



CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS OF THE MOSS *Calypothecium ramosii* BROTH.

(Juzuk Kimia bagi Lumut *Calypothecium ramosii* Broth.)

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Received: 5 July 2021; Accepted: 10 August 2021; Published: xx August 2021

Abstract

Calypothecium ramosii Broth. of the moss family Pterobyaceae is a species indigenous to the Philippines. Chemical investigation of the dichloromethane extract of *C. ramosii* has led to the isolation of γ -polypodatetraene (**1**), cinnamic acid (**2**) and saturated long-chain hydrocarbons (**3**). The structure of **1** was elucidated by extensive 1D and 2D nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) and confirmed by comparison of its NMR data with literature data. The structures of **2** and **3** were identified by comparison of their NMR data with literature data.

Keywords: *Calypothecium ramosii* Broth., cinnamic acid, long-chain hydrocarbons, γ -polypodatetraene, Pterobyaceae

Abstract

Calypothecium ramosii Broth. ialah lumut dari famili Pterobyaceae merupakan spesies asli bagi Filipina. Kajian juzuk kimia dilakukan ke atas ekstrak *C. ramosii* menggunakan diklorometana untuk memisahkan γ -polipodatetraen (**1**), asid sinamik (**2**) dan hidrokarbon tepu rantai panjang (**3**). Struktur **1** telah dicirikan melalui spektroskopi nuklear magnetik resonan 1D dan 2D dan ditentusahkan melalui perbandingan data kajian literatur dan data NMR.

Kata kunci: *Calypothecium ramosii* Broth., asid sinamik, hidrkarbon rantai panjang, γ -polipodatetraen, Pterobyaceae

Introduction

Calypothecium ramosii Broth. in the moss family Pterobyaceae, is a species indigenous to the Philippines

having several gatherings from the islands of Luzon, Mindoro, and Samar [1]. The species is also documented in southern China [2]. Its genus, *Calypothecium* Mitt.,

is a large group of Bryophytes characterized by having a primary axis in the form of a creeping, conspicuous stoloniform shoot attached to the substratum by rhizoids that arise in the leaf axils [3]. Diagnostic characteristics include secondary axes (stems) diverging from these stoloniform shoots, which are typically pinnately branched with crowded, apiculate leaves and small auricles forming at the leaf bases [4]. The most obvious and most easily seen feature in *C. ramosii* is its large and rugose auricles [5, 6]. Similar auricles may also occur in another species of Philippine *Calyptothecium*, the *C. urvilleanum* (Müll.Hal.) Broth. [7]. In *C. ramosii*, the stem leaves are observed to be smooth with sharply acuminate apices compared to the undulate appearance of the stem leaves of *C. urvilleanum*, with abruptly acute or obtuse leaf apices [5]. *Calyptothecium ramosii* is primarily considered a corticolous epiphyte but saxicolous populations have been documented [5]. Published literature has revealed the antioxidant characteristics of the bryophyte due to the major presence of the constituents: phytol, phytol acetate, 7,9-di-tert-butyl-1-oxaspiro-4,5-deca-6,9-diene-2,8-dione, and 4,8,12,16-tetramethylheptadecan-4-olide, detected by gas chromatography spectroscopy [8].

There are no reported studies on faster screening and larger surveying of the chemical constituents and biological activities of *C. ramosii*. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy allows for the differentiation of optical and geometric isomers, as well as the presence of hydrocarbons with similar ions. We report herein the isolation of γ -polypodatetraene (**1**), cinnamic acid (**2**), and saturated long-chain hydrocarbons (**3**) from *C. ramosii*. The chemical structures of **1** and **2** are presented in Figure 1.

Materials and Methods

Sample collection

The moss species, *Calyptothecium ramosii* Broth. was collected and authenticated by one of the authors (Dr. Virgilio C. Linis, VCL). The moss was gathered from a large boulder inside a residual lowland forest along the lower slope of Pantingan peak at 400 m elevation on November 13, 2017. Collection locality is in the Municipality of Bagac, Province of Bataan in Luzon

Island, Philippines, with coordinates 14° 33' 32.08" N 120° 27' 3.93" E.

Isolation of the Chemical Constituents of *C. ramosii*

The freeze-dried moss (37.27 g) was ground in a blender and then soaked in dichloromethane (CH_2Cl_2) for 3 days and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford a crude extract (71.9 mg) which was chromatographed by gradient elution using increasing proportions of acetone in CH_2Cl_2 at 10% increment by volume. The CH_2Cl_2 fraction was re-chromatographed using petroleum ether. The less polar fractions were combined and re-chromatographed in petroleum ether to yield **3** (0.2 mg) after washing with petroleum ether. The more polar fractions were re-chromatographed (2 $\times$) using 1% ethyl acetate (EtOAc) in petroleum ether to afford **1** (2.2 mg) after washing with petroleum ether. The 50% acetone in CH_2Cl_2 fraction was re-chromatographed (3 $\times$) using acetonitrile (CH_3CN): diethyl ether (Et_2O): CH_2Cl_2 (0.5:0.5:9, v/v) to obtain **2** (1.0 mg) after washing with petroleum ether.

General isolation procedure

Pasteur pipette was used for the fractionation of the crude extract. Fractions of 1 mL volumes were collected and monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC). Fractions containing spots with similar R_f values were combined and re-chromatographed using the appropriate solvent. TLC-pure isolates were combined, and after evaporation of the solvent, were subjected to NMR analysis.

General experimental procedure

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a Varian VNMRs spectrometer in deuterated chloroform (CDCl_3) at 600 MHz for hydrogen proton magnetic resonance (^1H NMR) and 150 MHz for carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance (^{13}C NMR) spectra. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel 60 (70-230 mesh). Thin layer chromatography was performed with plastic backed plates coated with silica gel F254 and the plates were visualized by spraying with vanillin/ sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4) solution followed by warming.

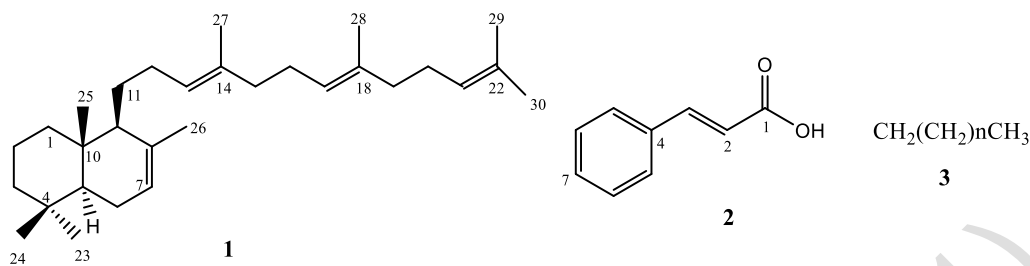


Figure 1. Chemical structures of γ -polypodatetraene (**1**), cinnamic acid (**2**) and saturated long-chain hydrocarbons (**3**) from *C. ramosii*

Results and Discussion

Silica gel chromatography of the dichloromethane extract of *C. ramosii* afforded γ -polypodatetraene (**1**), cinnamic acid (**2**) and saturated long-chain hydrocarbons (**3**).

γ -polypodatetraene (**1**)

^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 0.94, 1.84 (m, H_2 -1), 1.42, 1.52 (m, H_2 -2), 1.14, 1.40 (m, H_3 -3), 1.16 (m, H -5), 1.84, 1.94 (m, H_2 -6), 5.37 (br s, H -7), 1.61 (m, H -9), 1.20, 1.42 (m, H_2 -11), 1.94, 2.15 (m, H_2 -12), 5.12 (m, H -13), 1.98 (m, H_2 -15), 2.06 (m, H_2 -16), 5.10 (m, H -17), 1.98 (m, H_2 -19), 2.06 (m, H_2 -20), 5.09 (m, H -21), 0.83 (s, H_3 -23), 0.85 (s, H_3 -24), 0.72 (s, H_3 -25), 1.69 (s, H_3 -26), 1.58 (s, H_3 -27, H_3 -29), 1.59 (s, H_3 -28), 1.66 (s, H_3 -30); ^{13}C -NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 39.2 (C-1), 18.8 (C-2), 42.4 (C-3), 33.0 (C-4), 50.2 (C-5), 23.8 (C-6), 122.0 (C-7), 135.6 (C-8), 54.2 (C-9), 36.7 (C-10), 27.3 (C-11), 30.2 (C-12), 124.8 (C-13), 135.0 (C-14), 39.7 (C-15), 26.8 (C-16), 124.3 (C-17), 135.0 (C-18), 39.7 (C-19), 26.7 (C-20), 124.4 (C-21), 131.3 (C-22), 33.2 (C-23), 21.9 (C-24), 13.5 (C-25), 22.2 (C-26), 16.2 (C-27), 16.0 (C-28), 17.7 (C-29), 25.7 (C-30).

Trans-cinnamic acid (**2**)

^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.42 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, H -2), 7.65 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, H -3), 7.51 (m, H -5, H -9), 7.36 (m, H -6, H -7, H -8).

Hydrocarbons (**3**)

^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 1.23 (br s, $-\text{CH}_2-$), 0.86 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, terminal CH_3).

The ^1H NMR spectrum of **1** gave resonances for three methyl singlets at δ 0.72, 0.83 and 0.85; five allylic methyl singlets at δ 1.58 (2 $\times$), 1.59, 1.66, 1.69; four olefinic protons at δ 5.37 (1H, br s) and 5.08-5.12 (3H, m); allylic methylene protons (δ 1.81-2.15); and shielded methylene protons (δ 0.95-1.52). The ^{13}C NMR data of **1** indicated resonances for four protonated olefinic carbons at δ 122.04, 124.26, 124.40, 124.82, four non-protonated olefinic carbons at δ 131.25, 134.95 (2 $\times$), 135.62. The remaining twenty-two carbons were attributed to methyl, methylene and methine carbons in **1**. The structure of **1** was elucidated by 2D NMR spectroscopy (COSY, HSQC and HMBC). The COSY spectrum of **1** indicated five isolated spin systems as follows: H_2 -1/ H_2 -2/ H_2 -3; H -5/ H_2 -6/ H -7; H -9/ H_2 -11/ H_2 -12/ H -13; H_2 -15/ H_2 -16/ H -17; H_2 -19/ H_2 -20/ H -21. Protons attached to carbons were assigned from HSQC data. The structure of **1** was determined by analysis of the HMBC correlations of H_3 -23, H_3 -24/C-3, C-4, C-5, H_3 -25/C-1, C-5, C-9, C-10, H_3 -26/C-7, C-8, C-9, H_3 -27/C-13, C-14, C-15, H_3 -28/C-17, C-18, C-19, H_3 -29/C-21, C-22, C-30 and H_3 -30/C-21, C-22, C-29. All long-range correlations are consistent with the structure of **1**, which was further confirmed by comparison of data collected with γ -polypodatetraene [9, 10].

γ -Polypodatetraene was the first example of a bicyclic triterpenoid hydrocarbon which was isolated from *Polystichum polyblepharum* leaflets [11]. Previous literature has demonstrated that the triterpene may be one of many triterpenes with cytotoxic activities against neoplastic cell lines and with anti-inflammatory

properties [12, 13]. Another study reported that **2** was also found in the moss *Floribundaria aurea* subsp. *nipponica* [14]. Cinnamic acid was found to exhibit antibacterial and are particularly cytotoxic for bacteria and cancer cells [15]. Published reports of compound **3** suggested that the hydrogen-carbon links are generally used as chief components of fuel and everyday products which may be very toxic in its handling [16]. The potential utilization of these compounds are not limited to their uses in a clinical setting, but as well as in industrial and manufacturing applications.

The NMR data of **2** and **3** were in accordance with the data reported in the literature for cinnamic acid [17] and saturated long-chain hydrocarbons [18], respectively.

Conclusion

Calypothecium ramosii Broth., a moss endemic to the Philippines, was investigated for its chemical constituents. Fractions analyzed by NMR analysis revealed the presence of: (**1**) γ -polypodatetraene, (**2**) cinnamic acid, and (**3**) saturated long-chain hydrocarbons, isolated for the first time from *C. ramosii*.

Acknowledgement

A project endowment (Project Number: (10 IR U 2TAY16-3TAY17) from the De La Salle University Science Foundation via the University Research Coordination Office (URCO) is thankfully recognized.

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