

# Absolute Configuration of Novel Bioactive Flavonoids from *Tephrosia purpurea*

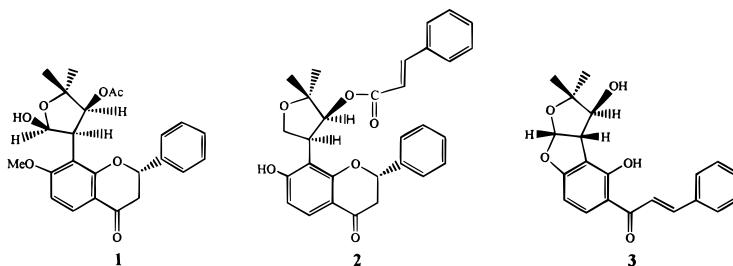
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## ABSTRACT



Three novel flavonoids, (+)-tephrorins A (1) and B (2) and (+)-tephrosone (3), were isolated from *Tephrosia purpurea*. Their structures were elucidated by NMR spectral analysis, and their absolute configurations were determined by Mosher ester methodology. Compounds 1 and 2 are flavanones containing an unusual tetrahydrofuran moiety. Compounds 1–3 were evaluated for their potential cancer chemopreventive properties using a cell-based quinone reductase induction assay.

The genus *Tephrosia* (Leguminosae) comprises more than 300 members found in India and the southern part of Africa, and extracts of some *Tephrosia* species have shown antibacterial,<sup>1</sup> antifungal,<sup>1</sup> and insecticidal activities.<sup>2</sup> In our ongoing project directed toward the discovery of novel naturally occurring cancer chemopreventive agents from plants,<sup>3</sup> the whole flowering and fruiting parts of *Tephrosia purpurea* Pers. were chosen for detailed investigation, since its petroleum ether- and ethyl acetate-soluble extracts significantly induced quinone reductase (QR) activity with cultured Hepa 1c1c7 (mouse hepatoma) cells.<sup>4</sup> Induction of Phase II drug-metabolizing enzymes such as QR is considered a major mechanism of protection against tumor initia-

tion.<sup>3,5</sup> We earlier reported an initial phytochemical and biological investigation on this plant, with the isolation of several flavonoids as quinone reductase inducers.<sup>4</sup>

Many flavonoids have been reported from the genus *Tephrosia*, with their structures determined by spectroscopic analysis and chemical methods, but their absolute configurations typically have not been studied, with the exception of the recent reports on (+)-purpurin,<sup>6</sup> (–)-semiglabin,<sup>7</sup> and (+)-pseudosemiglabin.<sup>7</sup> Herein, we report the isolation of three additional novel flavonoids, compounds 1–3, from *Tephrosia purpurea*, in addition to their absolute configurations and activity as inducers of quinone reductase.

Bioassay-guided fractionation of an EtOAc-soluble residue of *Tephrosia purpurea* involving successive silica gel and Sephadex LH-20 chromatographic steps afforded three novel

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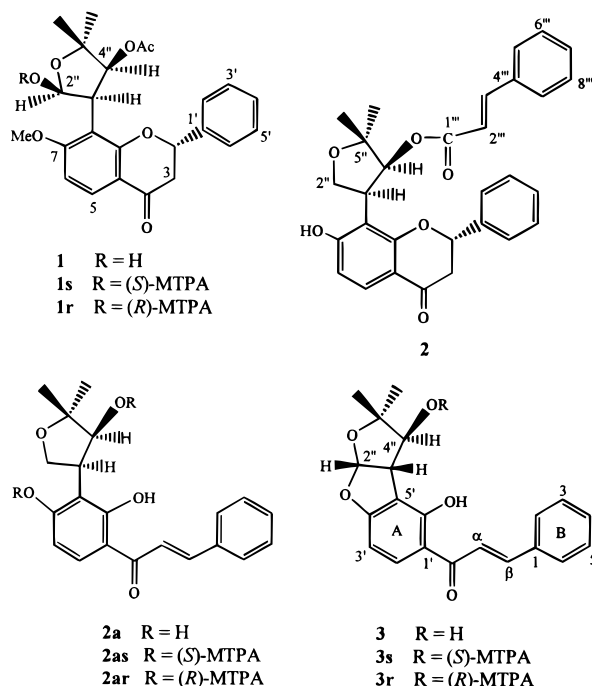
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flavonoids, namely, (+)-tephrotrins A (**1**) and B (**2**) and (+)-tephrosone (**3**).<sup>8</sup>



The molecular formula of compound **1** was determined to be C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>7</sub> by positive-ion HRFABMS. Comparison of its <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data with the previously reported known compound, (+)-purpurin,<sup>4</sup> indicated that **1** was a flavanone in which ring B was unsubstituted.<sup>4,9</sup>

Hydroxyl (IR,  $\nu_{\max}$  3426 cm<sup>-1</sup>), acetate ( $\delta_C$  170.8 and 21.3;  $\delta_H$  1.96), methoxyl ( $\delta_H$  3.93 s), and *gem*-dimethyl ( $\nu_{\max}$  1368–1236 cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\delta_C$  27.6 and 24.3;  $\delta_H$  1.08 and 1.37) functionalities were present. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data for **1** are shown in Table 1. The remaining portion of the molecule of **1** was established as consisting of one furan ring, by spectral data comparison with (+)-tepurindiol.<sup>10</sup> This inference was supported by a HMBC experiment in which correlations were observed for the resonances at  $\delta_H$  5.63 (H-4'') with the signals of  $\delta_C$  113.5 (C-8), 170.8 (OAc-4''), 81.8 (C-5''), 27.6 and 24.3 (Me<sub>2</sub>-5''), and 47.9 (C-3''). Additional HMBC correlations observed are summarized in Table 1.

(8) Physical and spectroscopic data. For **1**: yellowish oil; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> +26° (c 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 239 (4.2), 281 (4.2), 314 (3.8) nm; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (film) 3426, 2974, 2931, 1736, 1680, 1596, 1435, 1368, 1273, 1236, 1094 cm<sup>-1</sup>; FABMS  $m/z$  (rel int. %) [M + 1]<sup>+</sup> 427 (100), 349 (95), 305 (27), 245 (99), 217 (32), 163 (21), 131 (27); HRFABMS (positive-ion mode)  $m/z$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 427.1759 (calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>27</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, 427.1749). For **2**: yellowish oil; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> +28° (c 0.6, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 220 (4.7), 243 (4.5), 280 (4.7) nm; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (film) 3422, 2983, 1710, 1681, 1632, 1604, 1449, 1365, 1334, 1305, 1261, 1167, 1097, 1063 cm<sup>-1</sup>; FABMS  $m/z$  (rel int. %): [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 485 (37), 337 (10), 265 (39), 186 (67), 161 (60), 131 (100); HRFABMS (positive-ion mode)  $m/z$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 485.1957 (calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>29</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, 485.1956). For **3**: yellow needles, mp 164 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> +26° (c 0.23, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 207 (4.1), 229 (3.8), 339 (4.0) nm; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (film) 3438, 2982, 2932, 1639, 1598, 1566, 1485, 1440, 1356, 1305, 1243, 1089 cm<sup>-1</sup>; EIMS  $m/z$  (rel int. %) [M]<sup>+</sup> 352 (100), 334 (89), 291 (67), 230 (64), 208 (95), 131 (80), 103 (75); HREIMS  $m/z$  [M]<sup>+</sup> 352.1305 (calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, 352.1306).

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The relative stereochemistry of compound **1** in the pairs H-2''/H-3'' and H-3''/H-4'' was established as *cis* by their coupling constants and from a 1D NOE experiment. In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **1**, a doublet of doublets ( $J$  = 9.4, 5.7 Hz) at  $\delta_H$  4.16 (H-3''), a doublet ( $J$  = 5.7 Hz) at  $\delta_H$  5.74 (H-2''), and a doublet ( $J$  = 9.4 Hz) at  $\delta_H$  5.63 (H-4'') were observed as an ABX system. In the 1D NOE experiment, irradiation at OCH<sub>3</sub>-7 ( $\delta_H$  3.93) gave enhancements of H-2'' and H-6, whereas irradiation at H-3'' ( $\delta_H$  4.16) gave an enhancement of H-2''.

The absolute configuration of the stereogenic centers in **1** was determined using Mosher ester methodology.<sup>11,12</sup> Compound **1** was treated with (*R*)- and (*S*)-(-)- $\alpha$ -methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl chloride to obtain the mono-(*S*)- (**1s**) and mono-(*R*)-ester (**1r**) C-2'' analogues.<sup>11</sup> The negative values ( $\Delta\delta_{S-R}$ ) obtained for the methyls in C-5'' and the positive difference for H-3'' (Table 2) showed that the absolute stereochemistry of the chiral center at C-2'' was *S*. Hence, the absolute stereochemistry for C-3'' and C-4'' was deduced as *R* and *S*, respectively, and C-2 is assigned as *S* based on biogenetic analogy.<sup>9</sup> Thus, (+)-tephrotrins A (**1**) was assigned as (2*S*)-8-[(2*S*,3*R*,4*S*)-4-(acetyloxy)tetrahydro-2-hydroxy-5,5-dimethyl-3-furanyl]-2,3-dihydro-7-methoxy-2-phenyl-4*H*-1-benzopyran-4-one.

The positive-ion HRFABMS of compound **2** showed a molecular ion peak at  $m/z$  485.1957 indicating a molecular formula of C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>6</sub>. Hydroxyl ( $\nu_{\max}$  3422 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and *gem*-dimethyl groups ( $\nu_{\max}$  1365–1261 cm<sup>-1</sup>;  $\delta_C$  27.1 and 26.6;  $\delta_H$  1.24) were observed. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compound **2** (Table 1) were quite similar to those of **1**, except for the absence of acetate and methoxyl moieties in **2**, and additional signals appeared for a pair of methylene protons at  $\delta_H$  4.87 and 4.66 (H-2''). Moreover, additional signals at  $\delta_H$  6.24 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H),  $\delta_H$  7.45 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), and  $\delta_H$  7.36–7.46 (m, 5H) supported the presence of a *trans*-cinnamic acid group. The location of this cinnamic group at the C-4'' position was confirmed by HMBC NMR spectral observations, with a cross-peak observed between H-4'' and 166.3 (C-1'''), and additional correlations were observed as summarized in Table 2. The relative stereochemistry of the pair H-3''/H-4'' was established as *cis* from the H-4'' coupling constant ( $\delta$  5.10,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, Table 1). To determine the absolute configuration of the stereogenic centers in compound **2** using the Mosher ester methodology, a hydrolysis reaction was considered necessary. Treatment of compound **2** under mild alkaline conditions<sup>13</sup> afforded a semisynthetic novel chalcone (**2a**)<sup>13</sup> and cinnamic acid, which is consistent

(11) Preparation of (*S*)- and (*R*)-MTPA ester derivatives of compounds **1**, **2a** (see ref 13), and **3**. To a solution of **1**, **2a**, or **3** (1.5 mg in 0.5 mL of CHCl<sub>3</sub>) were added sequentially pyridine (100  $\mu$ L), 4-(dimethylamino)-pyridine (0.5 mg), and (*R*)-(-)- $\alpha$ -methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl chloride (10 mg). Each mixture was heated at 50 °C for 4 h under N<sub>2</sub> and then passed through a disposable pipet (0.6  $\times$  5 cm) packed with silica gel and eluted with 5 mL of CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The solvent was removed in vacuo, to obtain the mono-*S*-Mosher ester **1s** and residues from **2a** and **3**. These residues were subjected to preparative TLC to give the purified mono-*S*-Mosher ester **3s** or the purified di-*S*-Mosher **2as**, respectively. Treatment of **1**, **2a**, or **3** (1.5 mg with (*S*)-(+)- $\alpha$ -methoxy- $\alpha$ -(trifluoromethyl)-phenylacetyl chloride as described above yielded the mono-*R*-Mosher esters **1r** or **2ar** and the di-*R*-Mosher **3r**, respectively (<sup>1</sup>H NMR data, Table 2).<sup>12</sup>

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**Table 1.**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Data and HMBC Correlations for Compounds **1** and **2** (300, 75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)

$^1\text{H}$ no.	<b>1</b>			<b>2</b>		
	$\delta_{\text{H}}$ (mult)	$\delta_{\text{C}}$	HMBC <sup>a</sup>	$\delta_{\text{H}}$ (mult)	$\delta_{\text{C}}$	HMBC <sup>a</sup>
2	5.53 dd (4.0, 12.2)	80.8 d	1', 4, 2'/6'	5.42 dd (3.2, 12.6)	80.8 d	1', 4, 2'/6'
3	2.83 m	44.7 t	2, 1', 4	2.83 m	44.7 t	2, 1', 4
4		191.5 s			190.7 s	
4a		116.1 s			115.9 s	
5	7.90 d (8.9)	128.9 d	6, 4a, 8a, 7, 4	7.83 d (8.6)	131.1 d	4a, 8a, 7, 4
6	6.68 d (8.9)	105.9 d	8, 4a, 7, 3''	6.57 d (8.6)	105.9 d	8, 4a, 7
7		164.3 s			168.9 s	
8		113.5 s			114.0 s	
8a		161.3 s			159.5 s	
1'		139.2 s			138.9 s	
2'/6'	7.46 m	126.1 d	2, 3', 4'	7.46 m	126.0 d	2, 3', 4'
3'/5'	7.36 m	129.1 d	1', 2'	7.36 m	128.6 d	1', 2'
4'	7.36 m	129.4 d	3', 5', 2'/6'	7.36 m	130.7 d	3', 5', 2'/6'
				4.87 dd (9.3, 2.6)		
2''	5.74 d (5.7)	99.3 d	4'', 3'', 8		78.5 t	4'', 3'', 8
				4.66 dd (9.3, 8.5)		
3''	4.16 dd (5.7, 9.4)	47.9 d	4'', 2'', 8, 7, 8a	4.07 m	40.6 d	4'', 5'', 8, 7, 2''
4''	5.63 d (9.4)	80.1 d	Me <sub>2</sub> -5'', 3'', 5'', 8	5.10 d (6.3)	80.1 d	Me <sub>2</sub> -5'', 3'', 5'', 8, 1'''
5''		81.8 s			72.9 s	
OCH <sub>3</sub>	3.93 s		7			
Me <sub>2</sub>	1.37 s	27.6 q			26.6 q	
	1.08 s	24.3 q		1.24 s	27.1 q	5'', 6'', 7''
1'''					166.3 s	
2'''				6.24 d (16.0)	117.4 d	C-1''', C-3'''
3'''				7.45 d (16.0)	146.0 d	C-1''', C-2'''
4'''					134.2 s	
5'''/9'''				7.36 m	129.1 d	
6'''/8'''				7.46 m	129.3 d	
7'''				7.36 m	131.1 d	
AcO	1.96 s	170.8, 21.3				

<sup>a</sup> C to H correlations.

with the structure proposed. The di-Mosher esters of the chalcone (**2as** and **2ar**) indicated the *S* configuration at C-4'', because of the negative difference values for H-3'', H-2a'', and H-2b'' and the positive differences for the methyls in C-5'' (Table 2). The absolute stereochemistry at C-3'' was determined as *S* accordingly with the *cis* arrangements of the pair H-3''/H-4''. Therefore, (+)-tephrorin B (**2**) was assigned as (3*S*,4*S*)-4-[(2*S*)-3,4-dihydro-7-hydroxy-4-oxo-2-

phenyl-2*H*-1-benzopyran-8-yl]tetrahydro-2,2-dimethyl-3-furanyl (2*E*)-3-phenyl-2-propenoate.

Compound **3** was shown to possess a molecular formula of  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_5$  by HREIMS. Its IR spectrum showed a hydroxyl group ( $3438\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), a conjugated carbonyl absorption ( $1639\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  192.7), and a *gem*-dimethyl group ( $1356\text{--}1243\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **3** (Table 3) exhibited signals at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  7.91 (d, 15.5 Hz);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  145.2,  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  7.58 (d, 15.5 Hz);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  120.6, and  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  192.7, consistent with the presence of a chalcone unit in which ring B was unsubstituted.<sup>9</sup>

The remaining portion of the molecule was established as consisting of two substituted fused furan rings, by compari-

**Table 2.** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Data of the (*S*)- and (*R*)-Mosher Ester Derivatives of Compounds **1**, **2a**, and **3**<sup>a</sup>

proton	$\delta_{\text{H}}$			$\delta_{\text{H}}$			$\delta_{\text{H}}$		
	<b>1s</b>	<b>1r</b>	$\Delta\delta_{\text{S-R}}$	<b>2as</b>	<b>2ar</b>	$\Delta\delta_{\text{S-R}}$	<b>3s</b>	<b>3r</b>	$\Delta\delta_{\text{S-R}}$
2''	6.60	6.62	<i>S</i> <sup>b</sup>	4.84	4.90	-0.06	6.39	6.42	-0.03
				4.64	4.69	-0.05			
3''	4.49	4.42	+0.07	4.13	4.16	-0.03	3.79	3.92	-0.13
4''	5.72	5.72	~0	5.27	5.31	<i>S</i> <sup>b</sup>	5.43	5.46	<i>S</i> <sup>b</sup>
6''	1.17	1.20	-0.03	1.31	1.25	+0.06	1.27	1.25	+0.02
7''	1.17	1.30	-0.13	1.21	1.10	+0.11	1.26	1.17	+0.09

<sup>a</sup> Obtained in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 300 MHz. <sup>b</sup> Absolute configuration.

(13) Alkaline hydrolysis of **2** to **2a**. (+)-Tephrocin B (**2**) (12 mg) was treated with 5 mL of 0.25% KOH in MeOH, and the mixture was refluxed for 4 h. The resultant solution was adjusted to pH 8.0 and extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ . The organic phase was washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated in vacuo to yield 6 mg of **2a**. The aqueous phase was acidified with 1 N HCl to pH 3.0 and extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and concentrated in vacuo to give cinnamic acid (2 mg), for which the obtained IR and  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data were consistent with literature values.<sup>15</sup> Compound (**2a**): yellowish needles, mp  $162\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} +70^\circ$  (*c* 0.08,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 215 (3.9), 345 (4.2) nm; IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (film) 3400, 2962, 1640, 1566, 1480, 1440, 1356, 1310, 1242,  $1095\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; FABMS positive mode  $m/z$  (rel int. %)  $[\text{M} + 1]^+$  355 (72), 265 (31), 251 (45), 233 (36), 186 (98), 161 (100), 115 (40).

**Table 3.**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Data for Compounds **3** and **2a** and HMBC Correlations for Compound **3** (300, 75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)

$^1\text{H}$ no.	<b>3</b>			<b>2a</b>	
	$\delta_{\text{H}}$ (mult)	$\delta_{\text{C}}$	HMBC <sup>a</sup>	$\delta_{\text{H}}$ (mult)	$\delta_{\text{C}}$
1		135.0 s			134.9 s
2	7.66 m	128.9 d		7.65 m	129.2 d
3	7.44 m	129.4 d	1, 5, 4	7.44 m	128.8 d
4	7.44 m	130.9 d	6, 5	7.44 m	131.1 d
5	7.44 m	129.4 d	4, 3, 1	7.44 m	128.8 d
6	7.66 m	128.9 d		7.66 m	129.2 d
1'		114.1 s			114.8 s
2'	7.87 d (8.7)	132.8 d	6', 4', 1'	7.87 d (8.7)	133.0 d
3'	6.47 d (8.7)	102.8 d	2', 4'	6.51 d (8.7)	103.5 d
4'		165.9 s			169.4 s
5'		115.5 s			113.9 s
6'		161.8 s			161.9 s
2''	6.57 d (6.4)	113.1 d	3'', 4'', 5'', 4'	4.74 m	78.8 t
3''	4.04 d (6.4)	55.5 d	4'', 5', 5'', 6', 4'	3.85 m	42.5 d
4''	4.34 s	80.4 d	5''	3.54 br s	81.5 d
5''		88.5 s			72.7 s
a	7.58 d (15.5)	120.6 d	$\beta'$ -C=O, 1	7.57 d (15.4)	120.3 d
b	7.91 d (15.5)	145.2 d	$\beta'$ -C=O, 1, 6, 2	7.90 d (15.4)	145.2 d
$\beta'$ -C=O		192.7 s			192.5 s
Me <sub>2</sub>	1.07 s, 1.40 s	23.4 q, 27.8 q	5'', 4'', 27.8, 23.4	1.29 s, 1.42 s	26.5 q
OH	13.6 s		6', 1', 5'	14.7 s	

<sup>a</sup> C to H correlations.

son with (+)-purpurin.<sup>4,9</sup> This observation was supported by an HMBC experiment, as summarized in Table 3.

In addition, the location of the chelated OH proton ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  13.6 s) at C-6' of **3** showed correlations with the signals of  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  161.8 (C-6'), 114.1 (C-1'), and 115.5 (C-5'). The H-2'' and H-3'' protons were mutually coupled ( $J = 6.4$  Hz) and supported their occurrence in a *cis* configuration. Moreover, the H-4'' proton was observed as a singlet, suggesting that it was at an opposite position relative to H-2'' and H-3''.<sup>4</sup> The absolute configuration at C-2'' of **3** was also determined by analysis of the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR data of the (*S*)- and (*R*)-mono-Mosher ester derivatives **3s** and **3r**, respectively (Table 2), in a manner similar to the procedure described for **1**. Analysis of the  $\Delta\delta_{\text{H}(\text{S}-\text{R})}$  data for compound **3** (Table 2) indicated a negative difference in chemical shift for H-2'' and H-3'' and a positive difference for the methyls at C-5''. Thus, the absolute configuration at C-4'' was established as *S*.

Accordingly, the absolute configuration at C-3'' and C-2'' was deduced as *S* and *R*, respectively, because of the *trans* configuration of H-4''/H-3'' and the *cis* relationship of H-3''/H-2''. Venkata Rao and Ranga Raju<sup>9</sup> reported a similar compound obtained from alkaline hydrolysis from (+)-purpurin without determination of its absolute configuration. Recent work which established the absolute configuration of (+)-purpurin as 2*S*,2''*R*,3''*S*,4*S*<sup>7</sup> also supported the stereochemical assignments made for this part of the molecule of **3**. Thus, the structure of **3** was determined to be (+)-(2''*R*,3''*S*,4''*S*)-[2'',3''-*b*]dihydrofurano-5'',5''-dimethyl[4',5'-*h*]-6'-hydroxy-4''-tetrahydrofuranohydroxychalcone, to which we have accorded the trivial name (+)-tephrosone.

In conclusion, three novel compounds of the flavonoid class (**1–3**) have been isolated from *Tephrosia purpurea* in

this investigation. Compounds **1** and **2** bear a novel tetrahydrofurano ring as a side chain at the C-8 position, and in **2** an unusual cinnamic acid moiety occurs at the C-4'' position. It is interesting to note that the C-4'' substituent is in the *S* configuration in **1–3**, as in the case also of (+)-purpurin<sup>6</sup> and (+)-pseudosemiglabrin.<sup>7</sup>

**Biological Activity.** Compounds **1–3** were evaluated for their potential as quinone reductase inducers in cultured mouse Hepa 1c1c7 cells, according to established protocols.<sup>4,5,14</sup> Compounds with CD (concentration to double enzyme induction) values of  $<10$   $\mu\text{g/mL}$  are considered active.<sup>4,5</sup> Each  $\text{IC}_{50}$  value ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) (half-maximal inhibitory concentrations of cell viability) was divided by the CD value to obtain a chemopreventive index,  $\text{CI}$ ,  $\text{IC}_{50}/\text{CD}$ .<sup>14</sup> Compound **2** was inactive (CD value  $>10$   $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ), whereas compounds **1**, **2a**, and **3** significantly induced QR activity, with the observed CD values being 4.0, 5.9, and 3.1  $\mu\text{M}$ , respectively. The CI values of these compounds were 11.8, 5.5, and 6.2, respectively. The presence of the bulky cinnamic acid group at C-4'' in **2** may affect its biological activity.

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