

**A NEW HEXAHYDROXYSTEROL FROM A SOFT CORAL *SARCOPHYTON ELEGANCE*
MOSER FROM THE COASTS OF GULF OF MANNAR IN THE INDIAN OCEAN**

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ABSTRACT

A new hexahydroxysterol, (24S) -24-methylcholestane-1 β , 3 β , 5 α , 6 β , 25, 26-hexol 25-monoacetate (**5**) was isolated from a soft coral *Sarcophyton elegance* Moser collected from the coasts of the Gulf of Manner of Indian Ocean together with five known polyhydroxysterols **1**, **2**, **3**, **4** and **6**. The structures of the marine natural products, compounds **3**, **4**, **5** and **6** were derived from spectral data of their acetyl derivatives **3a**, **4a**, **5a** and **6a** respectively.

KEYWORDS: Indian Ocean, Marine Natural Products, Polyhydroxysterols, *Sarcophyton Elegance* Moser, Soft Coral