

## Iridoid Glucosides from *Veronica pectinata* var. *glandulosa*

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A new highly oxygenated iridoid glucoside, urphoside B (**1**) was isolated from the *Veronica pectinata* var. *glandulosa* together with seven known iridoid glucosides, aucubin, catalpol, veronicoside, catalposide, verproside, amphicoside and 6-*O*-veratroyl catalpol. The planar as well as the stereo structures of the isolated compounds were determined by means of extensive 1D- and 2D-NMR spectroscopy and confirmed by HR-Mass.

**Key words:** Iridoid Glucoside, Chlorinated Iridoid Glucoside, Urphoside B

### Introduction

Iridoids represent a large group of cyclopentano[*c*]pyran monoterpenoids and are found as natural constituents in a large number of plant families, usually as glucosides. Iridoid glucosides have biogenetic and chemotaxonomic importance since they provide a structural link between terpenes and alkaloids (Bruneton, 1995). A bicyclic H-5/H-9  $\beta,\beta$ -*cis*-fused cyclopentano[*c*]pyran ring system is the most common structural feature of these substances, however several enantiomeric iridoids also exist in nature suggesting their complex stereochemistry (Boros and Stermitz, 1990; Foderaro *et al.*, 1992).

In a continuation of our studies on the secondary metabolites of *Veronica* species, we have studied the iridoid glucosides from *V. pectinata* var. *glandulosa*. The genus *Veronica* L. (Scrophulariaceae), which is widely distributed in Europe and Asia, especially in the Mediterranean area, is represented by 79 species in Turkey, 26 of which are endemic (Davis, 1978). Some of the *Veronica* species are used as diuretic and for wound healing in traditional Turkish medicine (Baytop, 1984). *Veronica* species have been known to be rich in iridoid glucosides. Mainly aucubin, catalpol, benzoic and cinnamic acid esters of catalpol, mussaenoside and mussaenosidic acid esters were reported nearly the investigated *Veronica* species (Lahloub, 1983; Taskova *et al.*, 1999, Harput *et al.*,

2002a). In our previous research on *Veronica* species, we have isolated 10 iridoid glucosides including a new iridoid glucoside, urphoside A together with 4 new and 4 known phenylethanoid glycosides (Harput *et al.*, 2002a, b; Saracoglu *et al.*, 2002). In addition, *Veronica* species have showed that the water-soluble portion of their MeOH extract suppresses nitric oxide production in lipopolysaccharide-stimulated mouse peritoneal macrophages, while the chloroform soluble portion of the MeOH extracts are cytotoxic against KB and B16 cells (Harput *et al.*, 2002c).

### Material and Methods

#### General experimental procedures

Optical rotations were measured on JASCO DIP 140 digital spectrometer using a sodium lamp operating at 589 nm. The UV spectra ( $\lambda_{\max}$ ) were recorded on Shimadzu UV-240 spectrometer. NMR measurements were performed on a JEOL JNM-A 500 spectrometer in methanol-*d*<sub>4</sub> with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. FAB-MS was recorded in a NBA matrix in the positive ion mode on a JEOL JMS-DX300 spectrometer. HR-mass spectroscopy was measured in ESI positive ion mode on Bruker Daltonics APEXS II with a 7 T magnet. TLC plates using Silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> and RP-18 F<sub>254</sub> were obtained from Merck (Darmstadt, Germany). Medium pressure liquid chromatography (MPLC) was per-

formed by a Lobar glass column packed with reversed-phase material (Merck, Lichroprep RP-18, 40–63  $\mu\text{m}$ ).

#### Plant material

*Veronica pectinata* L. var. *glandulosa* RIEK ex M.A. (Scrophulariaceae) was collected from Beyazari, Turkey. A voucher specimen (HUEF 99015) has been deposited in the Herbarium of Faculty of Pharmacy, Hacettepe University.

#### Extraction and isolation

The air dried aerial parts of *V. pectinata* var. *glandulosa* (80 g) were extracted with MeOH at 40 °C for 12 h ( $\times 2$ , 2 l). The combined extracts were evaporated under vacuum to give 13 g of crude extract. The MeOH extract was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O (0.1 l). H<sub>2</sub>O-insoluble material was removed by filtration. The filtrate was fractionated with CHCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\times 4$ , 100 ml), and the water fraction was lyophilized to yield 10 g dry weight. The water fraction was subjected to polyamide column chromatography eluted with H<sub>2</sub>O, followed by increasing concentrations of MeOH to give six fractions: Frs. A–F (Fr. A, 4.9 g; Fr. B, 0.45 g; Fr. C, 0.28 g; Fr. D, 0.27 g; Fr. E, 0.41 g; Fr. F, 0.88 g). Fractions A–D, rich in iridoid glucosides, were further applied to a series of column chromatographies. An aliquot of Fr. A (500 mg) was chromatographed over silica gel by stepwise elution with CHCl<sub>3</sub>:MeOH:H<sub>2</sub>O (90:10:1–60:40:4 v/v/v), and then rechromatographed over MPLC. Eluting with increasing concentrations of MeOH (20  $\rightarrow$  50%) yielded compounds **2** (2.2 mg) and **3** (2.0 mg). Fr. B (200 mg) was subjected to silica gel column chromatography eluting with CHCl<sub>3</sub>:MeOH:H<sub>2</sub>O (95:5:0.5  $\rightarrow$  50:50:5 v/v/v) and compounds **4** (2.0 mg), **7** (38 mg) and **8** (2.3 mg) were isolated. Silica gel column chromatography of Fr. C (200 mg), eluting with CHCl<sub>3</sub>:MeOH:H<sub>2</sub>O (95:5:0.5  $\rightarrow$  70:30:3 v/v/v), was resulted to the isolation of compound **1** (2.3 mg). Fr. D (150 mg) was also subjected to silica gel column chromatography eluting with the same solvent system and compounds **5** (5.5 mg) and **6** (10.0 mg) were isolated. Fraction E, rich in phenylethanoid glycosides were previously studied and four phenylethanoid glycosides were isolated (Saracoglu *et al.*, 2002). Fraction F, rich in flavonoid glycosides, is still under investigation.

## Results and Discussion

The methanol extract of *V. pectinata* var. *glandulosa* was suspended in water and partitioned with chloroform. The water-soluble portion of the extract was subjected to polyamide column chromatography to afford six main fractions. Repeated chromatography of the polyamide fractions resulted in the isolation of eight compounds (**1–8**) in pure form. Compound **1** was isolated as an amorphous powder with negative optical rotation ( $[\alpha]_D^{25} -122^\circ$ ,  $c = 0.05$ ; MeOH). The molecular formula of **1** was determined to be C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>O<sub>13</sub>Cl by high resolution (HR)-ESI-MS. Its UV absorption [ $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  210, 299 and 331 (sh)] as well as <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra indicated the presence of a nonconjugated enol-ether system and an aromatic acid (Table I). Inspection of the <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectral data revealed the presence of one glucopyranosyl unit, one

Table I. <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 125 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C and 500 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectral data and selected HMBC correlations for compound **1**\*.

| C/H              | DEPT            | $\delta_C$ | $\delta_H$         | $J$ (Hz)                 | HMBC (C $\rightarrow$ H)          |
|------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1                | CH              | 92.9       | 5.70 d             | (3.7)                    | H-1', H-3                         |
| 3                | CH              | 141.2      | 6.31 dd            | (6.3/2.1)                | H-1, H-4                          |
| 4                | CH              | 105.7      | 5.26 dd            | (6.3/3.5)                | H-3                               |
| 5                | CH              | 36.8       | 2.90 m             |                          | H-6                               |
| 6                | CH              | 85.3       | 5.10 dd            | (12.2/7.3)               | H-4, H-7                          |
| 7                | CH              | 69.7       | 4.20 d             | (7.3)                    | H-5, H-9                          |
| 8                | C               | 81.0       |                    |                          | H <sub>2</sub> -10                |
| 9                | CH              | 48.5       | 2.63 dd            | (10.5/3.7)               |                                   |
| 10               | CH <sub>2</sub> | 63.6       | 4.10 d<br>4.83 d   | (11.6)<br>(11.6)         | H-7, H-9                          |
| 1'               | CH              | 99.6       | 4.66 d             | (7.9)                    | H-1                               |
| 2'               | CH              | 74.8       | 3.20 t             | (9.1)                    | H-1', H-3'                        |
| 3'               | CH              | 78.0       | 3.36 t             | (9.3)                    | H-2'                              |
| 4'               | CH              | 71.7       | 3.28 <sup>†</sup>  |                          |                                   |
| 5'               | CH              | 78.2       | 3.28 <sup>†</sup>  |                          |                                   |
| 6'               | CH <sub>2</sub> | 62.9       | 3.67 dd<br>3.83 dd | (12.0/6.0)<br>(12.0/2.1) |                                   |
| 1''              | C               | 122.7      |                    |                          | H-2'', H-5''                      |
| 2''              | CH              | 113.7      | 7.57 d             | (1.8)                    | H-6''                             |
| 3''              | C               | 148.8      |                    |                          | H-2'', H-5'',<br>OCH <sub>3</sub> |
| 4''              | C               | 153.3      |                    |                          | H-2'', H-6''                      |
| 5''              | CH              | 116.1      | 6.89 d             | (8.5)                    | H-6''                             |
| 6''              | CH              | 125.4      | 7.60 dd            | (8.5/1.8)                | H-2''                             |
| C=O              | C               | 167.6      |                    |                          | H-6, H-2''                        |
| OCH <sub>3</sub> | CH <sub>3</sub> | 56.5       | 3.91 s             |                          |                                   |

\* The <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>1</sup>H NMR assignments were based on HMQC, HMBC, COSY and NOESY experiments.

<sup>†</sup> Signal patterns unclear due to overlapping.

trisubstituted aromatic ring with one methoxy group, and a carbonyl function in addition to nine carbon signals belonging to the aglycone moiety. The gross structure was determined from  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  and  $^1\text{H-}^1\text{H}$ -shift correlation spectroscopy ( $^1\text{H-}^1\text{H}$  COSY) experiments. Construction of the iridoid skeleton started with the acetal proton at  $\delta$  5.70 (d,  $J = 3.7$ , H-1). This acetal proton was coupled to the methine proton at  $\delta$  2.63 (dd,  $J = 10.5/3.7$  Hz, H-9), which in turn was coupled to the second methine proton at  $\delta$  2.90 (m, H-5). H-5 was further coupled to an olefinic proton at  $\delta$  5.26 (dd,  $J = 6.1/3.5$  Hz), which in turn was coupled to another olefinic proton  $\delta$  6.31 (dd,  $J = 6.3/2.1$  Hz). These vicinally coupled olefinic protons were ascribed to H-4 and H-3, respectively, confirming the presence of an iridoid moiety with nonconjugated enol-ether system. These assignments were confirmed by the  $^2J_{\text{CH}}$  and  $^3J_{\text{CH}}$  correlations in the heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) spectrum of **1** (Table I).

In the other direction, the proton at C-5 was correlated to the oxymethine proton at  $\delta$  5.10 (dd,  $J = 12.2/7.3$  Hz, H-6), which in turn was coupled to another methine proton at  $\delta$  4.20 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, H-7). The absence of any other homonuclear coupling observed for H-7 and H-9 indicated a totally substituted C-8 ( $\delta$  81.0, s). HMBC correlations between C-8/H<sub>2</sub>-10, C-10/H-9 and C-10/H-7 showed the attachment of a hydroxymethyl group at C-8. The chemical shift value and coupling constant of C-10 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  63.6;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.10, 4.83 d,  $J = 11.6$  Hz) required a tertiary hydroxyl function at the C-8 position.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectral data of compound **1** showed good correlation with those urphoside A (Harput *et al.*, 2002a). Main difference between compound **1** and urphoside A is the presence of carbon signal at  $\delta$  69.7 instead of  $\delta$  84.4 which representing C-7. This upfield shift ( $\Delta\delta$  -14.7 ppm) suggested different substitution pattern for 7<sup>th</sup> position. Previously reported 7-Cl substituted iridoid glucosides, glutinoside, rehmaglutin B and D, in the case of 6 acylated condition, have showed  $\delta$  70.3, 70.1 and 67.5 for C-7 (Yoshikawa *et al.*, 1986; Kitagawa *et al.*, 1986). These data suggested chlorine substitution for C-7 in **1**. Its HR-ESI-MS spectrum also exhibited expected chlorine-characteristic sodiated ion  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  at  $m/z$  571.1186 confirming the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{29}\text{O}_{13}\text{ClNa}$ . Signals in the region of  $\delta$  3.20–4.66 with a characteristic anomeric proton resonance at  $\delta$  4.66 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz), as well as HMBC and nuclear

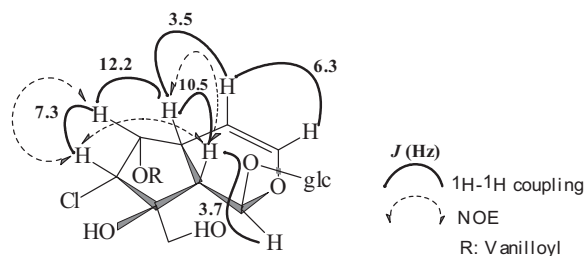


Fig. 1. Selected  $^1\text{H-}^1\text{H}$  coupling constants and NOEs detected for compound **1**.

Overhauser effect (NOE) correlations between C-1/H-1' and H-1/H1' suggested that **1** contains a  $\beta$ -glucopyranoside unit at the C-1 position of the aglycone. The signals at  $\delta$  6.89–7.60 observed as an ABX system suggested the presence of trisubstituted acyl moiety. The signal at  $\delta$  3.91 (3H, s,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), which correlated C-3'' signal of the aromatic ring in HMBC spectrum, indicated the presence of a vanilloyl group. The HMBC correlation of the ester carbonyl ( $\delta$  167.6) to the H-6 signal of the aglycone and a downfield shift in H-6 proton signal ( $\delta$  5.10, dd) confirmed the attachment of the vanilloyl group to C-6.

To determine the relative stereochemistry of the chiral centers in **1**, NOE and  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  decoupling experiments were performed (Fig. 1). NOE correlations between H-5, H-9, H-6 and H-7 suggested the same axial direction for these protons. Since H<sub>2</sub>-10 protons correlated only with each other, the orientation of the hydroxymethyl group was assigned to be  $\alpha$ .

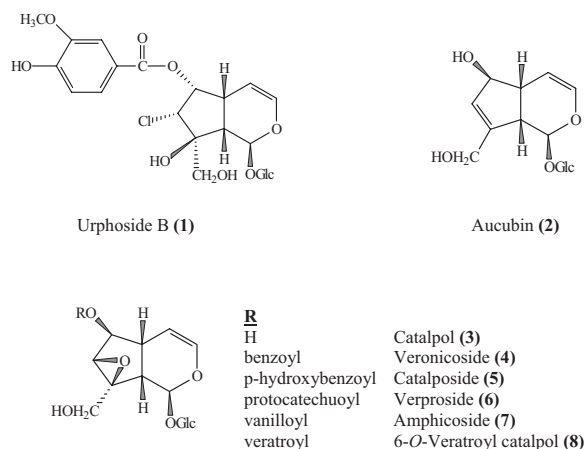


Fig. 2. Iridoid glucosides isolated from *Veronica pectinata* var. *glandulosa* (**1–8**).

$^3J_{\text{HH}}$  coupling constants and dihedral angles of **1** also confirmed its stereochemical structure. To the best of our knowledge, compound **1** is described here for the first time and named urphoside B.

In addition to this compound, seven known iridoid glucosides, aucubin (**2**), catalpol (**3**) veronicoside (**4**), catalposide (**5**), verprosine (**6**), amphicoside (**7**) and 6-*O*-veratroyl catalpol (**8**) were isolated (Fig. 2) and their structures were identified by the comparison of their spectral data with those reported in the literature (El-Naggar and Beal, 1980).

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