"Drug Discovery from Plants – Old Hat or a Continuing Valuable Resource"

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A major focus of our laboratory is drug discovery from diverse natural sources, including Texas plants. Even today natural products provide the majority of new drug leads for a variety of human diseases. We have isolated new compounds with exciting biological activities and clinical potential from plants. These include a new class of microtubule stabilizers and several interesting compounds with potent activities against multiple cancers, suggesting that plant-based drug discovery can still be of significant value in the search for new and better medicines.