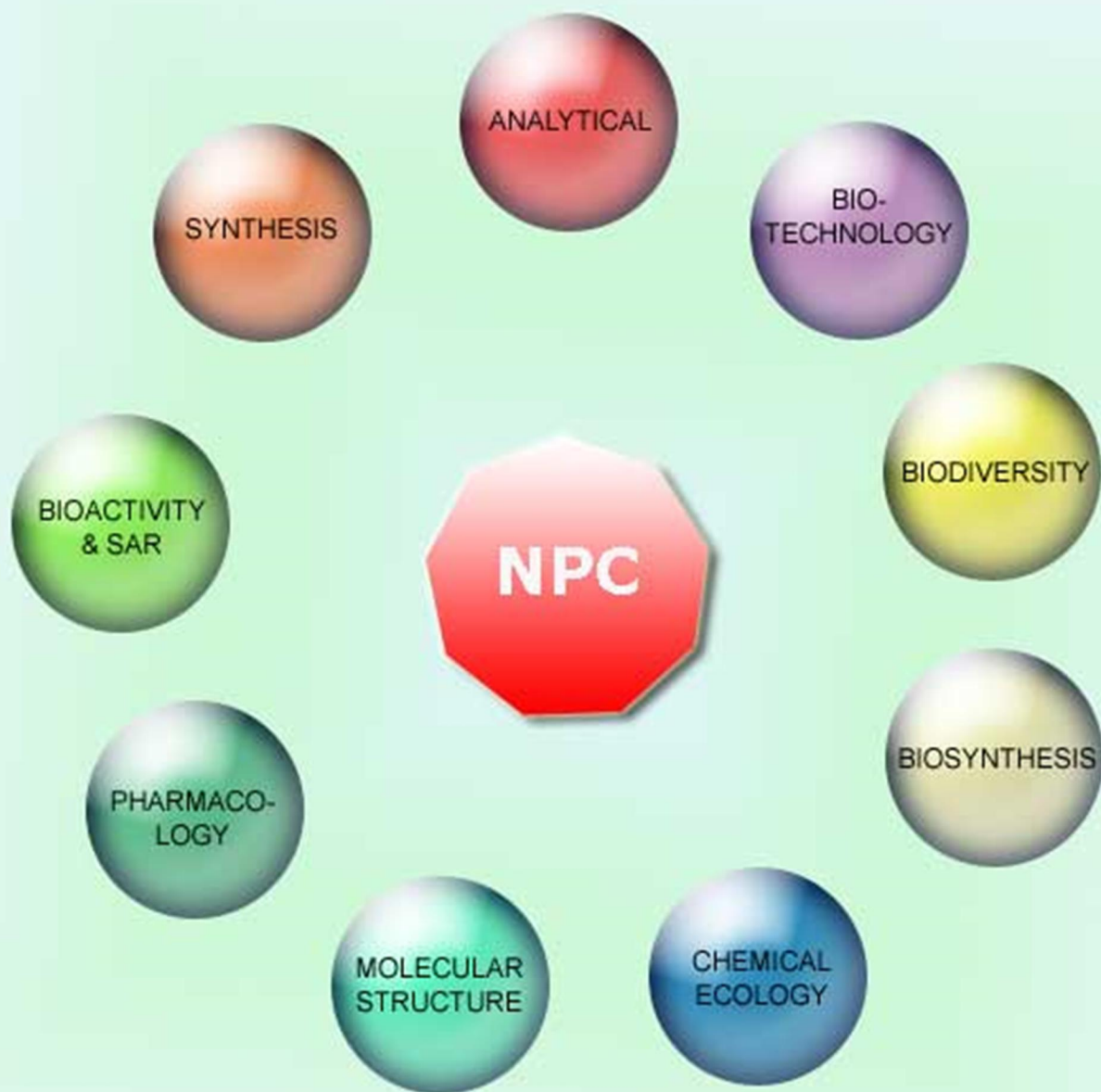


NATURAL PRODUCT COMMUNICATIONS

An International Journal for Communications and Reviews Covering all
Aspects of Natural Products Research



Volume 9. Issue 12. Pages 1671-1824. 2014
ISSN 1934-578X (printed); ISSN 1555-9475 (online)
www.naturalproduct.us

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ent-Kaurane Diterpenes from *Annona glabra* and Their Cytotoxic ActivitiesHoang Le Tuan Anh^a, Nguyen Thi Thu Hien^{a,c}, Dan Thi Thuy Hang^a, Tran Minh Ha^a, Nguyen Xuan Nhiem^a, Truong Thi Thu Hien^b, Vu Kim Thu^c, Do Thi Thao^d, Chau Van Minh^a and Phan Van Kiem^{a,*}^aInstitute of Marine Biochemistry, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), 18 Hoang Quoc Viet, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam^bVietnam Military Medical University, 160 Phung Hung, Hadong, Hanoi, Vietnam^cFaculty of Basic Science, Hanoi University of Mining and Geology, Hanoi, Vietnam^dInstitute of Biotechnology, VAST, 18 Hoang Quoc Viet, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam

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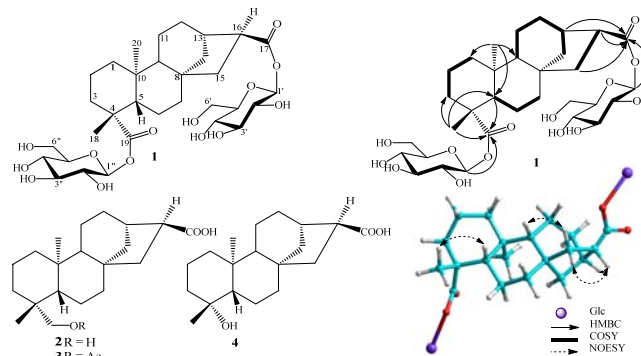
Received: July 22nd, 2014; Accepted: October 14th, 2014

A new *ent*-kaurane glycoside, annoglabasin H (**1**), and three known *ent*-kauranes, annoglabasin E (**2**), annoglabasin B (**3**), and 19-nor-*ent*-kaurene-4-ol-17-*oic* acid (**4**) were isolated from the fruits of *Annona glabra*. Their structures were determined by the combination of spectroscopic and chemical methods, including 1D- and 2D-NMR spectroscopy, as well as by comparison with the NMR data reported in the literature. The cytotoxic activities of these compounds were evaluated on four human cancer cell lines, LU-1, MCF-7, SK-Mel2, and KB. Compound **1** exhibited significant cytotoxic activity on all tested human cancer cell lines with IC₅₀ values ranging from 3.7 to 4.6 μM.

Keywords: *Annona glabra*, Annonaceae, Annoglabasin H, Cytotoxic activity.

Annona glabra L., family Annonaceae, is a tropical tree growing wild in the Americas and Asia. It is used in traditional medicine to treat several diseases such as inflammation and cancer, and as an insecticide. Phytochemical investigation led to the isolation of numerous acetogenins [1], *ent*-kauranes [2-5], peptides [6], and alkaloids [7-8]. In addition, compounds exhibited anticancer [5-9], anti HIV-reverse transcriptase [4], and anti-malarial activities [7]. As part of our continuing efforts to find new anticancer compounds, one new *ent*-kaurane glycoside and three known *ent*-kauranes were isolated from the fruits of *A. glabra* (Figure 1).

Compound **1** was isolated as a white amorphous powder and its molecular formula was determined to be C₃₂H₅₀O₁₄ by HR-ESI-MS from the ion at *m/z* 681.3095 (Calcd. for C₃₂H₅₀O₁₄Na: 681.3093). The ¹H NMR spectrum of **1** showed signals for two tertiary methyl groups at δ_H 0.97 (3H, s) and 1.24 (3H, s), assigned to an *ent*-kaurane structure; and two anomeric protons at δ_H 5.43 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz) and 5.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), which suggested the presence of two sugar moieties. The ¹³C NMR and DEPT spectra of **1** revealed signals for 32 carbons including two carbonyl, three quaternary, fourteen methine, eleven methylene, and two methyl (Table 1). The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data of **1** were very similar to those of 16 α -hydro-*ent*-kauran-17,19-dioic acid except for the addition of two sugar moieties at C-17 and C-19 [10]. The HMBC correlations between H-18 (δ_H 1.24) and C-3 (δ_C 39.0)/C-4 (δ_C 45.1)/C-5 (δ_C 58.6)/C-19 (δ_C 178.4) suggested the presence of both methyl and carboxyl groups at C-4. The HMBC correlations from H-13 (δ_H 2.55)/H-15 (δ_H 1.59 and 1.87)/H-16 (δ_H 3.06) to C-17 (δ_C 175.3) confirmed the position of a carboxyl group at C-16. The HMBC correlations between H-1' (δ_H 5.53) and C-17 (δ_C 175.3); and H-1'' (δ_C 5.43) and C-19 (δ_C 178.4) confirmed the positions of two glucopyranosyl moieties at C-17 and C-19. The observation of NOESY correlation between H-18 (δ_H 1.24) and H-5 (δ_H 1.15), but not between H-18 (δ_H 1.24) and H-20 (δ_H 0.97) (Figure 1) confirmed the β configuration of the

**Figure 1:** The chemical structures of **1-4** and important HMBC, COSY, and NOESY correlations of **1**.**Table 1:** ¹H (500 MHz) and ¹³C (125 MHz) NMR data for compound **1** in CD₃OD.

C	δ _C	δ _H (mult., <i>J</i> in Hz)	C	δ _C	δ _H (mult., <i>J</i> in Hz)
1	41.4	0.87 (m)/1.88 (m)	18	29.0	1.24 (s)
2	19.2	1.52 (m)/1.69 (m)	19	178.4	-
3	39.0	1.11 (m)/1.21 (d, 9.0)	20	16.4	0.97 (s)
4	45.1	-	17- <i>O</i> -Glc		
5	58.6	1.15 (m)	1'	95.6	5.53 (d, 8.0)
6	23.2	1.88 (m)/2.00 (m)	2'	74.0	3.35 (m)
7	42.9	1.57 (m)/1.96 (m)	3'	78.7	3.48 (m)
8	45.6	-	4'	71.1	3.42 (m)
9	57.6	1.08 (m)	5'	78.7	3.40 (m)
10	40.8	-	6'	62.4	3.71 (dd, 2.0, 11.5) 3.84 (d, 11.5)
11	20.1	1.43 (m)/1.94 (m)	19- <i>O</i> -Glc		
12	28.0	1.47 (m)/1.71 (m)	1''	95.6	5.43 (d, 8.0)
13	41.1	2.55 (m)	2''	74.0	3.38 (m)
14	41.9	1.17 (m)/2.16 (d, 12.0)	3''	78.7	3.48 (m)
15	42.7	1.59 (m)/1.87 (m)	4''	71.1	3.42 (m)
16	46.6	3.06 (m)	5''	78.7	3.40 (m)
17	175.3	-	6''	62.3	3.71 (dd, 2.0, 11.5) 3.84 (d, 11.5)

methyl group at C-4. Moreover, NOESY correlations of H-16 (δ_H 3.06) and H-13 (δ_H 2.55); H-16 (δ_H 3.06) and H_α-15 (δ_H 1.59); and H-9 (δ_H 1.08) and H_β-15 (δ_H 1.87) were observed confirming

the α -configuration of H-16. Acid hydrolysis of **1** provided D-glucose (identified as its TMS derivative) [12]. In addition, the coupling constants of glc H-1'/glc H-2'; glc H-1''/glc H-2'', $J = 8.0$ Hz indicated that these protons all had *axial* orientations. Consequently, compound **1** was elucidated to be 16 α -hydro-*ent*-kauran-17,19-dioic acid 17,19-di-*O*- β -D-glucopyranoside ester, a new compound named annoglabasin H.

Annoglabasin E (**2**) [3], annoglabasin B (**3**) [4], and 19-nor-*ent*-kauran-4-ol-17-oic acid (**4**) [10] were identified on the basis of spectral data, which were in good agreement with those reported in the literature.

Cytotoxic activities of the compounds were evaluated by a 3-[4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl]-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay on four human cancer cell lines (LU-1, MCF-7, SK-Mel2, and KB) [11]. Compound **1** exhibited significant cytotoxic activity on all tested human cancer cell lines with IC₅₀ values ranging from 3.7 to 4.6 μ M.

Table 2. The effects of compounds **1–4** on the growth of human cancer cell lines.

Compound	IC ₅₀ (μ M)			
	LU-1	MCF-7	SK-Mel2	KB
1	4.1 \pm 0.3	4.6 \pm 0.4	3.7 \pm 0.3	4.4 \pm 0.5
2	>100	>100	>100	>100
3	>100	>100	>100	>100
4	>100	>100	>100	>100
Ellipticine	3.5 \pm 0.2	3.7 \pm 0.1	3.4 \pm 0.4	4.0 \pm 0.2

*Ellipticine was used as a positive control, LU-1 (Human lung carcinoma), MCF-7 (Human breast carcinoma), SK-Mel-2 (Human melanoma), and KB (Human oral carcinoma).

Experimental

General: NMR, Bruker DRX 500 spectrometer; HR-ESI-MS, AGILENT 6550 iFunnel Q-TOF LC/MS system; Optical rotations, Jasco DIP-370 automatic polarimeter.

Plant material: The fruits of *A. glabra* were collected in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam during May 2013, and identified by Dr Bui Van Thanh, Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, VAST. A voucher specimen (AG1605) was deposited at the Herbarium of Institute of Marine Biochemistry, VAST.

Extraction and isolation: The dried fruits of *A. glabra* (4.0 kg) were extracted with MeOH (3 \times 5 L, 50°C) under sonication for 1 h to yield

300.0 g extract after evaporation of the solvent. This extract was suspended in H₂O (2.0 L) and successively partitioned with *n*-hexane, CHCl₃, and ethyl acetate (EtOAc) to obtain the *n*-hexane (AG1, 51.0 g), CHCl₃ (AG2, 190.5 g), EtOAc (AG3, 3.5 g), and H₂O (AG4, 54.0 g) extracts after removal of the solvents *in vacuo*. The AG2 extract was chromatographed on a silica gel column and eluted with a *n*-hexane–EtOAc gradient (100 : 1–1 : 1, v/v) to obtain 4 fractions, AG2A–AG2D. The AG2B fraction was chromatographed on a silica gel column eluting with *n*-hexane–EtOAc (4 : 1, v/v) to obtain 3 fractions, AG2B1–AG2B3. The AG2B1 fraction was further chromatographed on an YMC RP-18 column eluting with acetone–H₂O (3 : 1, v/v) to yield **3** (217.0 mg). The AG2D fraction was chromatographed on a silica gel column eluting with *n*-hexane–acetone (2 : 1, v/v) to obtain 3 fractions, AG2D1–AG2D3. The AG2D1 fraction was chromatographed on an YMC RP-18 column eluting with acetone–water (5 : 1, v/v) to yield **2** (10.0 mg). The AG2D2 fraction was chromatographed on an YMC RP-18 column eluting with acetone–water (2.5 : 1, v/v) to yield **4** (9.0 mg). The water soluble fraction AG4 was chromatographed on a Diaion HP-20P column (Mitsubishi Chem. Ind. Co., Tokyo, Japan) eluting with water containing increasing concentrations of MeOH (0, 25, 50, 75, and 100% MeOH) to give 4 fractions, AG4A–AG4D. The AG4C fraction was chromatographed on a silica gel column eluting with CH₂Cl₂–MeOH (6 : 1, v/v) to give 3 fractions, AG4C1–AG4C3. The AG4C1 fraction was chromatographed on an YMC RP-18 column eluting with MeOH–H₂O (1 : 1.5, v/v) to yield **1** (3.0 mg).

Annoglabasin H (**1**)

A white amorphous powder.

$[\alpha]_D^{25}$: -40 (c 0.1, MeOH).

¹H and ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD): Table 1.

HR-ESI-MS found m/z 681.3095 (Calcd. for C₃₂H₅₀O₁₄Na: 681.3093).

Acid hydrolysis: The hydrolysis method used is described in [12]; the sugar in **1** was identified as its TMS derivative.

Cytotoxic tests: The cytotoxic assay is described in [12].

Acknowledgment. This research was supported by the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST 04.04/13-14).

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Reactive Oxygen Species Scavenging Activity of <i>Jixueteng</i> Evaluated by Electron Spin Resonance (ESR) and Photon Emission Toshizo Toyama, Satoko Wada-Takahashi, Maomi Takamichi, Kiyoko Watanabe, Ayaka Yoshida, Fumihiko Yoshino, Chihiro Miyamoto, Yojiro Maehata, Shuta Sugiyama, Shun-suke Takahashi, Kazuo Todoki, Masaichi-Chang-il Lee and Nobushiro Hamada	1755
Selective COX-2 Inhibitory Properties of Dihydrostilbenes from Licorice Leaves—<i>In Vitro</i> Assays and Structure/Activity Relationship Study Domenico Trombetta, Salvatore V. Giofrè, Antonio Tomaino, Roberto Raciti, Antonella Saija, Mariateresa Cristani, Roberto Romeo, Laura Siracusa and Giuseppe Ruberto	1761
Total Synthesis of Hybocarpone, a Cytotoxic Naphthazarin Derivative from the Lichen <i>Lecanora hybocarpa</i>, and Related Compounds Sergey V. Dragan, Michael A. Pushilin, Valery P. Glazunov, Vladimir A. Denisenko and Victor Ph. Anufriev	1765
Sawtehtetronenin from <i>Goniothalamus sawtehi</i> and its Cytotoxicity Chiapha Thiplueang, Sittiporn Punyanitya, Ratana Banjerdpongchai, Benjawan Wudtiwai, Phansuang Udomputtimekakul, Mongkol Buayairaksa, Narong Nuntasaen and Wilart Pompimon	1769
The Anti-Rheumatoid Arthritis Property of the Folk Medicine <i>Dianbaizhu</i> (<i>Gaultheria leucocarpa</i> var. <i>yunnanensis</i>, Ericaceae) Meng Xie, Yi Lu, Cheng Yan, Rui Jiang, Weirui Liu, Zizhen Liu, Guanling Xu, Yue Yang, Xia Zhang, Yuxin Tian, Yan Wang, Jianqiu Lu and Gaimei She	1773
Chemical Composition and Antioxidant Activity of Seed oil of Two Algerian Date Palm Cultivars (<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>) Mustapha Boukouada, Zineb Ghiaba, Nadhir Gourine, Isabelle Bombarda, Mokhtar Saidi and Mohamed Yousfi	1777
Volatile Constituents of the Seeds and Fruit of <i>Pycnocycla nodiflora</i> Mojdeh Nasr and Jinous Asgarpanah	1781
Volatile Constituents of <i>Murraya koenigii</i> Fresh Leaves Using Headspace Solid Phase Microextraction – Gas Chromatography – Mass Spectrometry Sayamol Sukkaew, Patcharee Pripdeevech, Chalermporn Thongpoon, Theeraphan Machan and Rattana Wongchuphan	1783
A GC-FID Validated Method for the Quality Control of <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> Raw Material and its Pharmaceutical Products, and GC-MS Fingerprinting of 12 <i>Eucalyptus</i> Species Paula Carolina Pires Bueno, Milton Groppo Junior and Jairo Kenupp Bastos	1787
Constituents, Antibacterial and Antioxidant Activities of Essential Oils from <i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i> Flowers Acharavadee Pansanit and Patcharee Pripdeevech	1791
Chemical Compositions and Antimicrobial Activity of the Essential Oils of <i>Piper abbreviatum</i>, <i>P. erecticaule</i> and <i>P. lanatum</i> (Piperaceae) Wan Mohd Nuzul Hakimi Wan Salleh, Farediah Ahmad and Khong Heng Yen	1795
Chemistry and Leishmanicidal Activity of the Essential Oil from <i>Artemisia absinthium</i> from Cuba Lianet Monzote, Abel Piñón, Ramón Scull and William N. Setzer	1799
Chemical Composition and Biological Activities of the Essential Oils from Two <i>Pereskia</i> Species Grown in Brazil Lucécia Fátima Souza, Ingrid Bergman Inchausti de Barros, Emilia Mancini, Laura De Martino, Elia Scandolera and Vincenzo De Feo	1805
<u>Accounts/Reviews</u>	
<i>Stemona</i> Alkaloids: Biosynthesis, Classification, and Biogenetic Relationships Feng-Peng Wang and Qiao-Hong Chen	1809

Natural Product Communications

2014

Volume 9, Number 12

Contents

<u>Original Paper</u>	<u>Page</u>
Biobased Lactams as Novel Arthropod Repellents Kamlesh R. Chauhan, Hemant Khanna, Nagendra Babu Bathini, Thanh C. Le and John Grieco	1671
Two New Aromadendrane Sesquiterpenes from the Stem Bark of <i>Alafia multiflora</i> Alembert T. Tchinda, David E. Tsala, Nnanga Nga, Ewa Cieciewicz, Robert Kiss, Joseph D. Connolly and Michel Frédéric	1673
Isolation and Structural Characterization of a New Minor Diterpene Glycoside from <i>Stevia rebaudiana</i> Venkata Sai Prakash Chaturvedula and Julian Zamora	1677
ent-Kaurane Diterpenes from <i>Annona glabra</i> and Their Cytotoxic Activities Hoang Le Tuan Anh, Nguyen Thi Thu Hien, Dan Thi Thuy Hang, Tran Minh Ha, Nguyen Xuan Nhiem, Truong Thi Thu Hien, Vu Kim Thu, Do Thi Thao, Chau Van Minh and Phan Van Kiem	1681
Chemical Constituents of <i>Tilia taquetii</i> Leaves and their Inhibition of MMP-1 Expression and Elastase Activities Su Yeong Kim, Jung Eun Kim, Hee Jung Bu, Chang-Gu Hyun and Nam Ho Lee	1683
Novel C-ring Analogs of Ursolic acid: Synthesis and Cytotoxic Evaluation Uppuluri V. Mallavadhani, Banita Pattnaik, Nitasha Suri and Ajit K. Saxena	1687
Phenolic Constituents of <i>Erigeron floribundus</i> (Asteraceae), a Cameroonian Medicinal Plant Chiara Berto, Filippo Maggi, Prosper C. Biapa Nya, Anna Pettena, Irene Boschiero and Stefano Dall'Acqua	1691
Nortriterpene Saponins from <i>Akebia trifoliata</i> Keiichi Matsuzaki, Kayo Murano, Yurika Endo and Susumu Kitanaka	1695
C-24 Stereochemistry of Marine Sterols: (22E)-25,28-Dimethyl- stigmasta-5,22,28-trien-3β-ol and 25,28-Dimethylstigmasta-5,28-dien-3β-ol Rie Nojo, Shizue Echigo, Noriyuki Hara and Yoshinori Fujimoto	1699
Antibacterial Compounds from <i>Glycosmis puberula</i> Twigs Cholpisut Tantapakul, Tawanun Sripisut, Wisanu Maneerat, Thunwadee Ritthiwigrom and Surat Laphookhieo	1705
Antimicrobial Activity of Extracts and Isoquinoline Alkaloids of Selected Papaveraceae Plants Lubomír Opletal, Miroslav Ločárek, Adéla Fraňková, Jakub Chlebek, Jakub Šmíd, Anna Hošťálková, Marcela Šafratová, Daniela Hulcová, Pavel Klouček, Miroslav Rozkot and Lucie Cahliková	1709
New Unusual Alkaloids from the Ascidian <i>Eudistoma vancouveri</i> Antônia Torres Ávila Pimenta, Paula Christine Jimenez, Leticia Veras Costa-Lotufo, Raimundo Braz-Filho and Mary Anne Sousa Lima	1713
Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of Febrifugine Analogues Huong Doan Thi Mai, Giang Vo Thanh, Van Hieu Tran, Van Nam Vu, Van Loi Vu, Cong Vinh Le, Thuy Linh Nguyen, Thi Dao Phi, Bich Ngan Truong, Van Minh Chau and Van Cuong Pham	1717
Flavonoids from Twigs of <i>Milletia pubinervis</i> Zhi Na, Qi-Shi Song and Hua-Bin Hu	1721
Effect of Osajin and Pomiferin on Antidiabetic Effects from Normal and Streptozotocin-induced Diabetic Rats Hyung-In Moon	1723
Two New Homoisoflavonoids from the Bulbs of <i>Bessera elegans</i> Yukiko Matsuo, Risa Kurihara, Nana Akagi and Yoshihiro Mimaki	1725
Isolation of Phenolics from <i>Rhizophora mangle</i> by Combined Counter-current Chromatography and Gel-Filtration Fernanda das Neves Costa, Marcos Daniel da Silva, Ricardo Moreira Borges and Gilda Guimarães Leitão	1729
Angular-type Furocoumarins from the Roots of <i>Angelica atropurpurea</i> and their Inhibitory Activity on the NFAT Signal Transduction Pathway Azumi Nagasawa, Mitsuyoshi Sakasai, Daishi Sakaguchi, Shigeru Moriwaki, Yoshinori Nishizawa and Takashi Kitahara	1733
Isoprenylated Xanthone and Benzophenone Constituents of the Pericarp of <i>Garcinia planchonii</i> Duong Hoang Trinh, Ly Dieu Ha, Phuong Thu Tran and Lien-Hoa Dieu Nguyen	1737
Stemofurans X-Y from the Roots of <i>Stemona</i> Species from Laos Dang Ngoc Quang, Vong Anatha Khamko, Nguyen Thi Trang, Lam Thi Hai Yen and Pham Huu Dien	1741
A New Stilbenoid Compound from the Lianas of <i>Gnetum microcarpum</i> Nik Fatini Nik Azmin, Norizan Ahmat, Yana M. Syah, Nik Khairunnisa, Nik Abdullah Zawawi and Mohd Izwan Mohamad Yusof	1743
Phenolic Acids Profile, Antioxidant and Antibacterial Activity of Chamomile, Common Yarrow and Immortelle (Asteraceae) Ivana Generalić Mekinić, Danijela Skroza, Ivica Ljubenkov, Luka Krstulović, Sonja Smole Možina and Višnja Katalinić	1745
Activity-guided Fractionation of <i>Ipomea fistulosa</i> Leaves for Pro-inflammatory Cytokines and Nitric Oxide Inhibitory Constituents Neeraj K. Patel, Ramandeep and Kamlesh K. Bhutani	1749
Development and Validation of a High-Performance Liquid Chromatographic Method for the Simultaneous Quantification of Marker Constituents in Cheonwangbosimdan Chang-Seob Seo and Hyeun-Kyoo Shin	1751

Continued inside backcover