

fractionation (Table 1), using antispasmodic and spasmogenic assays, have led to the identification of several active constituents. Spasmolytic activity was observed in **1**, while isopimpinellin (**3**) and isorutarin (**5**) exhibited a spasmogenic effect on the smooth muscle preparations. This study therefore rationalizes the folk usage of *Seseli diffusum* as an antispasmodic and diuretic medicine (Datta and Banerjee, 1978; Usmanghani *et al.*, 1997). Furthermore, compound **5** was found to have an antioxidant activity.

Dedication

This publication is dedicated to the memory of the Professor Yoshisuke Tsuda (1932–2006). Professor Tsuda made major contributions in the field of carbohydrate, alkaloid and saponin chemistry. He spent his life exploring the fascinating world of organic synthesis and in

developing a conceptual foundation of pharmacognosy. He worked tirelessly for the promotion of science in developing countries and dedicated many years of his life to creating a scientific environment across the globe, irrespective of national boundaries. He was a great friend of Pakistan, and an admirer of the rich traditions and heritage of this ancient land.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors have declared that there is no conflict of interest.

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