



Proteasome-inhibitory and cytotoxic constituents of *Garcinia lateriflora*: absolute configuration of caged xanthenes

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 18 March 2010

Received in revised form 30 April 2010

Accepted 4 May 2010

Available online 12 May 2010

Keywords:

Garcinia lateriflora

Biflavonoids

Caged xanthenes

Proteasome inhibition

Cytotoxicity

ABSTRACT

A new biflavonoid (**1**), a new xanthone enantiomer (**2**), five new caged xanthenes (**3–7**), and several known compounds were isolated from the stem bark of *Garcinia lateriflora*, collected in Indonesia. The structures of the new compounds were determined by analysis of spectroscopic data, and the absolute configuration of the caged xanthenes was shown for the first time at carbons 5, 7, 8, 8a, 10a, and 27, by analysis of COSY and NOESY NMR and ECD spectra. The biflavonoids exhibited proteasome-inhibitory activity, and the known compound, morelloflavone (**8**) was found to have the greatest potency ($IC_{50}=1.3 \mu M$). The caged xanthenes were cytotoxic toward HT-29 cells, with the known compound, morellic acid (**10**) being the most active ($ED_{50}=0.36 \mu M$). However, when tested in an in vivo hollow fiber assay, it was inactive at the highest dose tested (20 mg/kg).

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1. Introduction

The genus *Garcinia* (Clusiaceae) comprises over 200 species, of which some are used in traditional medicine.¹ This genus is the known source of the so-called ‘caged xanthenes’, a cluster of poly-prenylated xanthenes with a saturated ring A, a highly substituted tetrahydrofuran ring, and three quaternary carbon centers each.^{2–4} This type of compounds along with biflavonoids are the most characteristic secondary metabolites of *Garcinia* species,^{3–7} and both compound classes have been found to exhibit diverse biological activities.^{8–13} For example, several caged xanthenes are cytotoxic against human tumor cells,^{12–15} including gambogic acid, a typical caged xanthone isolated from the resin of *Garcinia hanburyi* Hook. f.,

which inhibited human SPC-A1 cell growth both in vitro and in vivo.¹⁴ This compound induces tumor cell apoptosis by binding to topoisomerase II α to prevent DNA cleavage and ATP hydrolysis,¹⁵ and it is presently in a phase II clinical trial as an antitumor agent in the People's Republic of China.¹⁵

Garcinia lateriflora Blume is a tropical medicinal herb, with only one compound reported from this plant before, namely, lateriflorone, a novel spiroxalactone for which a methyl ether derivative was later synthesized.¹⁶ As a part of a multidisciplinary collaborative natural product drug discovery project,¹⁷ a crude methanol extract of *G. lateriflora* stem bark exhibited both proteasome-inhibitory activity and cytotoxicity toward HT-29 human colon cancer cells. Using column chromatography, a new biflavonoid (**1**), a new xanthone enantiomer (**2**), five new caged xanthenes (**3–7**), and several known compounds were isolated in the present investigation. The isolation, structure elucidation, and bioactivity evaluation of the isolates obtained from the stem bark of *G. lateriflora* are reported herein.

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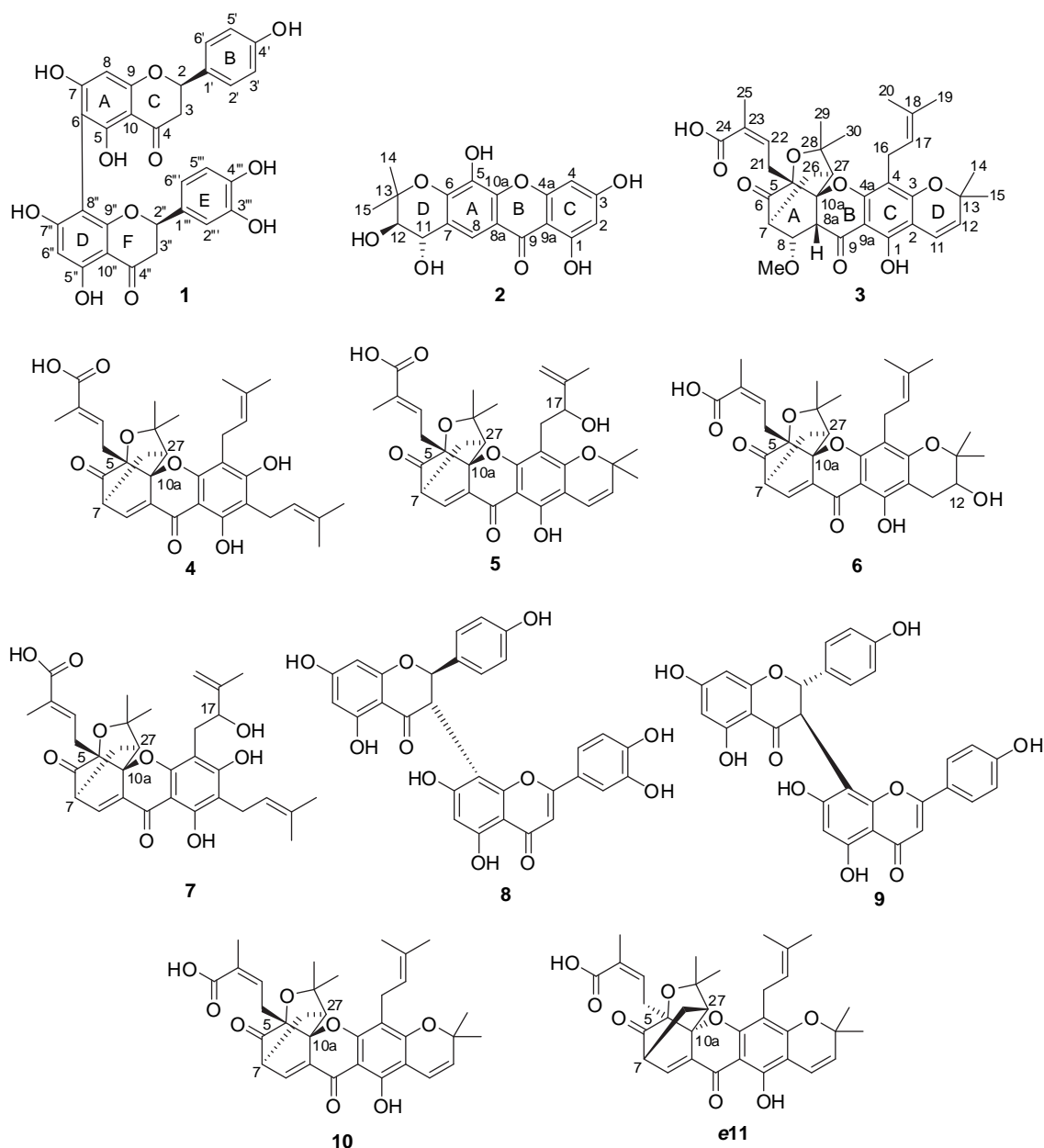
[†] Deceased on June 30, 2009.

2. Results and discussion

2.1. Structure elucidation of new compounds

The ethyl acetate-soluble extract of the methanol extract of the dried ground stem bark of *G. lateriflora*, collected in Indonesia, was separated by column chromatography over silica gel and yielded nine fractions. Combined fractions six and seven were further purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford a new compound, lateriflavanone (**1**), a new enantiomer, laterixanthone (**2**), along with the known compounds, morelloflavone (**8**),¹⁸ talbotaflavone (**9**),¹⁹ rhusflavanone,²⁰ and stigma-5,13-diene 3 β -O-D-glucoside.²¹ The *n*-hexane-soluble extract was fractionated by silica gel column chromatography, affording seven fractions. Chromatographic separation of combined fractions five and six yielded the new compounds, isomoreollic acid (**3**), isogaudichaudiic acid (**4**), isogaudichaudiic acid E (**5**), 11,12-dihydro-12-hydroxymorellic acid (**6**), isogaudichaudiic acid B (**7**), along with the known morellic acid (**10**)²² and 3 β -acetoxurs-12-en-28-oic acid.²³ The known compounds were identified by comparison of their spectroscopic data with literature values.

Compound **1** was obtained as an amorphous white powder showing a yellow color under UV light at 365 nm, with a molecular formula of C₃₀H₂₂O₁₁ determined by HRESIMS (m/z , 581.1032 [M+Na]⁺, calcd 581.1060). Its UV (λ_{max} 216, 291 nm) and IR (ν_{max} 3320 and 1633 cm⁻¹) spectra showed absorption bands characteristic of a biflavonone.^{24,25} The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra (Table 1) were similar to those of rhusflavanone.²⁰ In the decoupled ¹³C NMR spectrum of **1**, 30 signals were displayed, consistent with this compound being a biflavonoid. Two carbonyl related signals at δ 198.1 and δ 197.8 confirmed the presence of two flavanone units.^{20,24,25} The DEPT 90 and DEPT 135 spectra showed two methylene carbon signals at δ 44.7 indicating that the constituent monomeric units of **1** are not connected at their C-3 positions.²⁰ Similarities of the ¹³C NMR spectrum with that of rhusflavanone²⁰ were consistent with the structure of **1** being a C-6/C-8-linked naringenin–dihydroluteolin dimer, which was confirmed by the absence of H-6 and H-8'' signals, the downfield shifts of C-6 (δ 103.2) and C-8'' (δ 102.6), and the HMBC correlations between OH-5 and C-5, C-6, and C-10, OH-5'' and C-5'', C-6'', and C-10'', H-8 and C-10, and H-6'' and C-8'' and C-10'' (Fig. 1). The structure of **1** was confirmed from additional HMBC



correlations between H-2' and C-2, H-2 and C-3, H-3 and C-10, H-2''' and C-2'', H-2'' and C-4'', and H-3'' and C-10'' (Fig. 1). The CD spectrum of **1** exhibited a high-amplitude positive Cotton effect at 292 nm and a low-amplitude negative Cotton effect at 320 nm for the electronic $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ and $n \rightarrow \pi^*$ transitions, respectively, of the two constituent flavanone moieties, thus confirming the 2*R* absolute configuration at both C-2 and C-2''.²⁶ Therefore, compound **1** was defined as *ent*-naringenin-(6 \rightarrow 8'')-*ent*-dihydroluteolin.

Table 1
¹H and ¹³C NMR data of **1**

Position	$\delta_{\text{H}}^{\text{a}}$ (m, J/Hz)	$\delta_{\text{C}}^{\text{c}}$
2	5.51 (m)	82.9, CH
3	2.94 (m)	44.7, CH ₂
4	2.68 (m)	198.1, C
5-OH	11.80 (s ^b)	165.8, C
6		103.2, C
7		168.0, C
8	5.82 (s)	96.2, CH
9		164.8, C
10		103.1, C
1'		131.8, C
2'	7.11 (d, 8.4)	129.9, CH
3'	6.83 (d, 7.8)	115.7, CH
4'-OH	9.40 (s ^b)	158.7, C
5'	6.99 (d, 7.8)	115.7, CH
6'	7.11 (d, 8.4)	129.5, CH
2''	5.20 (m)	80.8, CH
3''	2.89 (m)	44.7, CH ₂
4''	2.54 (m)	197.8, C
5''-OH	11.80 (s ^b)	165.6, C
6''	5.87 (s)	97.3, CH
7''		168.0, C
8''		102.6, C
9''		162.8, C
10''		102.6, C
1'''		130.1, C
2'''	6.67 (s)	115.7, CH
3'''-OH	8.90 (s ^b)	146.5, C
4'''-OH	8.90 (s ^b)	146.8, C
5'''	6.59 (d, 7.8)	116.4, CH
6'''	6.72 (d, 7.8)	119.1, CH

^a Data were measured in methanol-*d*₄ at 600 MHz. Chemical shifts (δ) are in parts per million from TMS. *J* values are in hertz and omitted if the signals were overlapped as multiplets. s=singlet, d=doublet, t=triplet, m=multiplet.

^b Hydroxy group data were measured in acetone-*d*₆ at 600 MHz and then in DMSO-*d*₆ at 800 MHz for measurement of a HMBC spectrum (Fig. 1).

^c Data were measured in methanol-*d*₄ at 75.5 MHz. Chemical shifts (δ) are in parts per million from TMS.

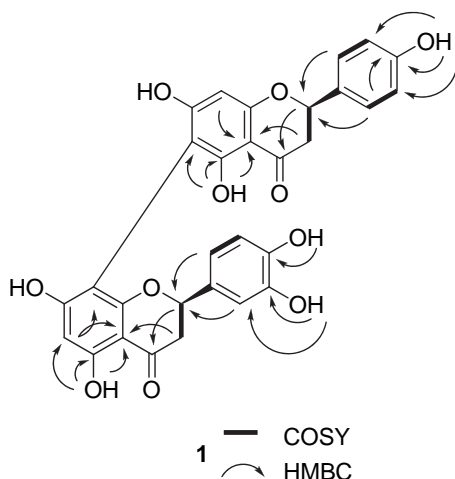


Figure 1. COSY and key HMBC correlations for **1**.

Compound **2** was isolated as colorless needles. The UV and IR spectra showed absorption characteristics of a xanthone derivative.^{27–29} The molecular formula of C₁₈H₁₆O₈ was determined by HRESIMS, and is consistent with a 13-carbon xanthone nucleus with a prenyl substituent. The ¹H NMR spectrum (Table 2) showed signals for a *gem*-dimethyl group at δ 1.60 (s) and 1.28 (s), two typical *trans*-oriented oxymethine protons at δ 4.59 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz) and 3.59 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz), a one-proton singlet at δ 7.86 due to an aromatic proton, and two *meta*-substituted aromatic protons at δ 6.16 and 6.41 (both d, both *J*=1.8 Hz). This suggested that **2** is a 1,3,5,6-tetraoxygenated xanthone with a prenyl group linking C-6–O and C-7.^{27,28} The presence of three oxygen-substituted aromatic carbons was confirmed by signals at δ 134.1 (C-5), 146.1 (C-6), and 147.6 (C-10a) in its ¹³C NMR spectrum (Table 3).^{28,29} Comparison of the ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of **2** with those of 1,3,5-trihydroxy-13,13-dimethyl-2*H*-pyran[7,6-*b*]xanthone-9-one^{28,29} implied the presence of two extra oxygen-substituted carbons and the absence of a vinyl group at C-11 and C-12 in **2**,^{27,28} which was confirmed by the COSY correlation between H-11 and H-12, and the HMBC correlations between H-2 and C-4 and C-9a, H-8 and C-6, C-9, C-10a, and C-11, H-11 and C-6 and C-13, and H-12 and C-14 and C-15 (Fig. 2).

The coupling constant of 8.4 Hz suggested the 11,12-*trans* relative configuration of ring D in **2**. The NOESY correlations between H-11 and H-15 and between H-12 and H-14 (Fig. 3) indicated the equatorially oriented hydroxy groups at both C-11 and C-12. Ring D assumes a sofa conformation with C-12 projecting below and C-13 above the xanthone plane, respectively. The (1*S*, 12*R*) absolute configuration was evident from the specific rotation of +43 compared to +38 of a synthetic (3*R*,4*S*)-2,2-dimethylchroman-3,4-diol.³⁰ Accordingly, **2** was determined as (3*R*,4*S*)-3,4,7,9,12-pentahydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-3,4-dihydropyrano [3,2-*b*]xanthen-6(2*H*)-one, which has the same planar but different stereochemical structure as a reported compound, based on their different specific rotation values.²⁹

Compound **3** was isolated as an amorphous light-yellow powder, with a molecular formula of C₃₄H₄₀O₉, as determined by HRESIMS (*m/z* 615.2556 [M+Na]⁺, calcd for 615.2570). Both the UV (λ_{max} 229, 269, 278, 304, 320 nm) and IR [ν_{max} 1743 (unconjugated carbonyl group), 1688 (α,β -conjugated carboxylic group), 1644 (hydrogen-bonded α,β -conjugated carbonyl group) cm⁻¹] spectra showed absorption characteristics of a caged xanthone.^{22,31} In the ¹H NMR spectrum, seven three-proton methyl singlets at δ 1.12, 1.33, 1.37, 1.43, 1.60, 1.71, and 1.93, two one-proton doublets at δ 6.60 (*J*=9.9 Hz) and 5.50 (*J*=9.9 Hz), and two one-proton triplets at δ 4.99 and 6.65, due to olefinic protons, indicated the presence of four prenyl groups in **3**, as supported by its elemental formula. In addition, the ¹H NMR spectrum also revealed a hydrogen-bonded hydroxy group (δ 11.90, s) at C-1 and a methoxy group (δ 3.28, s) at C-8, which were confirmed by HMBC correlations between the methoxy protons and C-8, and between the hydrogen-bonded hydroxy group and C-1 (Fig. 4). The HMBC correlations between H-11 and C-1, H-12 and C-2, H-17 and C-4, H-22 and C-5, and H-27 and C-7 indicated that **3** is a 1,3-dihydroxy-2,4,5,7-tetraprenylxanthone derivative (Fig. 4).

The absence of aromatic A-ring hydrogen and carbon resonances in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of **3** indicated a saturated and hence substituted cyclohexane moiety. The HMBC correlations between H-7 and a carbonyl carbon indicated the ketone to be at C-6. The COSY correlations showed a contiguous spin system comprising H-8a, H-8, H-7, H₂-26, and H-27 (Fig. 4), and, together with the HMBC correlations of H-29 and H-30 with C-28, H-29 and C-27, and H-27 and C-7, was in accordance with the presence of a prenyl group at C-7, with a *gem*-dimethyl group connected to an oxygen-substituted carbon (C-28). Two olefinic signals, H-11 at δ 5.50 and H-12 at δ 6.60 (both *J*=9.9 Hz), were typical of a 2*H*-pyran ring in the presence of a free hydroxy group *ortho* to C-2.³¹ The HMBC

Table 2
¹H NMR data of compounds **2–7** and **10**

Position	2 ^a	3 ^b	4 ^b	5 ^b	6 ^b	7 ^b	10 ^b
1-OH		11.90 (s)	12.80 (s)	12.80 (s)	12.80 (s)	12.80 (s)	12.72 (s)
2	6.16 (d, 1.8)						
3-OH			6.42 (s)				
4	6.41 (d, 1.8)						
7		2.82 (m)	3.46 (m)	3.50 (m)	3.49 (m)	3.49 (m)	3.45 (m)
8	7.86 (s)	4.32 (m)	7.52 (d, 6.6)	7.54 (d, 6.6)	7.50 (d, 6.9)	7.53 (d, 6.5)	7.53 d (6.3)
8a		3.25 (d, 7.8)					
11	4.59 (d, 8.4)	6.60 (d, 9.9)	3.27 (m)	6.63 (d, 10.0)	3.08 (m)	3.28 (m)	6.52 (d, 10.0)
12	3.59 (d, 8.4)	5.50 (d, 9.9)	5.18 (t, 6.0)	5.51 (d, 10.0)	4.65 (d, 4.5)	5.20 (t, 6.6)	5.42 (d, 10.0)
14	1.60 (s)	1.37 (s)	1.67 (s)	1.27 (s)	1.28 (s)	1.75 (s)	1.33 (s)
15	1.28 (s)	1.43 (s)	1.74 (s)	1.49 (s)	1.17 (s)	1.66 (s)	1.37 (s)
16		3.16 (d, 6.0)	3.23 (m)	2.91 (m)	3.15 (d, 6.0)	2.79 (br s)	3.31 (m)
17		4.99 (t, 6.0)	5.05 (t, 6.0)	4.35 (m)	3.19 (d, 6.0)	3.06 (br s)	3.13 (m)
19		1.60 (s)	1.67 (s)	4.85 (br s)	5.18 (t, 6.0)	4.29 (d, 9.3)	5.00 (t, 5.4)
20				5.00 (br s)	1.63 (s)	4.86 (br s)	1.61 (s)
21		1.71 (s)	1.71 (s)	1.83 (s)	1.70 (s)	4.87 (br s)	1.70 (s)
22		3.14 (d, 6.0)	2.80 (m)	3.30 (m)	2.86 (m)	1.85 s	2.98 (d, 6.0)
25			3.29 (m)		2.98 (m)	3.12 (m)	
26		6.65 (t, 6.0)	5.78 (t, 6.0)	5.58 (m)	5.81 (t, 7.2)	5.76 (t, 6.6)	6.05 (t, 6.0)
27		1.93 (s)	1.73 (s)	1.70 s	1.74 (s)	1.70 (s)	1.70 (s)
29		1.40 (br s)	1.10 (m)	1.35 (m)	1.10 (m)	1.37 (m)	1.36 (m)
30		1.35 (br s)	2.32 (m)	2.36 (m)	2.30 (m)	2.47 (m)	2.32 (m)
7-OCH ₃		2.48 (m)	2.48 (m)	2.51 (m)	2.47 (m)	2.75 (t, 4.5)	2.51 (m)
		1.33 (s)	1.64 (s)	1.63 (s)	1.66 (s)	1.57 (s)	1.66 (s)
		1.12 (s)	1.26 (s)	1.23 (s)	1.28 (s)	1.24 (s)	1.26 (s)
		3.28 (s)					

^a Data were measured in methanol-*d*₄ at 600 MHz.

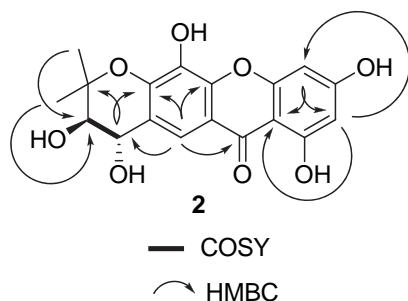
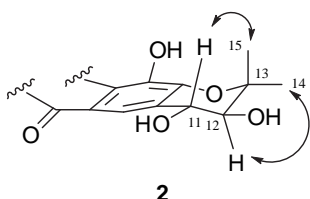
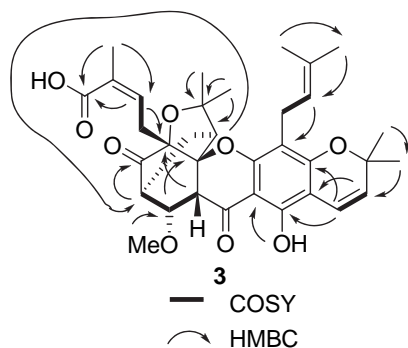
^b Data were measured in CDCl₃ at 300 MHz. Chemical shifts (δ) are in parts per million from TMS. s=singlet, d=doublet, t=triplet, m=multiplet, dd=double doublet. *J* values are omitted if the signals were overlapped as multiplets.

Table 3
¹³C NMR data of compounds **2–7**, and **10**

Position	2 ^a	3 ^b	4 ^b	5 ^b	6 ^b	7 ^b	10 ^b
1	164.8, C	156.4, C	160.4, C	158.5, C	163.1, C	161.2, C	157.6, C
2	99.0, CH	103.1, C	106.2, C	103.3, C	103.9, C	104.4, C	103.2, C
3	167.0, C	161.0, C	163.5, C	161.2, C	163.1, C	164.8, C	161.2, C
4	95.2, CH	109.1, C	107.7, C	104.3, C	105.2, C	104.6, C	108.0, C
4a	159.4, C	155.7, C	155.9, C	158.3, C	153.0, C	156.1, C	157.3, C
5	134.1, C	86.4, C	83.9, C	83.7, C	83.9, C	83.8, C	83.8, C
6	146.1, C	208.4, C	203.3, C	202.8, C	202.7, C	203.1, C	203.3, C
7	124.1, C	43.9, CH	46.9, CH	47.0, CH	46.8, CH	46.9, CH	46.9, CH
8	116.0, CH	74.0, CH	135.1, CH	135.0, CH	134.8, CH	133.5, CH	135.3, CH
8a	115.7, C	48.0, CH	133.7, C	133.4, C	133.7, C	133.5, C	133.4, C
9	181.7, C	193.8, C	179.2, C	179.1, C	178.2, C	179.0, C	179.0, C
9a	103.3, C	101.9, C	100.7, C	100.7, C	100.9, C	100.6, C	100.6, C
10a	147.6, C	88.4, C	90.5, C	90.9, C	90.3, C	90.6, C	90.9, C
11	69.7, CH	115.3, CH	21.1, CH ₂	115.6, CH	26.9, CH ₂	21.5, CH ₂	115.4, CH
12	76.4, CH	126.3, CH	121.5, CH	125.8, CH	91.5, CH	122.3, CH	126.0, CH
13	82.0, C	78.4, C	135.0, C	79.2, C	71.7, C	132.2, C	78.6, C
14	26.9, CH ₃	28.2, CH ₃	25.7, CH ₃	28.7, CH ₃	28.8, CH ₃	25.7, CH ₃	28.9, CH ₃
15	19.9, CH ₃	28.6, CH ₃	17.8, CH ₃	28.4, CH ₃	24.3, CH ₃	17.8, CH ₃	28.5, CH ₃
16		21.5, CH ₂	22.1, CH ₂	30.1, CH ₂	21.4, CH ₂	29.7, CH ₂	21.6, CH ₂
17		122.6, CH	121.9, CH	74.3, CH	121.7, CH	78.6, CH	122.2, CH
18		131.2, C	134.2, C	147.1, C	131.9, C	146.2, C	131.4, C
19		25.6, CH ₃	25.8, CH ₃	110.8, CH ₂	25.7, CH ₃	110.6, CH ₂	25.7, CH ₃
20		18.0, CH ₃	18.0, CH ₃	18.0, CH ₃	17.7, CH ₃	16.8, CH ₃	18.1, CH ₃
21		28.0, CH ₂	29.6, CH ₂	29.6, CH ₂	29.5, CH ₂	29.5, CH ₂	29.3, CH ₂
22		139.4, CH	137.5, CH	135.6, CH	136.4, CH	135.0, CH	138.2, CH
23		127.2, C	128.3, C	129.2, C	129.2, C	128.9, C	127.6, C
24		172.1, C	171.2, C	168.5, C	174.9, C	172.1, C	171.4, C
25		20.5, CH ₃	20.6, CH ₃	20.5, CH ₃	20.7, CH ₃	20.8, CH ₃	20.7, CH ₃
26		20.0, CH ₂	25.3, CH ₂	25.3, CH ₂	25.0, CH ₂	25.3, CH ₂	25.2, CH ₂
27		43.5, CH	49.0, CH	49.3, CH	48.8, CH	49.1, CH	49.1, CH
28		82.2, C	83.8, C	84.5, C	84.3, C	83.9, C	83.8, C
29		29.8, CH ₃	30.0, CH ₃	30.7, CH ₃	29.9, CH ₃	30.8, CH ₃	29.9, CH ₃
30		27.2, CH ₃	29.0, CH ₃	29.0, CH ₃	25.9, CH ₃	28.8, CH ₃	28.3, CH ₃
OCH ₃		55.8, CH ₃					

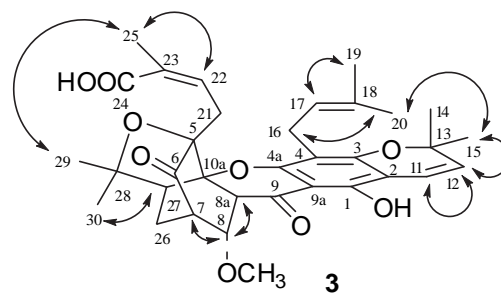
^a Data were measured in methanol-*d*₄ at 150 MHz.

^b Data were measured in CDCl₃ at 75.5 MHz. Chemical shifts (δ) are in parts per million from TMS.

Figure 2. COSY and key HMBC correlations for **2**.Figure 3. Selected NOESY correlations of **2**.Figure 4. COSY and key HMBC correlations for **3**.

correlations between H-11 and C-1 and C-3, H-12 and C-2, and H-14 and H-15 and C-12 were consistent with a dimethylpyran ring linked to C-2 and C-3 of the C-ring bearing an isoprenyl group at C-4. The last prenyl group was assigned to C-5 on the basis of HMBC correlations of H-22 and C-5. In addition, the ^{13}C NMR spectrum showed a carboxylic carbon resonance at δ 172.1, which correlated with H-22 in the HMBC spectrum, indicating that the C-5 prenyl group comprises an α,β -unsaturated carboxylic acid group. The appearance of three resonances of oxygenated quaternary carbons at δ 82.2, 86.4, and 88.4 implied a direct connection between C-10a and C-27, and a connection between C-5 and C-28 through an oxygen atom, which was strongly supported by HMBC correlations between H-8a and C-27, and H-29 and C-27 and C-28. Therefore, **3** was partially characterized as a tetraprenylxanthone, comprised of a tricyclic system, a dimethylpyran moiety, and a 2-methylbut-2-enyl carboxylate group.

The NMR data of **3** were similar to those of moreollic acid.³¹ The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of moreollic acid contained resonances of C-22, C-23, and C-24 at δ 138.1, 127.9, and 171.3, respectively, while these signals of **3** occurred at δ 139.4 (C-22), 127.2 (C-23), and 172.1 (C-24). These differences suggested that **3** is an isomer of moreollic acid. Observation of a NOESY correlation between H-22 and H-25 (Fig. 5), along with the lack of any correlation between H-21 and H-25 confirmed a *Z*-configured C-22–C-23 double bond.

Figure 5. Selected NOESY correlations of **3**.

Despite the fact that the first caged *Garcinia* xanthone, morellin, was described as early as 1937,³² and that approximately 100 of these bioactive compounds have since been reported, the issue of defining their absolute configuration has not been addressed. Thus, we initiated a study based on the chiroptical properties of this class of natural products in order to probe their absolute configuration, using (–)-morellic acid (**10**) (usually depicted as **e11**) as a model. The electronic circular dichroism (ECD) spectrum of **10** displayed negative and positive Cotton effects (CEs) near 360 and 290 nm, respectively, reminiscent of the $n \rightarrow \pi^*$, $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$, and $^1\text{L}_b$ electronic transitions of the appropriate chromophores. The ECD spectrum additionally displayed sequential negative and positive CEs at 246 and 215 nm. A UV absorption maximum at ca. 230 nm indicates that these CEs are indicative of exciton coupling³³ arising from the α,β -unsaturated carbonyl and carboxylic acid chromophores. From Dreiding models and the energy minimized molecular model of compound **10** (Fig. 6), it is evident that the electronic transition dipole moments of these chromophores, aligning C-8–C-9 and C-22–C-24, constitute negative exciton chirality, thus, indicating that the bridgehead C-26 and the C-6 carbonyl group extends, respectively, below and above the plane of the B, C-ring system. Such an arrangement defines unambiguously the *S* configuration of C-7. The ECD spectrum of (–)-isomoreollic acid (**3**) exhibited a high-amplitude positive CE at 214 nm. Due to the absence of the α,β -unsaturated carbonyl chromophore, the spectrum did not show exciton coupling. Based on presumed similar biosynthetic origins for **3** and (–)-morellic acid (**10**), C-7 of **3** was also assigned as a *S* configuration.

The relative configuration of **3** was assessed by analysis of the NOESY data. The B-, C-, and D-rings of **3** were connected in the form of a conjugated plane. In turn, the A-ring occurred in a boat conformation connected with the B-ring, with a C-26 and C-27 bridge above or below the plane to form a bicyclic [2.2.2]-octane unit (Fig. 5).^{34,35} NOESY correlations were observed between H-7 and H-8, H-8a, H-21, H-29, and H-25, H-8 and H-8a, H-8a and H-22, and H-25, H-27 and H-30 and H-26a, H-25 and H-29, H-30, and H-22 (Fig. 5). Based on these NOESY correlations and *7S* configuration of **3**, a *S* configuration for both C-10a and C-27 and a *R* configuration for C-5 and C-8a were assigned for **3**. Thus, the absolute configuration of compound **3** may be defined as 5*R*, 7*S*, 8*S*, 8*aR*, 10*aS*, and 27*S*. Such an assignment was unambiguously confirmed by the theoretically calculated ECD spectrum of (–)-morellic acid (**10**, Figure S10).

Compound **4** gave a molecular formula of $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{38}\text{O}_8$, 32 mass units (CH_3OH) less than **3** and two mass units (2H) more than **10**, as determined by HRESIMS (m/z 585.2417 [$\text{M}+\text{Na}$] $^+$, calcd 585.2464). When the NMR spectra of **4** were compared with those of **3**, an extra doublet at δ 7.52 (1H, d, $J=6.6$ Hz) and an extra triplet at δ 5.18 (1H, t, $J=6.0$ Hz) were evident. In turn, the doublets at δ 6.60 and δ 5.50 (both 1H, d, both $J=9.9$ Hz) and the singlet at δ 3.28 (3H, s) in the spectrum of **3** were absent, indicating that **4** has an olefinic group and lacks a methoxy group at C-8.²² The HMBC spectrum of **4**

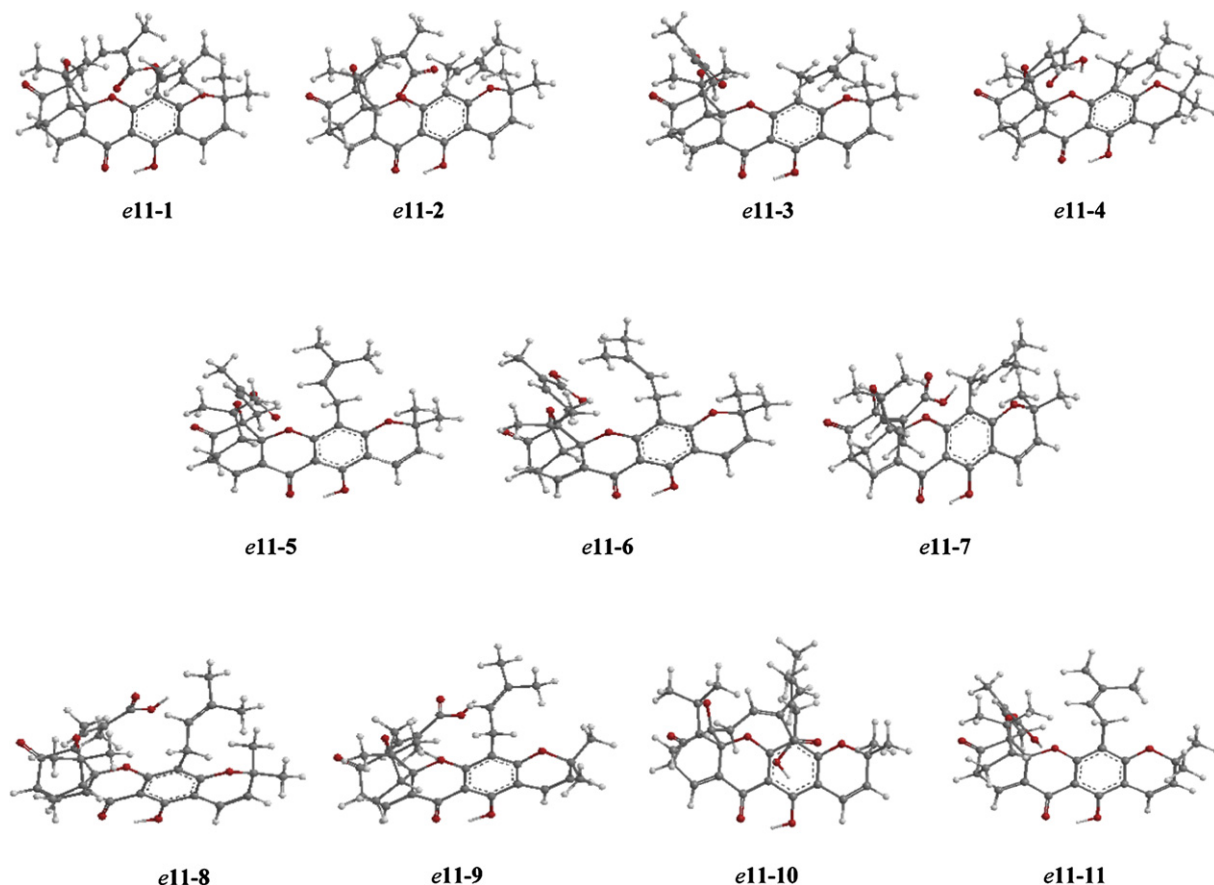


Figure 6. Optimized geometries of predominant conformers of compound **e11** at the B3LYP/6-31G** level in the gas phase.

displayed correlations between H-11 and C-1, H-12 and C-2, H-17 and C-4, suggesting the linkage of one prenyl group each at C-2 and C-4. Other HMBC correlations between H-29 and H-30 and C-28 and C-27, and H-27 and C-7, suggested the presence of a prenyl group at C-7. A 2-methylbut-2-enyl carboxylate group was assigned to C-5 on the basis of HMBC correlations of H-22 with C-5 and C-24.

Comparison of **4** and its isomer, gaudichaudiic acid²² showed that the compounds exhibit similar NMR spectra, except that gaudichaudiic acid presented a signal at δ 170.1 (C-24),²² while in the ¹³C NMR spectrum of **4**, this signal appeared at δ 171.2. A NOESY correlation between H-25 and H-21 suggested an *E*-configured C-22, C-23 olefinic bond for **4**. The closely comparable NOESY profiles of **4** and **10** (Supplementary data, Figure S1) indicated their similar relative configurations. The ECD spectrum of **4** showed sequential negative and positive CEs near 240 and 220 nm, respectively, reminiscent of exciton coupling, hence reflecting the same 5*R*, 7*S*, 10*aS*, 27*S* absolute configuration as for (–)-morellic acid (**10**). Thus, the structure of **4** was determined as isogaudichaudiic acid.

Compound **5** was found to have a molecular formula of C₃₃H₃₆O₉, as determined by HRESIMS (m/z 599.2260 [M+Na]⁺, calcd 599.2257). The similarities of its NMR spectra with those of **3**, **4**, and **10**, indicated **5** to be a further caged xanthone. The appearance of an extra signal for an oxygenated carbon at δ 74.3 in the ¹³C NMR spectrum and a signal at δ 4.35 in the ¹H NMR spectrum, when compared with **4**, together with the HMBC correlations between H-17 and C-19 and C-20, suggested that **5** possesses a hydroxy group at C-17. Comparison of the NMR data of **5** with those of gaudichaudiic acid E,³⁶ revealed that these two compounds are structurally similar. However, the specific rotation of **5** is –82, and that of

gaudichaudiic acid E is –160.1. The NOESY spectrum of **5** showed a correlation between H₂-21 and H-25, and, accordingly, **5** could be assigned as the (*E*)-C-22–C-23 isomer of gaudichaudiic acid E. The ECD spectrum of compound **5** showed negative and positive CEs near 240 and 220 nm, respectively, and together with the similar NOESY profiles of **5** and **4**, indicated the same 5*R*, 7*S*, 10*aS*, 27*S* absolute configuration for **5**. Owing to insufficient sample quantities, it was not possible to perform chiral derivatization in order to define the absolute configuration at C-17. Therefore, **5** was assigned as isogaudichaudiic acid E.

Compound **6** gave a molecular formula of C₃₃H₃₈O₉, as established by HREIMS. Since **6** was found to be 18 mass units (H₂O) greater in molecular weight than **10**, the presence of an extra hydroxy group and the absence of one of the double bonds were concluded for **6**. The signals at δ 3.10 and 4.65 in the ¹H NMR spectrum and the signals at δ 26.9 and 91.5 in the ¹³C NMR spectrum indicated replacement of the C-11–C-12 double bond in **10** by the carbinol functionality in compound **6**, which was supported by the correlations between H-14 and H-15 and C-12 in the HMBC spectrum of **6**. The NOESY correlation between H-25 and H-22 indicated a *Z*-configured C-22–C-23 olefinic bond. The ECD spectrum of compound **6** showed positive CEs near 225 nm, and together with the similar NOESY profiles of **6** and **10** indicated the same 5*R*, 7*S*, 10*aS*, and 27*S* absolute configuration for **6**. Due to insufficient sample quantities, we could not define the absolute configuration at C-12. Therefore, **6** was assigned as (5*R*,7*S*,10*aS*,27*S*)-11,12-dihydro-12-hydroxymorellic acid.

Compound **7** was assigned a molecular formula of C₃₃H₃₈O₉ from its HREIMS (m/z 601.2436 [M+Na]⁺, calcd 601.2414), two mass units higher than that of **5**. The lack of the two olefinic

hydrogen doublets (H-11, H-12) in its ^1H NMR spectrum indicated an acyclic prenyl moiety in **7**. Comparison of the NMR data of **7** with those of gaudichaudiic acid **B**,³⁶ revealed that these two compounds are similar except for the chemical shift of the respective carboxylic carbon, which appeared at δ 170.0 for gaudichaudiic acid **B** but at δ 172.1 for **7**. The NOESY correlation between H-25 and H-21 indicated an *E*-configured C-22, C-23 double bond. The ECD spectrum of compound **7** again showed sequential negative and positive CEs near 240 and 220 nm, respectively. When taken in conjunction with similar NOESY profiles, these Cotton effects indicated the same 5*R*, 7*S*, 10*aS*, 27*S* absolute configuration for **7**. Owing to an insufficient sample quantity, chiral derivatization could not be performed to define the absolute configuration at C-17. Consequently, the structure of **7** was determined as iso-gaudichaudiic acid **B**.

The ^{13}C NMR data of the known morellic acid (**10**) are shown for the first time in Table 3, and its absolute configuration was tentatively assigned as 5*R*, 7*S*, 10*aS*, and 27*S* by analysis of its COSY, NOESY, and ECD spectra. A theoretical ECD calculation approach using time dependent density functional theory³⁷ was employed to unambiguously determine the absolute configuration of morellic acid (**10**). The geometry was built on the basis of a 5*S*, 7*R*, 10*aR*, 27*R* absolute configuration based on a 3D-structure of **e11**. A systematic conformational search was carried out using MMFF94 molecular mechanics force-field calculation in the SYBYL 8.1 program. An energy cutoff of 10 kcal/mol generated 47 conformers. The 22 conformers within 5 kcal/mol were geometrically optimized in the gas phase using density functional theory (DFT) at the B3LYP/6-31G** level. Seventeen of the conformers were relocated and confirmed as minima by harmonic vibrational frequency calculations at the same level. The 11 predominant conformers were found to contribute Boltzmann distributions greater than 98% by electronic and zero point energy (Table 4). The major differences between the conformers are merely the orientations of the two side chains at C-4 and C-5 (Supplementary data). The ECD spectra of the 11 conformers were calculated at the B3LYP/6-31G** level in the gas phase. The weighted ECD spectrum (Fig. 7) was found to exhibit a mirror-image relationship to the experimental ECD spectrum of

(–)-morellic acid (**10**). Thus, its absolute configuration should be 5*R*, 7*S*, 10*aS*, 27*S*.

2.2. Bioactivity evaluation of the isolated compounds

The compounds isolated from *G. lateriflora* were evaluated for their ability to inhibit proteasome activity, using bortezomib as the positive control (Table 5). The biflavonoids were active with morelloflavone (**8**) being the most potent compound (IC_{50} =1.3 μM). This is the first report of biflavonoids inhibiting enzymatic activity at the proteasome. The compounds were also evaluated for their cytotoxicity against the HT-29 human colon cancer cell line, using paclitaxel as the positive control (Table 5). Interestingly, only the caged xanthenes showed potent cytotoxicity toward HT-29 cells, with compound **10** being the most active (ED_{50} =0.36 μM). This compound was tested further in an in vivo hollow fiber assay, using LNCaP, HT-29, MCF-7, and MDA-MB-435 human cancer cells, with the tubes administered ip. However, it was found to be inactive at the highest dose tested (20 mg/kg) for all cell lines.

Table 5

Proteasome inhibition and cytotoxicity of compounds from *G. lateriflora*^a

Compound	Proteasome inhibition ^b IC_{50} (μM)	Cytotoxicity ^d ED_{50} (μM)
2	NT ^c	>10
3	>10	1.9
4	>10	3.2
5	>10	2.6
6	NT ^c	2.9
7	NT ^c	>10
8	1.3	>10
9	4.4	>10
10	>10	0.36

^a All other compounds isolated in this study are inactive in these assay systems.

^b Bortezomib was used as positive control (IC_{50} , 2.5 nM).

^c Not tested.

^d Paclitaxel was used as a positive control (ED_{50} , 0.10 nM) toward the HT-29 cell line.

Table 4
Important dihedral angles (degrees) of predominant conformers of **e11**

e11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
C6–C5–C21–C22	165	162	64	168	66	64	–63	–62	–61	161	66
C5–C21–C22–C23	137	135	–152	–72	–155	–154	–134	–139	–138	134	–157
(H)O–C24–C23–C22	–174	4	174	–177	175	175	177	168	167	4	–6
C3–C4–C16–C17	88	88	91	91	–72	–91	92	–94	–91	87	–68
C4–C16–C17–C18	124	123	124	126	–113	132	124	–127	–125	–179	–102

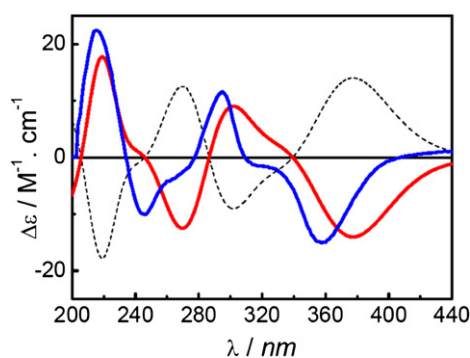


Figure 7. Weighted ECD spectrum of compound **e11** (dashed line) in the gas phase at the B3LYP/6-31G** level and its mirror-image (red line) and experimental ECD spectrum (blue line) of (–)-morellic acid (**10**) in MeOH.

3. Experimental

3.1. General experimental procedures

Melting points were measured using a Fisher Scientific apparatus and are uncorrected. Optical rotations were measured with a Perkin–Elmer 343 polarimeter. UV spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu UV-2401 PC UV–vis recording spectrophotometer. CD measurements were performed using a JASCO ORD-M-401 CD spectrometer. IR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet 6700 FTIR spectrometer. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR data, including DEPT, HMQC, HMBC, NOESY, and COSY spectra, were recorded at room temperature on a Bruker Avance DRX-800, DRX-600 or DPX-300 MHz spectrometer with TMS as internal standard. ESIMS and HRESIMS were recorded on a VG 7070-HF mass spectrometer. Column chromatography was conducted using silica gel (70–230 mesh, Merck, Darmstadt,

Germany). Analytical and preparative thin-layer chromatography (TLC) were performed on precoated silica gel 60 F254 (Sorbsent Technologies, Atlanta, GA, 0.20 mm layer thickness) plates. Sephadex LH-20 was purchased from Amersham Biosciences, Uppsala, Sweden. For visualization of TLC plates, sulfuric acid reagent was used. Fluorescence was tested under a Spectroline (Model ENF-260C) UV light. For the proteasome inhibition assay, the Suc-LLVY-AMC substrate was obtained from Calbiochem (San Diego, CA).

3.2. Plant material

The stem bark of *G. lateriflora* Blume (Clusiaceae) was collected at Gunung Kancana, Cianjur, West Java, Indonesia in August, 2003, and identified by S. R. A voucher specimen (A05777) has been deposited at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, IL, under the accession number B-97.

3.3. Extraction and isolation

The milled, air-dried stem bark of *G. lateriflora* (840 g) was extracted with MeOH (3 L×5) at room temperature, and the solvent evaporated in vacuo. The dried MeOH extract (140 g, 16.67%) was resuspended in 10% H₂O in MeOH (500 mL) and partitioned with *n*-hexane (500 mL×3) to yield a hexane-soluble residue (1.5 g, 0.18%). The aqueous layer was partitioned with CHCl₃ (500 mL×3) to afford a chloroform-soluble extract (0.1 g, 0.01%), which was followed by washing with a 1% aqueous solution of NaCl, to partially remove tannins. Partition of the aqueous layer with EtOAc (500 mL×3) afforded an ethyl acetate-soluble extract (61 g, 7.26%), which was also washed with a 1% aqueous solution of NaCl. The hexane-soluble extract exhibited cytotoxicity toward the HT29 cell line (ED₅₀<5.0 µg/mL), and the ethyl acetate-soluble extract exhibited proteasome inhibition (IC₅₀<5.0 µg/mL). Both the chloroform-soluble and aqueous-soluble extracts were inactive in the two bio-assay systems used.

The hexane-soluble extract (1.5 g) was subjected to silica gel column chromatography (2.5×20 cm) and eluted with a gradient of *n*-hexane–acetone (100:1, 80:1, 60:1, 40:1, 10:1, 5:1, 1:1, 200 mL each). Fractions were pooled after TLC analysis to give seven combined fractions (D001F01–D001F07). Of these, D001F05 and D001F06 (ED₅₀<2.0 µg/mL) were further chromatographed on a silica gel column (2.5×20 cm) and eluted with a gradient of *n*-hexane–acetone (20:1, 15:1, 10:1, 8:1, 5:1, 3:1, 1:1, 200 mL each), to yield seven combined fractions (D001F0501–D001F0507). Fraction D001F0501 was chromatographed over silica gel using *n*-hexane–acetone (10:1) as solvent, and purified by Sephadex LH-20 column (3.5×25 cm) chromatography, eluted with CHCl₃–MeOH (1:1), affording **3** (20 mg). Fraction D001F0502 was purified by silica gel chromatography, eluted by *n*-hexane–acetone (10:1), and further purified by Sephadex LH-20 chromatography, eluted with a mixture of CHCl₃–MeOH (1:1), to afford **10** (25 mg). Fraction D001F0503 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted by *n*-hexane–acetone (8:1), affording 3β-acetoxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid (4 mg). Fraction D001F0504 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted by *n*-hexane–acetone (3:1), and then purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography, using CHCl₃–MeOH (1:1), affording **4** (20 mg). Fraction D001F0505 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted with *n*-hexane–acetone (3:1), and purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography, eluted by CHCl₃–MeOH (1:1), producing **5** (15 mg). Fraction D001F0506 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted by *n*-hexane–acetone (3:1), and purified by preparative TLC in *n*-hexane–acetone (3:1), yielding **6** (2 mg, *R*_f 0.51). Fraction D001F0507 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted by *n*-hexane–acetone (3:1), and purified by preparative TLC, in *n*-hexane–acetone (3:1), yielding **7** (2 mg, *R*_f 0.49).

The ethyl acetate-soluble extract (61 g) was subjected to silica gel column chromatography (4.5×40 cm), eluted by a gradient of CHCl₃–MeOH (100:1, 80:1, 60:1, 40:1, 30:1, 20:1, 10:1, 5:1, 1:1, 1000 mL each). Fractions were pooled after TLC analysis and afforded nine combined fractions (D003F01–D003F09). Fractions D003F06 and D003F07 showed proteasome-inhibitory activity (IC₅₀<5.0 µg/mL), and were combined (8.9 g), and chromatographed over a silica gel column (2.5×20 cm), eluted by a gradient of CHCl₃–MeOH (50:1, 40:1, 30:1, 20:1, 10:1, 5:1, 1:1, 200 mL each), to yield seven fractions (D003F0601–D003F0607). Fraction D003F0601 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted by CHCl₃–MeOH (10:1), and purified by preparative TLC, in CHCl₃–MeOH (10:1), affording **9** (5 mg, *R*_f 0.30). Fraction D003F0602 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted by CHCl₃–MeOH (10:1), and then purified by preparative TLC, in CHCl₃–MeOH (10:1), affording rhusflavanone (20 mg, *R*_f 0.27). Fractions D003F0603 and D003F0604 were purified by chromatography over silica gel, eluted with CHCl₃–MeOH (10:1), and then purified by preparative TLC in CHCl₃–MeOH (10:1), yielding **2** (1.5 mg, *R*_f 0.23). Fraction D003F0605 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted by CHCl₃–MeOH (10:1), to produce stigma-5,13-diene-3β-*O*-*D*-glucoside (5 mg). Fraction D003F0606 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted by CHCl₃–MeOH (6:1), and purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography, eluted by methanol, and finally purified by preparative TLC, in CHCl₃–MeOH (6:1), to yield **1** (10 mg, *R*_f 0.25). Fraction D003F0607 was chromatographed over silica gel, eluted by CHCl₃–MeOH (6:1), and purified by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography, eluted by methanol, yielding **8** (25 mg).

3.3.1. Lateriflavanone (1). Amorphous white powder (CHCl₃) showing a yellow color under UV light at 365 nm; [α]_D²⁰ +29 (c 0.1, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 216 (4.67), 291 (4.52) nm; CD (MeOH) λ_{\max} ($\Delta\epsilon$) 244 (−9.3×10³), 292 (+3.5×10⁴), 320 (−8.3×10³) nm; IR (dried film) ν_{\max} 3320, 1633, 1519, 1446, 1264, 1088 cm^{−1}; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Table 1; positive ESIMS *m/z* 581.1 [M+Na]⁺; positive HRESIMS (*m/z*) found 581.1032, calcd 581.1060 for C₃₀H₂₂O₁₁Na.

3.3.2. Laterixanthone (2). Colorless needles (acetone) showing a pink color under UV light at 365 nm; mp 160–161 °C; [α]_D²⁰ +43 (c 0.1, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 204 (4.37), 254 (4.51), 284 (3.84), 326 (4.17) nm; CD (MeOH) λ_{\max} ($\Delta\epsilon$) 246.0 (−2.0×10³), 253 (−1.4×10³), 301 (−1.8×10³), 327 (−8.2×10³) nm; IR (dried film) ν_{\max} 3362, 2922, 2851, 1633, 1606, 1582, 1469, 1349.3, 1254, 1167, 1083 cm^{−1}; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Tables 2 and 3; positive ESIMS *m/z* 383.1 [M+Na]⁺; positive HRESIMS (*m/z*) found 383.0743 for C₁₈H₁₆O₈Na.

3.3.3. (−)-Isomoreollic acid (3). Amorphous light-yellow powder showing a brown color under UV light at 365 nm; [α]_D²⁰ −52 (c 0.1, CH₂Cl₂); UV (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 229 (4.23), 269 (4.38), 278 (4.42), 304 (3.95), 320 (4.01) nm; CD (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{\max} ($\Delta\epsilon$) 227 (+8.2×10⁴), 244 (+1.3×10⁴), 279 (−2.3×10⁴), 327.5 (−2.7×10⁴), 361.5 (−1.9×10⁴) nm; IR (dried film) ν_{\max} 2977, 1743, 1688, 1644, 1459, 1255, 1187, 1046 cm^{−1}; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Tables 2 and 3; positive ESIMS *m/z* 615.2 [M+Na]⁺; positive HRESIMS (*m/z*) found 615.2556, calcd 615.2570 for C₃₄H₄₀O₉Na.

3.3.4. (−)-Isogaudichaudiic acid (4). Amorphous orange powder showing a brown color under UV light at 365 nm; [α]_D²⁰ −87 (c 0.1, CH₂Cl₂); UV (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 230 (4.26), 268 (3.72), 277 (3.72), 355 (3.93) nm; CD (CH₂Cl₂) λ_{\max} ($\Delta\epsilon$) 219 (+3.2×10⁴), 238 (−9.3×10³), 284 (+1.3×10⁴), 315 (+9.0×10³), 353 (−3.2×10⁴) nm; IR (dried film) ν_{\max} 3400, 1737, 1690, 1633, 1441, 1260, 1139, 1047 cm^{−1}; ¹H and ¹³C NMR data, see Tables 2 and 3; positive ESIMS

m/z 585.2 $[M+Na]^+$; positive HRESIMS (m/z) found 585.2417, calcd 585.2464 for $C_{33}H_{38}O_8Na$.

3.3.5. (–)-Isogaudichaudii acid E (5). Amorphous yellow powder showing a brown color under UV light at 365 nm; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ –82 (c 0.1, CH_2Cl_2); UV (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 230 (4.36), 279 (4.08), 290 (4.08), 357 (4.08) nm; CD (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} ($\Delta\epsilon$) 224.5 ($+2.8 \times 10^4$), 243.5 (-3.4×10^3), 291.5 ($+1.8 \times 10^4$), 354.0 (-2.8×10^4) nm; IR (dried film) ν_{max} 2975, 1738, 1693, 1633, 1435, 1260, 1141 cm^{-1} ; 1H and ^{13}C NMR data, see Tables 2 and 3; positive ESIMS m/z 599.2 $[M+Na]^+$; positive HRESIMS (m/z) found 599.2260, calcd 599.2257 for $C_{33}H_{36}O_9Na$.

3.3.6. (–)-11,12-Dihydro-12-hydroxymorellic acid (6). Amorphous yellow powder showing a brown color under UV light at 365 nm; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ –458 (c 0.1, CH_2Cl_2); UV (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 232 (4.49), 268 (4.08), 277 (4.08), 359 (4.25) nm; CD (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} ($\Delta\epsilon$) 225.5 ($+1.7 \times 10^4$), 284 ($+2.3 \times 10^4$), 317 ($+1.5 \times 10^4$), 354.5 (-5.4×10^4) nm; IR (dried film) ν_{max} 3459, 1736, 1687, 1633, 1594, 1399, 1266, 1106 cm^{-1} ; 1H and ^{13}C NMR data, see Tables 2 and 3; positive ESIMS m/z 601.2 $[M+Na]^+$; positive HRESIMS (m/z) found 601.2394, calcd 601.2414 for $C_{33}H_{38}O_9Na$.

3.3.7. (–)-Isogaudichaudii acid B (7). Amorphous yellow powder showing a brown color under UV light at 365 nm; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ –378 (c 0.1, CH_2Cl_2); UV (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 231 (4.32), 268 (3.74), 355 (4.05) nm; CD (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} ($\Delta\epsilon$) 225 ($+1.5 \times 10^4$), 238 (-8.8×10^3), 285 ($+1.8 \times 10^4$), 315 ($+1.9 \times 10^4$), 353 (-4.9×10^4) nm; IR (dried film) ν_{max} 2980, 1738, 1690, 1634, 1435, 1262, 1137, 1050 cm^{-1} ; 1H and ^{13}C NMR data, see Tables 2 and 3; positive ESIMS m/z 601.2 $[M+Na]^+$; positive HRESIMS (m/z) found 601.2436, calcd 610.2414 for $C_{33}H_{38}O_9Na$.

3.3.8. (–)-Morellic acid (10). Amorphous orange powder showing brown fluorescence under a UV light at 365 nm; mp 108–109 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ –373 (c 0.1, CH_2Cl_2); UV (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 229 (4.02), 280.5 (3.92), 289.5 (3.90), 363.5 (3.83) nm; IR (dried film) ν_{max} 2977.0, 2928.2, 1737.7, 1689.6, 1632.7, 1593.5, 1259.1, 1188.4, 670.1 cm^{-1} ; CD (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} ($\Delta\epsilon$) 217.5 ($+5.6 \times 10^3$), 224 ($+2.1 \times 10^4$), 246 (-1.1×10^4), 293.5 ($+1.7 \times 10^4$), 360.5 (-2.0×10^4) nm; 1H and ^{13}C NMR data, see Tables 2 and 3; positive ESIMS m/z 583.2 $[M+Na]^+$; positive HRESIMS (m/z) found 583.2314, calcd 583.2308 for $C_{33}H_{36}O_8Na$.

3.4. Methods of computational calculations

The calculations were performed by the SYBYL 8.1 program (Tripos International, St. Louis, MO) and the Gaussian03 program package. MMFF94 molecular mechanics force-field calculations were employed to search the possible conformations. All ground-state geometries were optimized at the B3LYP/6-31G** level at 298 K, and harmonic frequency analysis was computed to confirm the minima. TDDFT at the same level was employed to calculate excitation energy (in nm) and rotatory strength R (velocity form R^{vel} and length form R^{len} in 10^{-40} erg-esu-cm/Gauss) between different states. The ECD spectra were then simulated by overlapping Gaussian functions for each transition according to where σ is, the width of the band at 1/e height and ΔE_i and R_i are the excitation energies and rotatory strengths for transition i , respectively. In this work, $\sigma=0.15$ eV and R^{len} were used.

3.5. Proteasome inhibition assay

A proteasome inhibition assay was performed by a reported method.³⁸ The test samples, positive control, and proteasome fraction were prepared or diluted in the assay buffer. The enzyme

reaction was started by adding Suc-LLVY-AMC substrate with a final concentration of 10 μM . The plates were incubated, and the chymotrypsin-like proteasome activity was determined by measuring the generation of free AMC using a fluorescent plate reader.

3.6. Cytotoxicity assay

Cytotoxicity of the samples was screened against HT-29 human colon cancer cells by a previously reported procedure.³⁹ The samples were dissolved in DMSO. The cells cultured under the standard condition were trypsinized. The harvested cells were added to 96-well plates and treated by either the samples or DMSO (the negative control). The plates were incubated at 37 °C in 5% CO_2 for 3 days, and the cells were fixed to the plates. The fixed cells were incubated at room temperature for 30 min, washed with water once, dried at room temperature overnight, and dyed by sulforhodamine B. After the dyed cells were lysed in the Tris–base buffer, the plates were read at 515 nm with an ELISA reader. Cytotoxicity was calculated by comparison of the values measured from the cells treated with the samples and the negative control.

3.7. Hollow fiber assay

The hollow fiber assay was conducted as described previously⁴⁰ and summarized here. Human cancer cell lines designated LNCaP (prostate adenocarcinoma), HT29 (colon adenocarcinoma), MCF-7 (breast cancer cells), MDA-MB-435 (melanoma cells) and were propagated in RPMI-1640 medium supplemented with fetal bovine serum (5% vol/vol) and 2 mM glutamine at 37 °C in a 5% CO_2 atmosphere. Monolayer cultures in late log-phase growth were released by digestion with trypsin, and suspended in medium. Sterile conditioned polyvinylidene fluoride hollow fibers perforated⁴¹ with 500 kDa molecular weight exclusion pores were filled with the cells (HT29: 1.5×10^4 ; MCF-7 and MDA-MB 435: 7.5×10^4 per fiber). The fibers were then heat sealed at 2-cm intervals and cut to generate the fibers used for the study. The mice were treated with (–)-morellic acid (10) at 0.5, 1, 5, and 10 mg/kg in four daily ip injections on days 3, 4, 5, and 6 followed by fiber retrieval on day 7. Paclitaxel was administered at 2 mg/kg in a 10% EtOH–Tween 80 (1:1) solution. The vehicle group was split so that half received the 2.5% DMSO vehicle and the other half received 10% EtOH–Tween 80 (1:1) vehicle. The percent net growth for each cell line in each treatment group was calculated by subtracting the day-zero absorbance from the day 7 absorbance and dividing this difference by the net growth in the day 7 vehicle-treated controls minus the day-zero values.

Acknowledgements

This investigation was supported by grants U01 CA52956 and P01 CA125066, funded by the National Cancer Institute, NIH, Bethesda, MD. We wish to acknowledge the late Mr. Agus Ruskandi for assistance with the plant collection, and we also thank the Mississippi Center for Super Computing Research (MCSR) for computational facilities.

Supplementary data

COSY and key HMBC correlations of compounds **1**, **4–7**, and **10**, selected NOESY correlations of compounds **4–7**, and **10**, MS and 1H , ^{13}C , and HMBC NMR spectra of compounds **1** from *G. lateriflora*, MS and 1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of compounds **2–7** from *G. lateriflora*, calculated ECD spectra of the nine predominant conformers of compound **e11** in the gas phase at the B3LYP/6-31G** level, important thermodynamic parameters of compound **e11** and conformational analyses, evaluation of morellic acid (**10**) in an in vivo hollow fiber assay. Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.tet.2010.05.010.

These data include MOL files and InChiKeys of the most important compounds described in this article.

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