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Terpenoids: A Brief Survey of Naturally Occurring Terpenes Molecules

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12.1 Introduction

The study of natural products derived from plants, animals, or microbes is what sets this field apart. The products could be medically beneficial or harmful. Natural product chemistry investigates the natural source, the mechanisms by which the source biosynthetically creates the product, the processes by which the product can be extracted from the source, and the methods by which the product can be identified. This research lay the framework for pharmacological testing of a potentially helpful natural substance or biochemical analysis of a natural toxin. Courses in natural products and medicinal chemistry, chemistry, botany, and microbiology, as well as pharmacology and pharmaceutics, would be the focus of a natural products chemistry curriculum.

Terpenoids are a class of chemicals found primarily in plants, though a few terpenoids have been isolated from other sources. Essential oils, which are volatile oils extracted from the sap and tissues of some plants and trees, are mostly composed of mono- and sesqui-terpenoids. Since the beginning of time, essential oils have been utilised in perfumery. The non-steam volatile di- and tri-terpenoids are extracted from plant and tree gums and resins. Carotenoids are a category of

non-steam volatile di- and tri-terpenoids are extracted from plant and tree gums and resins. Carotenoids are a category of chemicals that includes tetraterpenoids. The most important polyterpenoid is rubber.

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