



Figure 8.16. Schematic chemical structures of lignin and tannin polyphenols. The benzene ring of lignin structural units can be substituted by 0, 1 or 2 methoxyl ($-\text{OCH}_3$) groups, in positions flanking the phenolic hydroxyl group, with the extent of being related to the taxonomy of vascular plants. The structure of condensed tannin is shown here along with its building blocks of three-ring flavonols (see figure for terminology of extender and terminal units). Several variations of these stereochemically active compounds occur in condensed tannin.