

113. LEISHMANICIDAL ACTIVITY OF ANIBA CANELILLA (LAURACEAE) IN BALB/C MICE INFECTED WITH LEISHMANIA AMAZONENSIS STRUCTURAL ELUCIDATION OF MAIN ALKALOIDS.

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An extract of stem bark of Aniba canelilla, a plant used in folk medicine by Chimanes as treatment of diarrhea, was found to inhibit in vitro the growth of promastigote forms of *Leishmania* ssp. and epimastigote forms of *Trypanosoma cruzi* at $50 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$. A chemical study of this extract afforded the isolation of a major compound, nitro-phenylethane (1), and seventeen alkaloids nine of them are new (four benzyloquinolines and five protoberberines): they represent a new biogenetic type, norcanelilline (2) and anibacanine (3) are representative of the structural-types elaborated by this species. BALB/C mice were infected with *Leishmania amazonensis* and treated 24 hr after the parasitic infection with an extract of *A. canelilla* at $200 \text{ mg kg}^{-1} \text{ d}^{-1}$ and with Glucantime ($100 \text{ mg kg}^{-1} \text{ d}^{-1}$). This extract did not show any effect against the parasites.

