Benzoxazinoid glucosides from *Acanthus ilicifolius*

Tripetch Kanchanapoom\textsuperscript{a,b}, Mohamed Salah Kamel\textsuperscript{c}, Ryoji Kasai\textsuperscript{a}, Chayan Picheansoonthon\textsuperscript{b}, Yoshikazu Hiraga\textsuperscript{d}, Kazuo Yamasaki\textsuperscript{a,*}

\textsuperscript{a}Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Hiroshima University, 1-2-3 Kasumi, Minami-ku, Hiroshima 734-8551, Japan
\textsuperscript{b}Department of Pharmaceutical Botany and Pharmacognosy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand
\textsuperscript{c}Department of Pharmacognosy, Faculty of Pharmacy, Assiut University, Assiut, Egypt
\textsuperscript{d}Department of Chemistry, Graduate School of Science, Hiroshima University 1-3-1, Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima 739-8526, Japan

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Abstract

From the aerial parts of *Acanthus ilicifolius*, two benzoxazinoid glucosides, 7-chloro-(2\textsuperscript{R})-2-O-\beta-d-glucopyranosyl-2\textsubscript{H}-1,4-benzoxazin-3(4\textsubscript{H})-one and (2\textsuperscript{R})-2-O-\beta-d-glucopyranosyl-5-hydroxy-2\textsubscript{H}-1,4-benzoxazin-3(4\textsubscript{H})-one have been isolated, together with six known compounds. The structural elucidations were based on the analyses of spectroscopic data. © 2001 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: *Acanthus ilicifolius*; Acanthaceae; Aerial parts; Benzoxazinoid glucoside

1. Introduction

*Acanthus ilicifolius* L. (Acanthaceae, Thai name: Ngueak-Plaa-Moo) is a spiny herb distributed in the mangroves of southern Thailand. In Thai traditional medicine, the plant is used as a purgative and an anti-inflammatory, as well as the leaves dispensed with pepper (*Piper nigrum* L.) as tonic pills for longevity. In a previous paper (Kanchanapoom et al., 2001), we reported the isolation and structural elucidation of lignan glucosides. Further investigation of the aerial part of the same plant affords two new benzoxazinoid glucosides (4, 5) together with six known compounds (1–3, 6–8). Benzoxazinoids have been found to occur as allo chemicals from monocotelydonous plants in the family Gramineae (Hofman and Hofmanova, 1969; Nagao et al., 1985), as well as reported from dicotyledonous plants in the family Acanthaceae (Wolf et al., 1985; Pratt et al., 1995), Ranunculaceae (Ozden et al., 1992) and Scrophulariaceae (Pratt et al., 1995). The present paper deals with the structural determination of these compounds. Also the usage of this plant in Thai traditional medicines are discussed.

2. Results and discussion

From the methanolic extract of the aerial part of *A. ilicifolius*, eight compounds (1–8) were isolated. Six were identified as known compounds; (2\textsuperscript{R})-2-O-\beta-d-gluco-

\begin{align*}
\text{R}^1 & \quad \text{R}^2 & \quad \text{R}^3 \\
1 & \quad \text{H} & \quad \text{H} & \quad \text{H} \\
2 & \quad \text{H} & \quad \text{H} & \quad \text{OH} \\
3 & \quad \text{OH} & \quad \text{H} & \quad \text{H} \\
4 & \quad \text{Cl} & \quad \text{H} & \quad \text{H} \\
5 & \quad \text{H} & \quad \text{OH} & \quad \text{H}
\end{align*}
pyranosyl-2H-1,4-benzoazin-3(4H)-one (HBOA-Glc, blepharin) (1) (Tietze et al., 1991), (2R)-2-O-β-δ-d-glucopyranosyl-4-hydroxy-2H-1,4-benzoazin-3(4H)-one (DIBOA-Glc) (2) (Hartenstein and Sicker, 1994), (2R)-2-O-β-δ-d-glucopyranosyl-7-hydroxy-2H-1,4-benzoazin-3(4H)-one (DHBOA-Glc) (3) (Nagao et al., 1985), adenosine (6) (Otsuka et al., 1989), syringic acid β-glucopyranosyl (7) (Inohishri et al., 1987) and 2,6-dimethoxy-p-hydroquinone 1-O-β-glucopyranoside (8) (Otsuka et al., 1989) by comparison of physical data with literature values and from spectroscopic evidence.

Compound 4 (Fig. 1) exhibited the characteristic pattern of a substance having a chlorine atom from negative FAB-MS. The molecular formula was determined by HR-FAB mass spectrometry as C14H16O8NCl. The 1H and 13C NMR spectral data were similar to those of 1. However, the 1H NMR spectrum showed the presence of an ABX system at δ 6.91 (1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz), δ 7.05 (1H, dd, J = 8.4, 2.5 Hz) and δ 7.23 (1H, d, J = 2.5 Hz), indicating that the chlorine atom was attached to the aromatic ring. The position of the chlorine atom was assigned to C-7 by irradiation of N–H at δ 11.10 which induced a 7% NOE at δ 6.91 (J = 8.4 Hz, H-5). Moreover, all carbon signals were established by using COSY, HSQC and HMBC. The (2R)-stereochemistry of the linkage at the anomeric carbon of the aglycone part could be deduced from the positive values, [α]D26 + 198.0°, of the optical rotation. Such positive values are a typical feature for (2R)-configuration. On the basis of these spectral data, the structure of compound 4 was elucidated to be 7-chloro-(2R)-2-O-β-δ-d-glucopyranosyl-2H-1,4-benzoazin-3(4H)-one. This chlorinated compound is a natural product, and was not found as an artifact since the process of extraction and isolation did not involve acidic media. Furthermore, since this plant was collected from the mangrove forest, the source of chlorine atom might come from a mineral source (NaCl).

The molecular formula of compound 5 was determined as C14H16O8NCl by HR–FAB mass spectrometry. The 1H and 13C NMR spectra suggested it to be a benzoxazinoid glucoside. Inspection of the FAB mass spectrometry revealed a molecular ion 16 mass units larger than 1, and the ABB' system at δ 6.53 (2H, brd, J = 8.3 Hz) and δ 6.75 (1H, dd, J = 8.3, 8.1 Hz) was observed from the 1H NMR spectrum, indicating the presence of a hydroxy group on the aromatic ring. The hydroxy group was assigned to attach at C-5 due to the downfield shift of C-5 (+29.5 ppm) together with the upfield shift of C-6 (−14.7 ppm), C-8 (−8.2 ppm) and C-10 (−11.5 ppm), compared to 1. Besides, irradiation of the N–H signal at δ 12.20, the NOE enhancement was not observed from the spectrum. The (2R)-stereochemistry could be determined from the positive values, [α]D26 + 95.0°, of the optical rotation. Consequently, the structure of compound 5 was concluded as (2R)-2-O-β-δ-d-glucopyranosyl-5-hydroxy-2H-1,4-benzoazin-3(4H)-one.

The biological activities of the isolated benzoxazinoids have not been investigated. The presence of benzoxazinoids (1, 2) as the major constituents are in agreement with Thai traditional usage as an anti-inflammatory (Otsuka et al., 1988). However, the toxicological and pharmacological properties of benzoxazinoids have been reported as the chemical resistance factors against insects, fungi, bacteria and virus in many crop plants of the family Gramineae (Niemeyer, 1988; Sicker et al., 2000), as well as mutagenic activities (Hashimoto and Shudo, 1996). In addition, the aglycone of 2 (DIBOA) was shown to be mutagenic in a test with Salmonella typhimurium TA 100 and TA 98 (Hashimoto and Shudo, 1996). On the basis of these results, the internal use of this species for treatments in Thai traditional medicine should be considered.

3. Experimental

3.1. General

NMR spectra were recorded in DMSO-d6 or methanol-d4 using a JEOL JNM A-400 spectrometer (400 MHz for 1H NMR and 100 MHz for 13C NMR) and JNM-ECP 500 (500 MHz for 1H NMR and 125 MHz for 13C NMR) with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. MS were recorded on a JEOL JMS-SX 102 spectrometer. Optical rotations were measured with a Union PM-1 digital polarimeter. Preparative HPLC was carried out on columns of ODS (150×20 mm i.d., YMC) with a Tosoh refraction index (RI-8) detector. For CC, silica gel G 60 (Merck), NH-silica gel (Fuji Sylisia Chemical, Ltd.), YMC-gel ODS (50 μm, YMC), polyamide C-200 (Wako) and highly porous copolymer of styrene and divinylbenzene (Mitsubishi Chem. Ind. Co., Ltd.) were used. The solvent systems were: (I) EtOAc–EtOH–H2O (4:1:0.1), (II) EtOAc–EtOH–H2O (7:3:0.3), (III) EtOAc–EtOH–H2O (6:4:1), (IV) 14% MeCN, (V) 90–50% MeCN, (VI) 10% MeCN, (VII) 90% MeCN, (VIII) EtOAc–MeOH–H2O (4:1:0.1), (IX) EtOAc–MeOH–H2O (7:3:0.3), (X) EtOAc–EtOH–H2O (6:4:1) and 15% MeCN. The spray reagent used for TLC was 10% H2SO4 in 50% EtOH.  

![Fig. 1. HMBC correlations of compound 4.](image-url)
3.2. Plant material

Acanthus ilicifolius L. was collected in April 1997 from Satun Province, Southern of Thailand. The identification of the plant was confirmed by Professor Vichiara Jirawongse, Department of Pharmaceutical Botany and Pharmacognosy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Khon Kaen University. A voucher sample (KKU-0001) is kept in the Herbarium of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Khon Kaen University, Thailand.

3.3. Extraction and isolation

The dried aerial part (2.5 kg) of A. ilicifolius was extracted with hot MeOH. After removal of the solvent by evaporation, the residue (380.0 g) was defatted with Et2O. The aqeous layer was subjected to a column of extracted with hot MeOH. After removal of the solvent Khon Kaen University. A vouchersample (KKU-0001) is of the plant was confirmed by Professor Vichiara Jirawongse, Department of Pharmaceutical Botany and Pharmacognosy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Khon Kaen University, Thailand.

3.4. 7-Chloro-(2R)-2-O-β-d-glucopyranosyl-2H-1,4-benzoxazin-3(4H)-one

White amorphous powder, [α]D26 + 198.0° (DMSO, c 0.33); 1H NMR (DMSO-d6): δ 2.91 (1H, dd, J = 8.5, 8.3 Hz, H-2 Glc), δ 3.00 (1H, dd, J = 9.3, 9.0 Hz, H-4 Glc), δ 3.13 (1H, dd, J = 8.9, 8.8 Hz, H-3 Glc), δ 3.17 (1H, m, H-5 Glc), δ 3.41 (1H, dd, J = 11.7, 5.7 Hz, H-6 Glc), δ 3.69 (1H, brd, J = 11.7 Hz, H-6 Glc), δ 4.54 (1H, d, J = 8.1 Hz, H-1 Glc), δ 5.70 (1H, s, H-2), δ 6.91 (1H, d, J = 8.4 Hz, H-5), δ 7.05 (1H, dd, J = 8.4, 2.5 Hz, H-6), δ 7.23 (1H, d, J = 2.5 Hz, H-8), δ 11.10 (1H, brs, N–H); 13C NMR (DMSO-d6): Table 1; negative HR–FAB–MS, m/z: 360.0486 (C14H15O8NCl requires 360.0486).

3.5. (2R)-2-O-β-β-d-Glucopyranosyl-5-hydroxy-2H-1,4-benzoxazin-3(4H)-one

Amorphous powder, [α]D26 + 95.0° (DMSO, c 0.40); 1H NMR (DMSO-d6): δ 2.89 (1H, dd, J = 8.3, 8.1 Hz, H-2 Glc), δ 3.02 (1H, dd, J = 9.3, 9.0 Hz, H-4 Glc), δ 3.13 (1H, dd, J = 9.3, 8.8 Hz, H-3 Glc), δ 3.14 (1H, m, H-5 Glc), δ 3.43 (1H, dd, J = 11.0, 4.6 Hz, H-6 Glc), δ 3.66 (1H, brd, J = 11.5 Hz, H-6 Glc), δ 4.53 (1H, d, J = 7.8 Hz, H-1 Glc), δ 5.62 (1H, s, H-2), δ 6.53 (2H, brd, J = 8.3 Hz, H-6, δ 6.75 (1H, dd, J = 8.3, 8.1 Hz, H-7), δ 12.20 (1H, brs, N–H); 13C NMR ((DMSO-d6): Table 1; negative HR–FAB–MS, m/z: 342.0820 (C14H15O8NCl requires 342.0825).

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References


