Six Podocarpane-Type Trinorditerpenes from the Bark of *Taiwania* cryptomerioides

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Six podocarpane-type trinorditerpenes were isolated from the bark of *Taiwania cryptomerioides*. Their structures, 14-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatrien-7-one (1), 13-hydroxy-12-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (2), 12-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (3), 14-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (4), 13-hydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (5), and 13,14-dihydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatrien-7-one (6), were determined principally from spectral evidence.

Key words Taiwania cryptomerioides; Taxodiaceae; Trinorditerpene; podocarpane

Taiwania cryptomerioides Hayata (Taxodiaceae) is an economically important tree species indigenous to Taiwan and Taiwania is one of the most decay-resistant species in the country. We have previously investigated the chemical components of its heartwood¹⁻⁴⁾ and bark, ⁵⁻⁷⁾ and found various sesquiterpenes, lignans, and abietane-type diterpenes. Kamil⁸⁾ has described the bisflavones found in its leaves. Recently, many other compounds have been obtained from its leaves, including several with novel structural skeletons as described by Lin.9-12) A podocarpane-type trinorditerpene 1β , 13, 14-trihydroxy-8, 11, 13-podocarpatriene-7-one ¹² isolated for the first time from this plant. Because many interesting novel skeletal components have been reported, we were encouraged to study the chemical constituents of its bark again. We report here six new podocarpane-type trinorditerpenes, 1—6, 14-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatrien-7-one (1), 13-hydroxy-12-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (2), 12-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (3), 14-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (4), 13-hydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (5), and 13,14-dihydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatrien-7-one (6).

The molecular formula of compound 1 was established as C₁₈H₂₄O₃ by high resolution mass spectroscopy (HR-MS). IR absorptions were attributable to a hydroxyl group $(3473 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1})$, an aromatic group $(3041, 1580, 1481 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1})$, and a conjugated carbonyl (1635 cm⁻¹). The UV absorption at λ_{max} 221.5 and 269.5 nm was attributable to the phenone moiety. The ¹H-NMR spectrum showed three singlets of methyl groups at δ 0.92, 0.97 and 1.18 (H-18, H-19, H-20) (Table 1) and two aromatic *ortho* protons occurred at δ 6.71 (d, J=8.4 Hz, H-11) and 6.98 (d, J=8.4 Hz, H-12). No isopropyl group was observed by NMR. Compound 1 is a C_{17} podocarpane diterpene with a methoxy group [$\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.86 (3H, s), $\delta_{\rm C}$ 56.2]. Comparison of the 13 C-NMR (Table 2) data of 1 with that of the known 1β ,13,14-trihydroxy-8,11,13podocarpatrien-7-one (7),12) suggests that 1 possesses the same skeletal structure. Three of six aromatic carbon signals appear at lower field, δ 148.5, 146.5 and 153.1, and those signals were assigned to C-9, 12) C-13, and C-14, respectively. The singlet at δ_C 12.98 indicates a hydrogen bond between a hydroxyl (C-14) and a carbonyl (C-7) group. 12, 13) A typical H_{β} -1 signal at δ 2.32 (br d, J=12.3 Hz) for dehydroabietane and dehydropodocarpane type derivatives^{12, 14—16)} is present. An ABX system at δ 1.82 (1H, dd, J=4.5, 13.0 Hz), 2.59 (1H, dd, J=13.0, 18.9 Hz) and 2.69 (1H, dd, J=4.5, 18.9 Hz) was observed and was assigned to H-5 and H-6, respectively. Meanwhile, H-11 (δ 6.71) and H $_{\beta}$ -1 (δ 2.32), and MeO-13 (δ 3.86) and H-12 (δ 6.98) show correlations in nuclear Overhauser enhancement and exchange spectroscopy (NOESY), establishing the structure of the aromatic ring. This assignment is also supported by proton-detected heteronuclear multiple-quantum coherence (HMQC) and proton detected heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) experiments. Accordingly, 1 is 14-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatrien-7-one.

Compound 2 has the molecular formula $C_{18}H_{26}O_2$ on the basis of exact mass spectral data. Only two functional groups (aromatic, hydroxyl) were present in its IR spectrum. Four singlet methyl groups at δ 0.90, 0.92, 1.16, and 3.83 $(-OCH_3)$ and two singlet phenyl protons at δ 6.56 and 6.72 (Table 1) in its ¹H-NMR spectrum indicated that 2 is also a tricyclic dehydropodocarpane skeleton diterpenoid with substitution at both C-12 and C-13. An H_{β} -1 signal, indicating a dehydropodocarpane molecule, was also observed at δ 2.18 (br d, $J=13.6\,\mathrm{Hz}$). Three downfield ¹³C-NMR signals at δ 141.9, 143.1 and 144.6 (Table 2) were assigned as C-9, C-13 and C-12, respectively. C-12 and C-13 are phenyl carbons bond to oxygen; the connected groups are a hydroxyl (an exchangeable br s at δ 5.40) and a methoxyl ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.83; $\delta_{\rm C}$ 55.8). The phenyl proton at δ 6.72 exhibited an NOE correlation with H_B-1 and with the methoxyl group. This evidence confirms the methoxyl group connecting at C-12. The ¹³C-NMR and HMBC data, in addition to the above evidence, show that 2 is 13-hydroxy-12-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene. Our identification of compound 2 is the first time it has been isolated from a natural source, although it has been synthesized from abietic acid (8).¹⁷⁾

Compound 3 has a tricyclic diterpenoid skeleton similar to that of 2, as indicated by the presence in the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum of four singlet methyl groups at δ 0.89, 0.92, 1.14 and 3.81 and the appearance of two singlet phenyl protons at δ 6.48 and 6.81. The molecular formula $C_{18}H_{26}O_2$, based on HR-MS, indicated that 3 is an isomer of 2. Comparison of the $^1\text{H-}$ and $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ data (Tables 1, 2) of 3 with those of 2 indicated that the difference between 2 and 3 is in the position of the hydroxyl and methoxyl groups. The expected signal for an H_β -1 of dehydropodocarpane at δ 2.17 (1H, br d, J=13.2 Hz) is also present. NOESY data (H_β -1 correlated

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with δ 6.81, and the methoxyl group correlated with δ 6.48) indicates that the structure of **3** is 12-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene. HMBC data also supported the assigned structure.

Compound **4**, an isomer of **3**, had HR-MS and 13 C-NMR data (Table 2) consistent with the molecular formula $C_{18}H_{26}O_2$. Analysis of the IR spectrum of **4** suggested it contained a hydroxyl group (3430 cm⁻¹) and a phenyl group (1610, 1586, 1500 cm⁻¹). It has a tricyclic diterpenoid skeleton similar to that of **3** as indicated by the presence in the 1 H-NMR spectrum (Table 1) of four singlet methyl groups at δ 0.92, 0.95, 1.17, and 3.81, and two aromatic *ortho* protons at δ 6.76 (d, J=8.7 Hz, H-11) and 6.69 (d, J=8.7 Hz, H-12).

Comparison of the $^1\text{H-}$ and $^{13}\text{C-}$ NMR data of **4** with that of **3** indicated that the difference between **4** and **3** is the position of the hydroxyl (δ 5.64, br s, exchangeable with D₂O) and methoxyl groups. The expected signal for an H_{β}-1 of dehydropodocarpane at δ 2.40 (1H, br d, J=12.8 Hz) has a NOESY correlation with δ 6.76 (H-11), and the methoxyl group correlates with δ 6.69 (H-12). This evidence agrees with the structure of **4** being 14-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene. HMBC data also confirm the assigned structure.

Three singlet methyl groups and a 1,2,4-trisubstituted phenyl moiety in compound **5** are indicated by signals at δ 0.90, 0.92, 1.14 (3H each, s), 6.48 (1H, d, J=2.8 Hz), 6.57 (1H, dd, J=2.8, 8.6 Hz) and 7.08 (1H, d, J=8.6 Hz) (Table 1). One hydroxyl group attached to a phenyl group was revealed by the signals at δ 4.60 (exchangeable with D₂O) and δ _C 152.8 (Table 2). Analysis of the ¹H-, ¹³C-, HMQC and HMBC NMR data indicated that the structure of **5** (C₁₇H₂₄O) is 12- or 13-hydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene. The phenyl proton (δ 7.08) shows an NOE correlation with H_{β}-1 [δ 2.20 (1H, br d, J=13.1 Hz)], showing that the hydroxyl group is located at C-13. Akita¹⁷⁾ has synthesized this compound from abietic acid (**8**).

Compound 6 has the formula $C_{17}H_{22}O_3$, based on HR-MS and $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ data (Table 2), indicating an index of hydrogen deficiency (IHD) of seven. Analysis of the IR spectrum suggested that the molecule contains a hydroxyl group (3363 cm $^{-1}$), a phenyl group (1580, 1480 cm $^{-1}$), and a conjugated ketone, together with a strong hydrogen bond (1626, 3100—2600 cm $^{-1}$). The UV absorption at $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 273 nm was consistent with this. Two exchangeable phenolic protons at δ 5.53 and 12.80 (Table 1) indicate that one of the hydroxyl groups is attached at C-14 with a strong hydrogen bond to the C-7 carbonyl group. Three singlet methyl groups are

Table 1. ¹H-NMR Spectral Data of Compounds 1—6 (300 MHz in CDCl₃)

Chart 1

Н	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1.47 m	1.36 m	1.32 m	1.36m	1.30 m	1.48 m
	2.24 br d	2.18 br d	2.17 br d	2.40 br d	2.20 br d	2.24 br d
	(12.3)	(13.6)	(13.2)	(12.8)	(13.1)	(13.6)
2	1.52 m	1.60 m	1.58 m	1.60m	1.62 m	1.64 m
	1.70 m	1.80 m	1.82m	1.82m	1.81 m	1.74 m
3	1.22 m	1.22 m	1.18 m	1.22 m	1.17 m	1.24 m
	1.55 m	1.44 m	1.44m	1.46 m	1.45 m	1.52 m
5	1.82 dd	$1.27^{a)}$	$1.28^{a)}$	$1.28^{a)}$	$1.22^{a)}$	1.82 dd
	(4.5, 13.0)					(6.4, 11.2)
6	2.59 dd	1.60 m	1.68 m	1.68m	1.64 m	2.64 dd
	(13.0, 18.9)	1.80 m	1.72 m	1.90m	1.82 m	(11.2, 18.8)
	2.69 dd					2.70 dd
	(4.5, 18.9)					(6.4, 18.8)
7		2.80 m	2.79 m	2.64m	2.80 m	
				2.92m		
11	6.71d (8.4)	6.72 s	6.81 s	6.76 (8.7)	7.08 d (8.6)	6.67 d (7.8)
12	6.98d (8.4)			6.69 (8.7)	6.57 dd	7.01 d (7.8)
					(2.8, 8.6)	
14		6.56 s	6.48 s		6.48 d (2.8)	
18	0.92 s	0.92 s	0.92 s	0.95 s	0.92 s	0.92 s
19	0.97 s	0.90 s	0.89 s	0.92 s	0.90 s	0.97 s
20	1.18 s	1.16 s	1.14 s	1.17 s	1.14 s	1.18 s
–OH	12.98 s	5.40 br s	5.36 br s	5.64 br s	4.60 br s	5.53 s, 12.80 s
-OMe	3.86 s	3.83 s	3.81 s	3.81		

a) Overlapping with other signals.

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Table 2. ¹³C-NMR Spectral Data of Compounds **1—6** (75 MHz in CDCl₃)

C	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	38.0	39.2	39.0	39.1	39.0	37.9
2	18.8	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.0	18.8
3	41.3	41.7	41.7	41.7	41.7	41.2
4	33.2	33.4	33.4	33.3	33.4	33.2
5	49.2	50.6	50.6	50.0	50.5	49.5
6	36.3	19.3	19.3	19.3	19.3	36.1
7	206.5	29.9	30.2	24.1	30.4	206.7
8	115.4	128.2	126.6	122.3	136.9	115.1
9	148.5	141.9	143.1	144.3	143.0	148.2
10	37.7	37.6	37.4	37.3	37.3	37.7
11	112.8	106.9	110.5	114.8	125.6	113.6
12	117.9	144.6	144.6	108.8	112.8	120.8
13	146.1	143.1	143.3	143.2	152.8	142.7
14	153.1	114.2	110.6	142.4	114.8	149.4
18	32.5	33.3	33.3	33.3	33.3	32.5
19	21.4	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.4
20	23.6	24.7	24.7	25.0	24.9	23.6
$-OCH_3$	56.2	55.8	55.8	55.9		

found at δ 0.92, 0.97 and 1.18. Three signals at δ 1.82 (1H, dd, J=6.4, 11.2 Hz), 2.64 (1H, dd, J=11.2, 18.8 Hz) and 2.70 (1H, dd, J=6.4, 18.8 Hz) were assigned as H-5 and H-6, respectively. Comparison of the spectral data of $\mathbf{6}$ with that of compound $\mathbf{1}$ suggested that a hydroxyl group in $\mathbf{6}$ replaces the methoxyl group in $\mathbf{1}$. A pair of aromatic protons with *ortho* coupling at δ 6.67 (d, J=7.8 Hz) and δ 7.01 (d, J=7.8 Hz), as well as an NOE correlation between δ 6.67 and δ 2.24 (1H, br d, J=13.6 Hz, H $_{\beta}$ -1), indicate that the hydroxyl groups are located at C-13 and C-14. Therefore, the structure of $\mathbf{6}$ is 13,14-dihydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatrien-7-one. The results of HMBC and NOESY experiments confirmed the assigned structure.

Experimental

General Experimental Procedures Melting points were determined with a Yanagimoto micromelting point apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 781 spectrophotometer. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker AM-300 at 300 and 75 MHz in CDCl₃ with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. EI-MS, FAB-MS, UV, and specific rotations were recorded on a JEOL JMS-HX 300, a JOEL JMS-HX 110, a Hitachi S-3200 spectrometer, and a JASCO DIP-180 digital polarimeter, respectively. Extracts were chromatographed on silica gel (Merck 3374, 70-230 mesh).

Plant Material The bark of *T. cryptomerioides* was collected in Tai-Chun, Taiwan, in 1996. The plant material was identified by Mr. Muh-Tsuen Gun, formerly a technician of the Department of Botany, National Taiwan University. A voucher specimen has been deposited at the Herbarium of the Department of Botany of the National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan.

Extraction and Isolation Air-dried of bark of *T. cryptomerioides* (12 kg) was extracted three times with acetone (60 l) at room temperature (7 d per extraction). The acetone extract was evaporated *in vacuo* to leave a black residue which was suspended in H₂O (8 l), and then partitioned (3×) with 11 of ethyl acetate. The EtOAc fraction (360 g) was chromatographed on silica gel using a mixture of *n*-hexane and EtOAc of increasing polarity as eluent and further purified by HPLC, eluting with CH₂Cl₂: EtOAc (50:1). Six components, 14-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (2) (4.2 mg), 12-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (3) (2.6 mg), 14-hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (4) (5 mg), 13-hydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (5) (5.3 mg), and 13,14-dihydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatrien-7-one (6) (3.5 mg) were obtained in pure form.

14-Hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatrien-7-one (1): Amorphous

solid; $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{22} = -7.7^{\circ}(c = 0.23, {\rm CHCl_3}); {\rm UV} \ \lambda_{\rm max}^{\rm MoOH} {\rm nm} \ (\log \varepsilon): 221 \ (4.04), 269 \ (3.84), 356 \ (3.39) {\rm nm}; {\rm IR} \ ({\rm film}) \ \nu_{\rm max} \ 3473, 3041, 1635, 1580, 1481, 1351, 1250, 1050, 806 {\rm cm}^{-1}; {\rm ^1H-NMR}, {\rm see} \ {\rm Table} \ 1, {\rm and} \ {\rm ^{13}C-NMR}, {\rm see} \ {\rm Table} \ 2; {\rm EI-MS} \ (70 {\rm eV}) \ ({\rm rel.} \ {\rm int.} \ \%) \ m/z \ 288 \ [{\rm M}]^+ \ (100), 273 \ (46), 255 \ (47), 205 \ (38); {\rm HR-EI-MS} \ m/z \ 288.1726 \ ({\rm M}^+ \ {\rm Calcd} \ {\rm for} \ {\rm C_{18}H_{24}O_3}, 288.1726).$

13-Hydroxy-12-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (2): Yellowish oil; $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{18} = +17.8^{\circ} \ (c=0.40, {\rm CHCl_3}); {\rm IR} \ ({\rm film}) \ v_{\rm max} \ 3456, \ 3035, \ 1619, \ 1507, \ 1255, \ 1195, \ 1049, \ 870 \ {\rm cm^{-1}}; \ ^{1}{\rm H-NMR}, {\rm see} \ {\rm Table} \ 1, {\rm and} \ ^{13}{\rm C-NMR}, {\rm see} \ {\rm Table} \ 2; {\rm EI-MS} \ (70 \ {\rm eV}) \ ({\rm rel.} \ {\rm int.} \ \%) \ m/z \ 274 \ [{\rm M}]^{+} \ (63), \ 259 \ (100), \ 201 \ (26), \ 189 \ (27); {\rm HR-EI-MS} \ m/z \ 274.1934 \ ({\rm M}^{+} \ {\rm Calcd} \ {\rm for} \ {\rm C_{18}H_{26}O_2}, \ 274.1929).$

12-Hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (3): Yellowish oil; $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{15}=+19.2^{\circ}$ (c=0.22, CHCl₃); IR (dry film) $v_{\rm max}$ 3395, 3039, 1621, 1593, 1503, 1275, 1175, 1029, 870 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR, see Table 1, and ¹³C-NMR, see Table 2; EI-MS (70 eV) (rel. int. %) m/z 274 [M]⁺ (58), 259 (100), 189 (42), 177 (40), 163 (47); HR-EI-MS m/z 274.1936 (M⁺ Calcd for $C_{18}H_{26}O_{2}$, 274.1929).

14-Hydroxy-13-methoxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (4): Amorphous solid; $[\alpha]_D^{15} + 20.1^{\circ}$ (c = 0.40, CHCl₃); UV $\lambda_{\max}^{\text{MeOH}}$ nm ($\log \varepsilon$): 278 (3.2); IR (film) v_{\max} 3430, 1610, 1586, 1500, 1202, 1062, 976, 804 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR, see Table 1, and ¹³C-NMR, see Table 2; EI-MS (70 eV) (rel. int. %) m/z 274 [M]⁺ (60), 259 (100), 203 (16), 189 (27); HR-EI-MS m/z 274.1941 (M⁺ Calcd for $C_{18}H_{26}O_{2}$, 274.1929).

13-Hydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatriene (**5**): Colorless needle; mp:125—127 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{21}$ =+16.7° (c=0.43, CHCl₃); IR (film) $v_{\rm max}$ 3390, 3041, 1501, 1222, 1155, 970 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR, see Table 1, and ¹³C-NMR, see Table 2; EI-MS (70 eV) (rel. int. %) m/z 244 [M]⁺ (26), 229 (86), 205 (46), 159 (30), 146 (100), 133 (60); HR-EI-MS m/z 244.1820 (M⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₂₄O, 244.1828).

13,14-Dihydroxy-8,11,13-podocarpatrien-7-one (**6**): Amorphous solid; $[\alpha]_D^{17} = -13.9^{\circ}$ (c=0.21, CHCl₃); UV $\lambda_{\rm max}^{\rm MOH}$ nm (log ε): 211 (4.15), 227 (4.11), 273 (4.07), 360 (3.54) nm; IR (film) $v_{\rm max}$ 3363, 3100—2600, 1626, 1580, 1480, 1250, 1116, 970, 830 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR, see Table 1, and ¹³C-NMR, see Table 2; EI-MS (70 eV) (rel. int. %) m/z 274 [M]⁺ (100), 259 (66), 191 (44), 189 (39), 177 (23), 91 (22); HR-EI-MS m/z 274.1559 (M⁺ Calcd for $C_{17}H_{22}O_3$, 274.1567).

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