

Fractionation of the methanol extract of the leaves of *Monanthes parvifolia* (Oliv.) Verdc ssp. *kenyensis* Verdc (Annonaceae) by preparative high performance liquid chromatography yielded seven fractions from which two phytochemical constituents were isolated and identified as quercetin-3-*O*- β -galactopyranoside (hyperoside) and quercetin-3-*O*- α -arabinofuranoside (avicularin) on the basis of spectroscopic data analysis and comparison with published data for the known compounds. This is the first report of the isolation of these compounds from *Monanthes parvifolia*. Hyperoside and avicularin exhibited moderate antiplasmodial activity against chloroquine sensitive (D10) and chloroquine resistant (Dd2) *Plasmodium falciparum* strains (IC₅₀ = 10.85 - 38.07 μ g/ml). Hyperoside had selectivity index greater than 10 when assayed for cytotoxicity on Chinese hamster ovarian cell line.

Key words: *Monanthes parvifolia* (Oliv.) Verdc ssp. *kenyensis* Verdc, quercetin glycosides, antiplasmodial activity, cytotoxicity