Preface

For all the hardships 2020 ushered in, the beginning of the year 2021 provided a unique opportunity to reflect. As the messenger of this year is eager to impart uncertainties to us, Mankind may again transform Nature’s wisdom into solutions. Natural products have historically and currently been a productive source for medicines for curbing infectious diseases. It is thus imperative that the body of knowledge on the structure and function of natural products be continuously improved, updated, and disseminated. It is also important that the new resource of natural compounds and their bioactivities should be shared widely among natural products community. Hence, two studies on Madagascar marine sponge *Biemma laboutei*, a new source of Δ7 steroids and a rare species *Oenanthe fistulosa* (Apiaceae) associated with damp soils are published in this issue.

It is not easy to undertake a normative task such as in trying to compile extract techniques, composition analysis, and bioactivities of essential oil that can be applied globally. However, supercritical extraction has become a widely accepted technique for essential oil, while antimicrobial and antifungal activities have been supported by many research results. Three articles related to this domain are included in the issue. A total of 10 articles including three reviews and seven research papers providing new ideas and methods contributed to the first issue of Volume 11.

To authors, reviewers and editors, I extend a heartfelt thanks for all your efforts, including the time spent reviewing and commenting on our exacting standards. It is this collaboration that has helped in making the journal a success, and I am grateful to you for sharing the research published in the Natural Products Journal with the general reader.

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