amount, about 10% of these plants were use for medicinal purposes (Latiff *et al.*, 1984).

Natural products from plants had been utilized widely as medicines for thousands of years and they were known to be use for particular ailments from those ancient times (Samuelsson, 2004). The specific plants used and the methods of applications were passed down from generations through oral history. In more recent history and until today, numerous researches have been actively investigating for new drug discovery from medicinal plants in view of their potential health benefits.

Morphine, vinblastine, paclitaxel and reserpine are the examples of the plants constituents, which had been studied for their efficiency and pharmacological effects and used widely in pharmaceutical purposes. Despite being one of the oldest fields of science, natural product chemistry remains an active field of research. The study on phytochemistry of natural products has become more important since the finding in this study can be using as the basic and starting materials for biotechnology. This is clearly