

TECTORIGENIN 7-GENTIOBIOSIDE FROM *DALBERGIA VOLUBILIS* STEM BARK

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We wish to report the isolation from stem bark of *Dalbergia volubilis* of a new isoflavone glucoside, which we have identified as tectorigenin 7-gentibioside.

EXPERIMENTAL

The air dried, powdered stem bark (1 kg) was extracted successively with petrol, C_6H_6 and EtOH. The EtOH extract was concd and chromatographed on a Si gel column using EtOAc as solvent. The eluate was subjected to repeated column chromatography followed by PLC($CHCl_3$ -MeOH- H_2O , 8:2:0.5) to give the pure glycoside, mp 160–162°; $[\alpha]_D - 37.21$ ($c = 0.65$, MeOH) which analysed for $C_{28}H_{32}O_{16}$ and gave a green ferric reaction, a positive Molisch's test and a dark pink colour with Na amalgam followed by HCl suggesting an isoflavonoid structure. ν^{KBr} 3450 ($-OH$), 1639 (chelated carbonyl), 830 cm^{-1} (1,4-disubstituted benzene ring). λ_{max}^{MeOH} : 265, 335; + $AlCl_3$: 275, 330; + NaOAc: 265, 335 nm showed the presence of free 5-OH and that the 7-position was occupied. On hydrolysis with 5% H_2SO_4 , it yielded tectorigenin [1], mp 225–226° (identified by direct comparison with an authentic sample) and glucose only. On acetylation with Ac_2O -Py it gave an acetate, mp 90–91°. PMR of the acetate (60 MHz, $CDCl_3$, TMS as int. stand.): δ 2.10 (7 \times 3H, 7 \times aliphatic-OAc), 2.35, 2.50 (2 \times 3H, each s, 2 \times phenolic -OAc), 3.80 (3H, s, -OMe), 4.13–5.53 (m, glucosyl protons), 7.20 (3H, d, $J_{3,5'} = 8.5\text{ Hz}$, C-3', C-5', C-8 unresolved), 7.55 (2H, d, $J_{2,6'} = 8.5\text{ Hz}$, C-2', C-6'), 8.02 (1H, s, C-2). PMR of the acetate and quantitative aglycone estimation showed the compound to be a diglucoside. That both the glucose units were attached to the 7-hydroxyl was shown by complete methylation of the parent compound with Me_2SO_4 - K_2CO_3 - Me_2CO followed by acid hydrolysis when 7-hydroxy-5,6,4'-trimethoxyisoflavone [2], mp 216°. (Found: C, 65.6; H, 5.1.

$C_{18}H_{16}O_6$ requires: C, 65.9, H, 4.9%) was isolated. The formation of tectoridin [3] and glucose in the controlled partial hydrolysis with Killiani's reagent [4] further confirmed that the parent glycoside was a 7-diglucoside. Permethylaton of the parent glycoside by Hakomori's method [5] followed by acid hydrolysis of the permethylate yielded 2,3,4,6-tetra-*O*-methyl D-glucopyranose and 2,3,4-tri-*O*-methyl-D-glucopyranose. Thus both glucose units are in pyranose form with 1 \rightarrow 6 inter-sugar linkage and attached to the 7-position of the aglycone by an anomeric OH. The β -configuration of glucosidic linkages was established by means of enzymatic hydrolysis with β -glucosidase and optical rotation considerations employing Klyne's rule [6, 7]. Since tectorigenin does not contribute to the molecular rotation of the glycoside, the entire $[M]_D$ value (-191.70°) was due to the sugar entities. Hence, the compound is tectorigenin-7-*O*-(β -D-glucopyranosyl 1 \rightarrow 6)- β -D-glucopyranoside.

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