

C-GLYCOSYLFLAVONES OF *MUCUNA SEMPERVIRENS*

NARIYUKI ISHIKURA and KUNIIRO YOSHITAMA

Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Kumamoto University, Kurokami, Kumamoto 860, Japan

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Abstract—8-C- α -L-Arabinosylluteolin, 6,8-di-C- α -L-arabinosylapigenin and isoorientin were isolated from leaves of *Mucuna sempervirens* and identified by UV-, ^1H and ^{13}C NMR and FDMS.

INTRODUCTION

The flower pigments of *Mucuna sempervirens* Hemsl have been characterized as the 3-monoglucosides of delphinidin, petunidin and cyanidin [1]. In the present study, the leaf tissue of this plant was found to contain the C-glycosylflavones, 8-C- α -L-arabinosylluteolin (1), 6,8-di-C- α -L-arabinosylapigenin (2) and isoorientin (3). 8-C- α -L-arabinosylluteolin has not previously been reported. The structural elucidation of these C-glycosylflavones is now described.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The UV spectra of three compounds (1–3) isolated from *Mucuna* leaves showed absorption typical for flavone glycosides, and were non-hydrolysable with hydrochloric acid and non-extractable with diethyl ether, so that they are probably C-glycosidic structures. Compounds 1 and 2 have UV absorption spectra consistent with their being luteolin and apigenin derivatives, respectively, in which all the hydroxyl functions are unsubstituted. Chemical shifts of sugar carbons for the 8-C-arabinoside in the ^{13}C NMR spectra of 1 were 74.6 d, 74.6 d, 70.8 t, 69.0 d, and 68.4 d [cf 2], and also the FDMS gave a M_r of 418 corresponding to 8-C- α -L-arabinosylluteolin, a compound which has not previously been reported. The R_f values of 2 were similar to those reported for 6,8-di-C- α -L-arabinosylapigenin [3] and ^1H and ^{13}C NMR and FDMS of 2 confirmed this structure.

Compound 3 was readily identified from its ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra and chromatographic behaviour as 6-C- β -D-glucosylluteolin (isorientin) by direct comparison with an authentic sample. FDMS studies confirmed the identification and on acid treatment, 3 produced orientin as an isomer due to a Wessely–Moser rearrangement [cf 2].

EXPERIMENTAL

Plant material and extraction. Fresh leaves (1 kg) of *Mucuna sempervirens* Hemsl were collected in June and extracted with

Me_2CO (12 l). The extract was evaporated *in vacuo* to remove Me_2CO and the aqueous fraction obtained successively washed with petrol and Et_2O . The Et_2O extract contained no flavonoid.

Separation and identification. The aqueous fraction was concentrated to small volume giving 3 in a semicrystalline state, which was recrystallized from 70% EtOH (yield 120 mg). The remainder of the aqueous fraction was applied to a Sephadex LH-20 column, equilibrated with 70% EtOH, and eluted with the same solvent to give 1 and 2, which were purified by TLC cellulose (avicel) in *n*-BuOH–HOAc– H_2O (4:1:5) (BAW) and 15% HOAc. Compound 1 separated was crystallized from H_2O and 2, from EtOH (yields 94 and 177 mg, respectively).

8-C- α -L-Arabinosylluteolin (1) Yellow needles mp 213–214°; UV light black, + NH_3 yellow, UV $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{MeOH}}$ nm 257, 269, 293sh, 350, + AlCl_3 276, 303sh, 330sh, 422, + AlCl_3/HCl 265sh, 277, 298, 360, 388, + NaOAc 274, 325, 396, + $\text{NaOAc}-\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$ 266, 377, 430sh. PC R_f 0.35 (BAW), 0.15 (15% HOAc), 0.46 (*n*-BuOH–EtOH– H_2O , 4:1:2) (BEW), 0.05 (H_2O), 0.02 (3% HOAc). Diazotized *p*-nitroaniline brown. FDMS Found m/z 419. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}$ M_r 418. ^1H NMR δ (DMSO- d_6) 2.5–5.5 (1H, m, aliphatic and OH), 6.265 (1H, s, H-6), 6.674 (1H, s, H-3), 6.890 (1H, d, $J=8.3$ Hz, H-5'), 7.35–7.50 (2H, m, H-2' and H-6'), 9.101 (1H, s, OH), 9.919 (1H, s, OH), 10.5 (1H, br s, OH), and 13.270 (1H, s, OH-5). ^{13}C NMR δ (DMSO- d_6) 68.367 (d, –OCH₃), 69.013 (d, –OCH₃), 70.774 (t, C-5(a)), 74.590 (d, 2 \times –OCH₃), 98.455 (C-6), 102.067 (d, C-3), 103.767 (s, C-10), 104.298 (s, C-8), 113.513 (d, C-2'), 116.040 (d, C-5'), 119.755 (d, C-6'), 121.324 (small d, C-1'), 145.334 (s, C-3'), 149.594 (s, C-4'), 156.104 (s, C-5), 160.397 (s, C-9), 162.539 (s, C-7), 164.004 (s, C-2) and 181.908 (s, C-4). (a) = α -L-arabinose.

6,8-di-C- α -L-Arabinosylapigenin (2) Yellow needles mp 217–218°, UV light black, + NH_3 yellow; UV $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{MeOH}}$ nm 273, 333, + NaOMe 284, 334, 402, + AlCl_3 280, 306, 352, 385 sh, + AlCl_3-HCl 280, 305, 349, 380 sh, + NaOAc 283, 310 sh, 336, 398, + $\text{NaOAc}-\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$ 285, 320, 350 sh, 411. PC R_f 0.34 (BAW), 0.43 (15% HOAc), 0.50 (BEW), 0.28 (H_2O), 0.18 (3% HOAc). Diazotized *p*-nitroaniline brown. FABMS Found 534. Calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_{13}$ M_r 534. ^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6) 3–5 (10H, m, aliphatic plus nOH), 6.858 (1H, s, H-3), 6.902 (2H, d, H-3' and H-5'), ca 9 (2H, d, H-2' and H-6'), 9.196 (1H, s, OH), 10.334 (1H, s, OH), and 13.792 (1H, s, OH-5). ^{13}C NMR δ (DMSO- d_6) 68.5, 68.9, 70.1, 70.9, 74.0, 74.5 (aliphatic carbons), 102.1 (d, C-3), 103.4 (s, C-10), 104.6 (s, C-8), 108.1 (s, C-6), 115.922 (d, C-3' and C-5'), 120.972 (s, C-1'), 129.3 (d, C-2' and C-6'), 154.8 (s, C-5), 158.5 (s,

C-7), 161 036 (s, C-4' and C-9), 164 032 (s, C-2), and 182 200 (s, C-4)

Isoorientin (**3**) was identified by PC, UV, ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and FDMS spectral studies and also by co-TLC, mp and mmp with an authentic sample

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FLAVONOIDS AND A COUMARIN FROM *GUTIERREZIA SPHAEROCEPHALA*

RHONGZHI LI,* NIANBAI FANG† and TOM J MABRY

The Department of Botany, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78713-7640, U S A

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Key Word Index: *Gutierrezia sphaerocephala*; Compositae; Astereae; flavones; flavonols; flavanones, 5,3',4',5'-tetrahydroxy-6,7-dimethoxyflavone, 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-6,3'-dimethoxyflavanone

Abstract—The ethyl acetate extract of the aerial parts of *Gutierrezia sphaerocephala* afforded, in addition to one coumarin, 10 known and two new flavonoids. The structures were elucidated by spectroscopic methods. The new flavonoids are 5,3',4',5'-tetrahydroxy-6,7-dimethoxyflavone and 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-6,3'-dimethoxyflavanone

As a part of our chemosystematic survey of the 'Gutierrezia-Xanthocephalum complex' [1-9], we have investigated the *Gutierrezia sphaerocephala* Gray. Chromatographic separation of the ethyl acetate and dichloromethane extracts of a concentrated aqueous methanol extract of aerial parts of *G. sphaerocephala* afforded one coumarin, 7,8-dihydroxy-6-methoxycoumarin (**13**) [10] and 12 flavonoids. The 10 known flavonoids are 5,7-dihydroxy-6,4'-dimethoxyflavone (**1**) [11], 5,7,3',4'-tetrahydroxy-6-methoxyflavone (**2**) [11], 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-6,3'-dimethoxyflavone (**3**) [11], 5,7-dihydroxy-6,3',4'-trimethoxyflavone (**4**) [11], 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-6,3',5'-trimethoxyflavone (**5**) [12], 3,5,7,3',4'-pentahydroxyflavone (**6**) [11], 3,5,7,3',4'-pentahydroxy-6-methoxyflavone (**7**) [11], 3,5,7,4'-tetrahydroxy-6,3'-dimethoxyflavone (**8**) [11], 3,5,7,3',4'-pentahydroxyflavone-3-galactoside (**9**) and 5,7,3',4'-tetrahydroxy-6-methoxyflavanone (**10**) [13]. The new flavonoids are 5,3',4',5'-tetrahydroxy-6,7-dimethoxyflavone (**11**) and 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-6,3'-dimethoxyflavanone (**12**).

The ^1H NMR spectrum (90 MHz) of the TMSi ether derivative of **11** (Table 1) exhibited two one-proton singlets at δ 6.27 and 6.51 characteristic of H-3 and H-8, respectively, and a two-proton singlet at δ 6.96 typical of protons at 2' and 6' in a symmetrically substituted B-ring. Since the remaining signals in the ^1H NMR spectrum were in accord with two methoxyl groups, **11** has a 5,6,7,3',4',5'-oxygenation pattern. The MS of **11** exhibited a molecular ion peak at m/z 346 (100%) in accord with an aglycone containing four hydroxyl and two methoxyl groups. Compound **11** appeared as purple spot on paper under UV light and changed to yellow with ammonia, suggesting the presence of free 5 and 4'-hydroxyl groups. Compound **11** also gave an orange colour with NA, which, together with the symmetrical substituted B-ring already established, indicated a B-ring with 3',4',5'-trihydroxyl groups. With the establishment of 5,3',4',5'-tetrahydroxyl groups and to accommodate the 5,6,7,3',4',5'-oxygenation pattern, the two methoxyl groups must be at the 6 and 7 positions. These conclusions are supported by the UV spectra (Table 2). Thus, **11** is 5,3',4',5'-tetrahydroxy-6,7-dimethoxyflavone.

The ^1H NMR signals at δ 2.65 (1H, *d*) 2.77 (1H, *d*) and 5.20 (1H, *dd*) characteristic for H-3 *cis*, H-3 *trans* and H-2 and a molecular ion at m/z 332 (99%) in the MS spectrum indicated that **12** is a flavanone with three hydroxyl and two methoxyl groups. The ^1H NMR spectrum of the

*Beijing Medical University, Beijing, China

†The Hubei College of Chinese Traditional Medicine, Wuhan, China