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## Antifungal Compounds Isolated from New Zealand Flax: 7-Hydroxy-5-methoxy-6-methylphthalide and 4-Methoxycarbonyl- $\beta$ -orcinol

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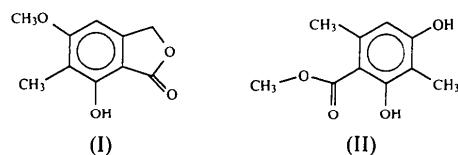
### Abstract

7-Hydroxy-5-methoxy-6-methylphthalide,  $C_{10}H_{10}O_4$ , and the  $\beta$ -orcinol compound methyl 2,4-dihydroxy-3,6-dimethylbenzoate,  $C_{10}H_{12}O_4$ , were obtained from the hexane extracts of air-dried powdered roots of *Phormium cookianum Le Jolis* by column chromatography and repeated recrystallization from hexane/ether solution [Harvey & Waring (1987). *J. Nat. Prod.* **50**, 767–776]. X-ray analysis at low temperature (133 K) showed that crystals of the phthalide contain four independent hydrogen-bonded molecules, each of which has one intramolecular hydrogen bond. The five- and six-membered fused rings are planar with an average interplanar angle of  $1.9^\circ$  for three of the molecules, the rings being coplanar in the fourth, which has a weaker intramolecular hydrogen bond. The structure of methyl 2,4-dihydroxy-3,6-dimethylbenzoate at room temperature has been reported previously [Brehm, Stoeckli-Evans, Tabacchi & Bürgi (1983). *Helv. Chim. Acta*, **66**,

824–827]. The present low-temperature results are in close agreement with the previous results, the few minor differences being attributable to crystal-packing differences around the ester and hydroxyl groups.

### Comment

The two extracts, 7-hydroxy-5-methoxy-6-methylphthalide, (I), and 4-methoxycarbonyl- $\beta$ -orcinol, (II), from a flax plant, were obtained as part of a concerted study to identify the active ingredients used for curing various ills by New Zealand's Maori people. Neither could be identified uniquely by the usual spectroscopic methods [details of their antifungal properties are reported elsewhere (Harvey & Waring, 1987)].



The structure of (I) (Fig. 1) consists of four independent hydrogen-bonded molecules ( $H \cdots O$  2.02–2.29 Å; Table 3). Each of the molecules also has a longer intramolecular hydrogen bond ( $H \cdots O$  2.30–2.69 Å). Comparison of the four molecules confirms the definite planarity of the five- and six-membered rings; the interplanar angles are in the range  $1.8\text{--}2.0^\circ$ , except for that of molecule 2, which has a significantly weaker intramolecular hydrogen bond of distorted geometry resulting in the two fused rings being coplanar.

Small but significant deviations from the phthalide ring planes are observed for the carboxyl O [ $O(n1)$ ] and methyl C atoms [ $C(n10)$  and  $C(n9)$ , where  $n$  is the number of the molecule]. Ranges of equivalent bond

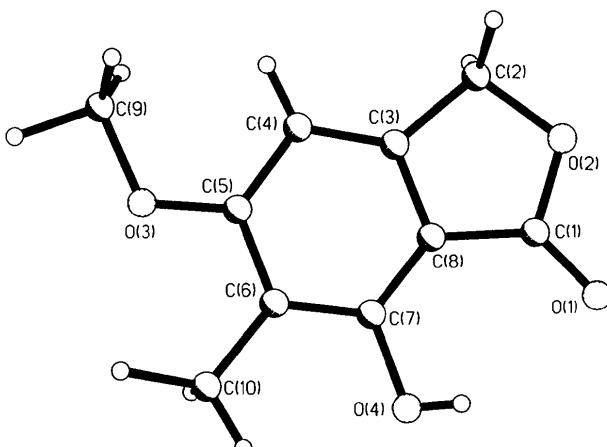


Fig. 1. View of the independent molecule in compound (I) (SHELXTL; Sheldrick, 1990). Atom labels in Tables 1 and 2 are based on those shown with a molecule number prefixed, e.g. C(21) is atom C(1) in molecule 2.

lengths and angles in the four molecules do not differ significantly except for those involving the methylene C atom of the five-membered ring. The average bond lengths and angles are not significantly different from those in the closely related compounds 4,7-dimethoxy-5-methylphthalide (Whalley, Ferguson & Roberts, 1980) and mycophenolic acid (Harrison, Shearer & Trotter, 1972). Similar geometry is also observed in relevant fragments of 8-acetyl-4,5-dihydro-1*H*,3*H*-naphtho[1,2-*c*:4,3-*b*]difuran-1-one (Watanabe, Kawada, Takamoto, Imada & Noguchi, 1984) and australide A (Horak, Steyn, Van Rooyen, Vleggaar & Rabie, 1981). The molecular packing is dominated by the hydrogen bonding between pairs of molecules (1 and 4, 2 and 3) with the mean planes of all molecules, except molecule 4, approximately normal to the *a* axis.

The structure of (II) (Fig. 2) has been described previously (Brehm, Stoeckli-Evans, Tabacchi & Bürgi, 1983). Comparative statistics using  $\chi^2$  sums (Coppens *et al.*, 1987) and *t* tests indicate close agreement between the two studies (identical atom labels have been used). The volume decrease of the unit cell corresponding to the lower temperature of this study ( $27.3 \text{ \AA}^3$ , 3%) is reflected in barely significant packing differences around the ester and hydroxyl groups [O(2) and O(10), respectively], and in a shortening of the intramolecular hydrogen-bond contact distance [H $\cdots$ O 1.66 (4)  $\text{\AA}$ ]. Final positional and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters are given in Table 4.

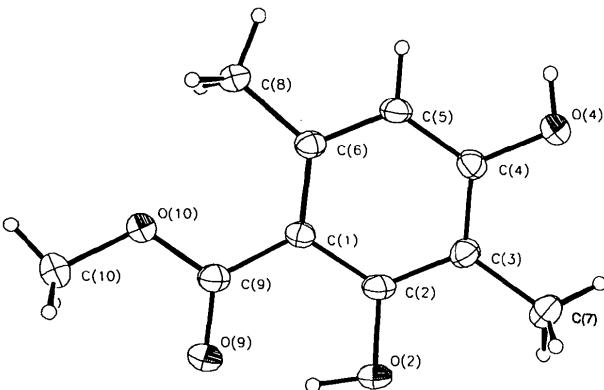


Fig. 2. View of compound (II) (ORTEPII; Johnson, 1976) with 50% probability ellipsoids for non-H atoms.

## Experimental

### Compound (I)

#### Crystal data

$C_{10}H_{10}O_4$   
 $M_r = 194.2$

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$

Triclinic

$P\bar{1}$   
 $a = 6.985 (4) \text{ \AA}$   
 $b = 16.056 (22) \text{ \AA}$   
 $c = 16.566 (17) \text{ \AA}$   
 $\alpha = 81.92 (10)^\circ$   
 $\beta = 85.05 (7)^\circ$   
 $\gamma = 79.34 (8)^\circ$   
 $V = 1804 (3) \text{ \AA}^3$   
 $Z = 8$   
 $D_x = 1.43 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$

Cell parameters from 24

reflections  
 $\theta = 3.5\text{--}13.7^\circ$   
 $\mu = 0.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$   
 $T = 133 \text{ K}$   
Needle  
 $0.50 \times 0.12 \times 0.08 \text{ mm}$   
Light brown

#### Data collection

Nicolet R3m diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
Absorption correction:  
none  
4827 measured reflections  
4665 independent reflections  
1653 observed reflections  
 $[I > 3\sigma(I)]$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0195$

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R(F) = 0.051$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.111$   
 $S = 1.110$   
4665 reflections  
628 parameters  
Only coordinates of H atoms refined

$\theta_{\text{max}} = 22.5^\circ$   
 $h = 0 \rightarrow 8$   
 $k = -18 \rightarrow 18$   
 $l = -18 \rightarrow 18$   
3 standard reflections monitored every 97 reflections  
intensity decay: 2%

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o)^2 + 0.0702P^2]$   
where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_o^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.20$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.26 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.26 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
Atomic scattering factors from International Tables for Crystallography (1992, Vol. C)

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ ) for (I)

	$U_{\text{eq}} = (1/3)\sum_i U_{ij}a_i^*a_j^*\mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}_j$ .			
	$x$	$y$	$z$	$U_{\text{eq}}$
O(11)	0.2639 (11)	0.1136 (5)	0.4837 (5)	0.038 (2)
O(12)	0.2570 (10)	-0.0265 (5)	0.4972 (4)	0.031 (2)
O(13)	0.2723 (11)	-0.0630 (5)	0.8595 (4)	0.034 (2)
O(14)	0.2921 (12)	0.1669 (5)	0.6525 (4)	0.033 (2)
C(11)	0.2666 (17)	0.0464 (7)	0.5289 (7)	0.030 (3)
C(12)	0.2571 (19)	-0.0971 (8)	0.5645 (7)	0.030 (3)
C(13)	0.2660 (15)	-0.0578 (7)	0.6393 (7)	0.023 (3)
C(14)	0.2659 (17)	-0.0926 (7)	0.7206 (7)	0.028 (3)
C(15)	0.2687 (15)	-0.0362 (7)	0.7789 (7)	0.026 (3)
C(16)	0.2827 (16)	0.0514 (7)	0.7562 (8)	0.026 (3)
C(17)	0.2868 (15)	0.0809 (7)	0.6744 (7)	0.027 (3)
C(18)	0.2747 (15)	0.0284 (7)	0.6167 (6)	0.022 (3)
C(19)	0.2590 (24)	-0.1512 (8)	0.8871 (8)	0.052 (5)
C(110)	0.2868 (19)	0.1069 (8)	0.8206 (8)	0.034 (4)
O(21)	0.8158 (11)	-0.6848 (4)	0.9681 (5)	0.038 (2)
O(22)	0.7724 (11)	-0.6417 (4)	1.0925 (5)	0.037 (2)
O(23)	0.6960 (12)	-0.2744 (5)	0.9570 (5)	0.045 (2)
O(24)	0.7989 (14)	-0.5260 (5)	0.8384 (5)	0.044 (3)
C(21)	0.7870 (17)	-0.6263 (7)	1.0103 (8)	0.033 (3)
C(22)	0.7374 (20)	-0.5615 (8)	1.1256 (7)	0.033 (3)
C(23)	0.7367 (16)	-0.4936 (8)	1.0544 (7)	0.029 (3)
C(24)	0.7134 (18)	-0.4071 (8)	1.0490 (8)	0.038 (4)
C(25)	0.7180 (17)	-0.3610 (7)	0.9713 (8)	0.033 (3)
C(26)	0.7435 (16)	-0.3994 (7)	0.9016 (7)	0.028 (3)
C(27)	0.7720 (17)	-0.4888 (7)	0.9068 (7)	0.029 (3)
C(28)	0.7649 (15)	-0.5356 (7)	0.9857 (7)	0.025 (3)
C(29)	0.6786 (21)	-0.2295 (9)	1.0278 (10)	0.051 (4)
C(210)	0.7529 (21)	-0.3482 (9)	0.8177 (9)	0.043 (4)

O(31)	0.8650 (12)	0.3167 (5)	0.7807 (5)	0.042 (2)	<b>Compound (II)</b>
O(32)	0.8289 (11)	0.2858 (4)	0.6547 (4)	0.032 (2)	<i>Crystal data</i>
O(33)	0.7670 (11)	-0.0749 (5)	0.7856 (4)	0.032 (2)	$C_{10}H_{12}O_4$
O(34)	0.8274 (12)	0.1633 (5)	0.9073 (5)	0.034 (2)	$M_r = 196.2$
C(31)	0.8388 (16)	0.2665 (7)	0.7367 (7)	0.028 (3)	Monoclinic
C(32)	0.8017 (18)	0.2092 (8)	0.6203 (7)	0.033 (3)	$P2_1/c$
C(33)	0.7962 (15)	0.1405 (7)	0.6922 (7)	0.025 (3)	$a = 7.043$ (2) Å
C(34)	0.7796 (15)	0.0567 (7)	0.6951 (7)	0.025 (3)	$b = 18.142$ (7) Å
C(35)	0.7814 (16)	0.0097 (7)	0.7719 (7)	0.027 (3)	$c = 7.238$ (2) Å
C(36)	0.7892 (16)	0.0457 (7)	0.8444 (7)	0.027 (3)	$\beta = 96.44$ (2)°
C(37)	0.8108 (16)	0.1285 (7)	0.8371 (7)	0.028 (3)	$V = 918.9$ (4) Å <sup>3</sup>
C(38)	0.8143 (16)	0.1783 (7)	0.7613 (7)	0.027 (3)	$Z = 4$
C(39)	0.7711 (20)	-0.1159 (8)	0.7143 (8)	0.034 (4)	$D_x = 1.42$ Mg m <sup>-3</sup>
C(310)	0.7836 (22)	-0.0076 (9)	0.9275 (8)	0.043 (4)	<i>Data collection</i>
O(41)	0.3620 (10)	0.2834 (5)	0.5080 (4)	0.034 (2)	Nicolet R3m diffractometer
O(42)	0.3932 (10)	0.4219 (5)	0.4867 (4)	0.031 (2)	$\theta_{\max} = 27.5$ °
O(43)	-0.3180 (11)	0.5225 (4)	0.2968 (4)	0.031 (2)	$h = 0 \rightarrow 10$
O(44)	0.0124 (11)	0.2590 (4)	0.4192 (4)	0.030 (2)	$k = 0 \rightarrow 26$
C(41)	0.3015 (7)	0.3574 (8)	0.4771 (6)	0.030 (6)	$l = -11 \rightarrow 11$
C(42)	0.2875 (18)	0.5010 (7)	0.4433 (7)	0.029 (3)	2505 measured reflections
C(43)	0.1230 (16)	0.4750 (6)	0.4092 (6)	0.020 (3)	1415 observed reflections
C(44)	-0.0258 (18)	0.5231 (7)	0.3651 (7)	0.028 (3)	$[I > 3\sigma(I)]$
C(45)	-0.1625 (16)	0.4809 (7)	0.3404 (6)	0.023 (3)	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.0134$
C(46)	-0.1547 (16)	0.3916 (7)	0.3587 (6)	0.019 (3)	
C(47)	0.0029 (17)	0.3459 (6)	0.4026 (6)	0.026 (3)	
C(48)	0.1367 (16)	0.3879 (6)	0.4287 (6)	0.022 (3)	
C(49)	-0.3461 (20)	0.6140 (8)	0.2800 (8)	0.038 (4)	
C(410)	-0.3019 (19)	0.3466 (8)	0.3317 (8)	0.033 (3)	

**Table 2.** Selected geometric parameters (Å) for (I)

O(11)—C(11)	1.222 (12)	O(31)—C(31)	1.207 (12)
O(12)—C(11)	1.363 (12)	O(32)—C(31)	1.354 (12)
O(12)—C(12)	1.474 (12)	O(32)—C(32)	1.475 (14)
O(13)—C(15)	1.345 (12)	O(33)—C(35)	1.367 (12)
O(13)—C(19)	1.443 (14)	O(33)—C(39)	1.427 (14)
O(14)—C(17)	1.384 (13)	O(34)—C(37)	1.382 (13)
C(11)—C(18)	1.447 (14)	C(31)—C(38)	1.454 (14)
C(12)—C(13)	1.48 (2)	C(32)—C(33)	1.508 (14)
C(13)—C(14)	1.383 (14)	C(33)—C(34)	1.37 (2)
C(13)—C(18)	1.392 (14)	C(33)—C(38)	1.39 (2)
C(14)—C(15)	1.418 (14)	C(34)—C(35)	1.384 (14)
C(15)—C(16)	1.423 (14)	C(35)—C(36)	1.41 (2)
C(16)—C(17)	1.37 (2)	C(36)—C(37)	1.353 (14)
C(16)—C(110)	1.49 (2)	C(36)—C(310)	1.52 (2)
C(17)—C(18)	1.378 (14)	C(37)—C(38)	1.392 (14)
O(21)—C(21)	1.226 (12)	O(41)—C(41)	1.237 (12)
O(22)—C(21)	1.348 (13)	O(42)—C(41)	1.349 (12)
O(22)—C(22)	1.441 (12)	O(42)—C(42)	1.470 (12)
O(23)—C(25)	1.359 (12)	O(43)—C(45)	1.370 (12)
O(23)—C(29)	1.45 (2)	O(43)—C(49)	1.435 (13)
O(24)—C(27)	1.337 (13)	O(44)—C(47)	1.374 (11)
C(21)—C(28)	1.440 (14)	C(41)—C(48)	1.43 (2)
C(22)—C(23)	1.49 (2)	C(42)—C(43)	1.47 (2)
C(23)—C(24)	1.36 (2)	C(43)—C(44)	1.373 (14)
C(23)—C(28)	1.384 (14)	C(43)—C(48)	1.378 (14)
C(24)—C(25)	1.39 (2)	C(44)—C(45)	1.387 (14)
C(25)—C(26)	1.37 (2)	C(45)—C(46)	1.414 (13)
C(26)—C(27)	1.40 (2)	C(46)—C(47)	1.404 (14)
C(26)—C(210)	1.52 (2)	C(46)—C(410)	1.49 (2)
C(27)—C(28)	1.415 (14)	C(47)—C(48)	1.378 (14)

**Table 3.** Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °) for (I)

$D-H \cdots A$	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D-H \cdots A$
O(14)—H(O14)…O(11)	2.41 (10)	3.07 (1)	144 (10)
O(24)—H(O24)…O(21)	2.69 (9)	3.09 (1)	118 (10)
O(34)—H(O34)…O(31)	2.41 (9)	3.04 (1)	133 (8)
O(44)—H(O44)…O(41)	2.30 (10)	3.07 (1)	136 (8)
O(14)—H(O14)…O(41)	2.29 (9)	2.88 (1)	136 (10)
O(24)—H(O24)…O(31 <sup>1</sup> )	2.08 (10)	2.77 (1)	163 (11)
O(34)—H(O34)…O(21 <sup>1</sup> )	2.11 (10)	2.75 (1)	134 (8)
O(44)—H(O44)…O(11)	2.02 (8)	2.79 (1)	135 (8)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $x, y - 1, z$ ; (ii)  $x, 1 + y, z$ .**Refinement**

Refinement on $F$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o) + 0.0006(F_o)^2]$
$R = 0.040$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.004$
$wR = 0.052$	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.29$ e Å <sup>-3</sup>
$S = 1.74$	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.21$ e Å <sup>-3</sup>
1415 reflections	Atomic scattering factors
175 parameters	from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV)
All H-atom parameters refined	

**Table 4.** Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (Å<sup>2</sup>) for (II)

	$x$	$y$	$z$	$U_{\text{eq}}$
O(2)	1.3902 (2)	0.1890 (1)	0.2754 (2)	0.029 (1)
O(4)	0.7743 (2)	0.1122 (1)	0.0434 (2)	0.030 (1)
O(9)	1.4613 (2)	0.3265 (1)	0.3094 (2)	0.030 (1)
O(10)	1.2464 (2)	0.4092 (1)	0.1937 (2)	0.028 (1)
C(1)	1.1535 (3)	0.2839 (1)	0.1844 (2)	0.020 (2)
C(2)	1.2092 (3)	0.2087 (1)	0.2074 (2)	0.022 (2)
C(3)	1.0851 (3)	0.1504 (1)	0.1591 (3)	0.022 (2)
C(4)	0.8990 (3)	0.1684 (1)	0.0906 (2)	0.022 (2)
C(5)	0.8384 (3)	0.2416 (1)	0.0715 (3)	0.022 (2)
C(6)	0.9614 (3)	0.2996 (1)	0.1147 (2)	0.021 (2)
C(7)	1.1510 (4)	0.0720 (1)	0.1801 (3)	0.031 (2)
C(8)	0.8781 (3)	0.3760 (1)	0.0870 (3)	0.026 (2)
C(9)	1.2987 (3)	0.3398 (1)	0.2353 (3)	0.023 (2)
C(10)	1.3914 (3)	0.4651 (1)	0.2317 (4)	0.034 (2)

For compound (I), the H atoms were refined with three group isotropic  $U$ 's for hydroxyl protons, methyl protons and ring protons.Data collection, cell refinement and data reduction: *Nicolet R3m Software* (Siemens, 1983). Structure solution: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1985) and *MITHRIL* (Gilmore, 1984). Structure refinement: *SHELX76* (Sheldrick, 1976) and *SHELXL93* (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: *ORTEPII* (Johnson, 1976) and *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1990). Preparation of material for publication: *SHELX76* and *SHELXL93*.

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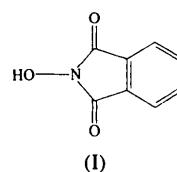
Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H-atom coordinates for (I) and (II), angles for (I) and bond lengths and angles for (II), have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: AS1120). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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## Comment

The title molecule, (I), is planar with a maximum deviation from the molecular plane of 0.03(1) Å and a dihedral angle between the five- and six-membered ring planes of 0.66(7)°. These features are similar to those found in ninhydrin (Medrud, 1969). Our interest is in comparing the geometries of the hydroxamic and amidic groups. Compared with the structure of phthalic anhydride (Bates & Cutler, 1977), the structure of the title compound shows only small differences in bond lengths between chemically equivalent atoms, but the N(1)—C(1)—O(1) [124.6(5)°] and N(1)—C(2)—O(2) [124.9(5)°] bond angles are about 4° larger than the corresponding angles of phthalic anhydride (120.5 and 120.6°, respectively) and are close to the corresponding angles in *N*-phthaloylglycine hydroxamic acid form (I) (123.5 and 124.0°, respectively) and form (II) (123.5 and 124.3°, respectively) (Sikirica & Vickovic, 1980, 1981).



The crystal structure is characterized by intermolecular hydrogen bonds: O(10)…O(1) 2.69(1) Å and O(10)—H(10)…O(1) 167(3)° [symmetry code: (i)  $2-x, \frac{1}{2}+y, \frac{1}{2}-z$ ]. These values are in good agreement with the values for salicylhydroxamic acid (Larsen, 1978), acetohydroxamic acid hemihydrate (Bracher & Small, 1970) and *N*-(3-cyanophenyl)acetohydroxamic acid hydrate (Mochala, Powell & van der Helm, 1984).

The molecular packing is stabilized by hydrogen bonds and van der Waals interactions. In the **b** direction, the molecules are linked into chains by hydrogen bonds.

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## *N*-Hydroxyphthalimide

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## Abstract

The title compound, *N*-hydroxy-1*H*-isoindole-1,3(2*H*)-dione,  $C_8H_5NO_3$ , is virtually planar with a maximum deviation of 0.03(1) Å from planarity. Molecules are connected via hydrogen bonds and van der Waals interactions.

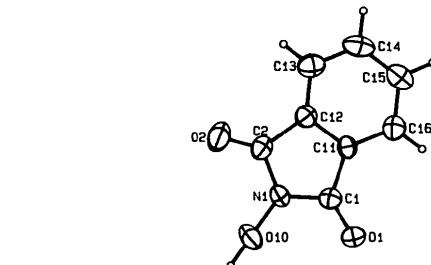


Fig. 1. Molecular structure of the title compound. Displacement ellipsoids are plotted at the 50% probability level.

## Experimental

### Crystal data

$C_8H_5NO_3$   
 $M_r = 163.13$

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å