

## New Taxane Diterpenoids from Taiwanese *Taxus sumatrana*

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Two new taxane diterpenoids, tasumatrols A (1) and B (2), have been isolated from extracts of the leaves and twigs of Taiwanese *Taxus sumatrana*. Tasumatrol A is a rare 5/6/6 taxane system, having a novel  $\gamma$ -lactone at C-10 and C-19. The structures of compounds 1 and 2 were determined on the basis of two dimensional (2D)-NMR techniques, including correlation spectroscopy (COSY),  $^1\text{H}$ -detected heteronuclear multiple quantum coherence (HMQC) and heteronuclear multiple bond connectivity (HMBC) experiments.

**Key words** *Taxus sumatrana*; Taxaceae; taxane diterpenoid; tasumatrol

Several review articles about natural taxoids have been published in recent years.<sup>1–4</sup> A number of new taxoids have been isolated from different *Taxus* species.<sup>5–7</sup> Some of them possess interesting bioactivity as modulators of multidrug-resistant tumor cells.<sup>8</sup> Although more than 400 taxane diterpenoids have been isolated to date, there are still new taxoids awaiting to be discovered. *Taxus sumatrana* (Miq.) de LAUB. (Taxaceae) is a rare plant growing at a high altitude (2600 m) in central Taiwan.<sup>9</sup> In our continuing search for new taxane diterpenoids with novel skeleton,<sup>10–15</sup> we herein report the isolation of two new taxoids along with some known taxoids from the male tree of *T. sumatrana*.

### Results and Discussion

The acetone extract of *T. sumatrana* was fractionated by repeated column chromatography and preparative TLC to furnish tasumatrols A (1) and B (2) in addition to wallifolol,<sup>16</sup> taxumairol V,<sup>15</sup> 7-*epi*-10-deacetyl-10-oxobaccatin V<sup>17</sup> and 10-deacetylbaccatin III,<sup>18</sup> 19-hydroxybaccatin III<sup>18</sup> and 10-deacetyltaxol C.<sup>19</sup> Structures of known compounds were confirmed by comparison of spectral data with literature values.

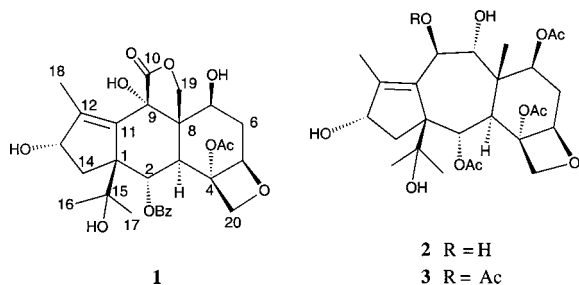
Tasumatrol A (1),  $[\alpha]_D -12^\circ$  (MeOH), had a molecular formula of  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_{11}$  as derived from FAB-MS and distortionless enhancement by polarization transfer (DEPT) spectra. IR indicated the presence of benzoyl ( $1710, 1454, 1370\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), hydroxyl ( $3460\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and acetyl ( $1740\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and  $\gamma$ -lactone ( $1772\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) groups. The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR data of 1 (Table 1) indicated a benzoyl group ( $\delta$  7.98, d,  $J=7.5\text{ Hz}$ ;  $\delta$  7.45, t,  $J=7.5\text{ Hz}$ ;  $\delta$  7.54, t,  $J=7.5\text{ Hz}$ ), an acetyl singlet ( $\delta$  2.18), three methyl singlets ( $\delta$  1.05, 1.23, 2.31), two pairs of coupled doublets at  $\delta$  5.03, 4.95 ( $J=10\text{ Hz}$ , H-19), 4.37 and 4.85 ( $J=8.8\text{ Hz}$ , H-20), and four oxygenated methine protons at  $\delta$

6.19 (d,  $J=11.5\text{ Hz}$ , H-2),  $\delta$  4.76 (d,  $J=7.5\text{ Hz}$ , H-5),  $\delta$  4.47 (m, H-7), and  $\delta$  4.60 (m, H-13). However, the signals of H-9 and H-10 were missing. This finding was supported by the correlation spectroscopy (COSY) spectrum of 1, which showed only the connectivities between H-2/H-3, H-5/H-6/H-7, and H-13/H-14. Analysis of the  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (Table 1) and DEPT spectra revealed that 1 contains four methylene carbons at  $\delta$  35.8 (C-6), 41.1 (C-14), 66.8 (C-19) and 74.3

Table 1.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) Spectral Data of Tasumatrol A (1)

Position	$^{13}\text{C}$ (ppm) <sup>a)</sup>	$^1\text{H}$ <sup>b)</sup>	COSY	HMBC
1	61.4 s			Me16, Me17, H2 H14
2	69.0 d	6.19 (d, 11.5)	H3	H3, H14
3	41.6 d	2.63 (d, 11.5)	H2, H20A	H5, H2, H20 H19
4	80.2 s			H3, H5, H20
5	84.3 d	4.76 (d, 7.5)	H6	H3, H6, H20
6	35.8 t	2.75 m, 1.86 m	H5, H7	
7	69.5 d	4.47 m	H6	H3, H5, H6, H19
8	50.5 s			H3, H6, H19
9	80.4 s			H3
10	177.0 s			H19
11	134.5 s			H13, H14 Me18
12	148.0 s			H13, H14b Me18
13	79.2 d	4.60 m	H14	Me18
14	41.1 t	2.16 m	H13	
15	76.5 s			H14, H2 Me16, Me17
16	26.7 q	1.05 s		Me17
17	26.8 q	1.23 s		Me16
18	14.5 q	2.31 s		
19A	66.8 t	5.03 (d, 10.0)		H3, H7
19B		4.95 (d, 10.0)		
20A	74.3 t	4.37 (d, 8.8)	H20B	
20B		4.85 (d, 8.8)	H20A	
4-OAc	169.7 s	2.18 s		
	20.8 q			
OCOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	164.6 s			H2, <i>o</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>
<i>i</i>	134.5 s			
<i>o</i>	129.5 d	7.98 (d, 7.5)	<i>m</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	<i>p</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> , <i>m</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>
<i>m</i>	128.6 d	7.45 (t, 7.5)	<i>o</i> , <i>p</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	
<i>p</i>	133.4 d	7.54 (t, 7.5)	<i>m</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	<i>o</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>
OH		3.55 (br s), 4.50 (br s)		

a) S=C, D=CH, T=CH<sub>2</sub>, Q=CH<sub>3</sub>. Multiplicities and assignments made by HMQC and HMBC. b) Multiplicities and coupling constants in Hz in parentheses.



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(C-20), and four oxygenated methine carbons at  $\delta$  69.0 (C-2), 84.3 (C-5), 69.5 (C-7) and 79.2 (C-13). Three oxygenated quaternary carbons appeared at  $\delta$  80.2 (C-4), 80.4 (C-9) and 76.5 (C-15). Comparison of the  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra of **1** with those of wallifoliol revealed that they had similar data at C-13, C-20 and from C-1 to C-8, as well as the data of their attached protons. However, the data from C-9 to C-12 and from C-14 to C-19 were quite different. It was suggested that the lactone ring in wallifoliol should be opened in **1**. This result led to a conclusion that one more ring is required to account for the unsaturation degree of 13. In the heteronuclear multiple bond connectivity (HMBC) spectrum, both methyl protons at  $\delta$  1.05 (H-16) and 1.23 (H-17) exhibited cross peaks with each of the carbon signals at  $\delta$  76.5 (C-15) and  $\delta$  61.4 (C-1), which proved that the dimethyl carbinol group is linked to C-1. Moreover, long range correlations among H-19/C-10 and C-19/H-3, H-7, and H-3/C-8, C-9 indicated that compound **1** contains a  $\gamma$ -lactone ring between the C-8 and C-9 positions. Other HMBC correlations (Table 1), such as H-2/C-1, C-15, C-3, H-3/C-2, C-4, C-7, C-20 and Me-18/C-11, C-12, H-19/C-3 and H-6/C-4, C-5, C-7 and H-14/C-1, C-2, C-12, C-15 fully supported the proposed structure of **1** as having a rearranged 5/6/6-membered skeleton with a  $\gamma$ -lactone ring. The benzoyl group was attached to C-2, as evidenced from the HMBC correlation of H-2 ( $\delta$  6.19) with the benzoyl carbonyl signal ( $\delta$  164.6). The relative stereochemistry of **1** was assumed to be the same as that of wallifoliol and 13-*O*-acetyl wallifoliol due to the similar coupling constants and spin pattern in the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra.<sup>20</sup>

Tasumatrol B (**2**),  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -7.6^\circ$  (MeOH), had the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{38}\text{O}_{11}$ , as determined by a combination of low resolution FAB-MS and NMR spectra. Its IR bands indicated the presence of hydroxyl ( $3430\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and acetyl ( $1735$ ,  $1725\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) groups. The presence of hydroxyls and acetoxy groups was verified from the  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectral data of **2**. A taxane skeleton was inferred from the observation of characteristic resonances, such as four methyl singlets ( $\delta$  1.10, 1.04, 1.86, 1.94) and three acetoxy groups ( $\delta$  2.15, 2.06, 2.00). Its COSY spectrum determined the connectivity of H-2/H-3, H-5/H-6/H-7, H-9/H-10, H-13/H-14 in **2**. The signals at  $\delta$  5.81 (H-2) and  $\delta$  5.28 (H-7) suggested that they were connected with acetoxy groups, while signals of  $\delta$  4.20 (H-9), 4.55 (H-10) and  $\delta$  4.54 (H-13) had attached hydroxyl groups. Furthermore, HMBC correlations of H-9/C-19, H-7/C-19 and H-3/C-19, H-2/C-15, H-16/C-1, C-15, Me-17/C-1, C-15 and H-3/C-2, C-4, C-5, C-8, C-19, C-20 confirmed the structure of **2**. Consequently, the NMR data unambiguously assigned the acetoxy groups at C-2 and C-7, and thus the hydroxyl groups at C-9, C-10 and C-13. The relative stereochemistry of **2** was determined by comparison of the chemical shifts and coupling constants of **2** with those of taxumairol W (**3**).<sup>15</sup> The multiplicities and coupling constants of H-2 (d, 7.5 Hz), H-3 (d, 7.5 Hz), H-5 (d, 7.6 Hz), H-7 (t, 8.0 Hz), H-9 (d, 10.0 Hz), H-10 (d, 10.0 Hz) and H-13 (t, overlapped) were in good agreement with those of **3**, suggesting that **2** had the same chirality as **3**.

Among the isolated taxoids, compound **1** is a novel diterpene having a  $\gamma$ -lactone ring at the C-8 and C-9 positions. This is the first report in taxane chemistry. The occurrence of tasumatrols A and B in Taiwanese *T. sumatrana* may be of chemotaxonomic significance.

## Experimental

Optical rotations were measured with a JASCO DIP-1000 polarimeter. IR and UV spectra were recorded with a HORIBA FT-720 and a HITACHI U-3210 spectrophotometer, respectively. FAB-MS were measured with VG Quattro 5022 and JEOL JMS-SX 102 spectrometers.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR, COSY,  $^1\text{H}$ -detected heteronuclear multiple quantum coherence (HMQC), HMBC and nuclear Overhauser effect spectroscopy (NOESY) spectra were recorded using a Bruker FT-300 (AVANCE) or a Varian FT-500 (ANOVA) NMR instrument. HPLC were performed using HITACHI L-6250, intelligent pump HITACHI L-4000H, HITACHI integrator D-7500, Lichrosorb Si-60 and Lichrosorb RP-C<sub>18</sub> column. All chemicals were procured from E. Merck (Germany), and were used without further purification.

**Plant Material** Leaves and twigs with male flowers of *Taxus sumatrana* (Miq.) de LAUB. were collected from Nan-tou County at an altitude of 2600 m in March, 2001. A voucher specimen (TPG 8-5) was deposited in the Institute of Marine Resources, National Sun Yat-sen University.

**Extraction and Isolation** Dried leaves and twigs (7.8 kg) of *Taxus sumatrana* were extracted with 40 l of *n*-hexane to give a crude extract (123 g). This marc was then successively extracted with 40 l of EtOAc, 40 l of acetone and 20 l of MeOH, to give an EtOAc extract (300 g), acetone extract (350 g) and MeOH extract (250 g). The acetone extract (350 g) was chromatographed over LH-20 (MeOH) to give Tax-A (130 g). Further column chromatography over silica gel using *n*-hexane- $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ -MeOH (100:100:1—2:2:1) as an eluent gave seventeen fractions 1—17. Fraction 14 (3 g) was applied on an LH-20 column using MeOH as eluent to give taxumairol V (5 mg), 14A (230 mg) and 14B (313 mg). Fraction 14B was chromatographed on a RP-C<sub>18</sub> column using MeOH-H<sub>2</sub>O (35:65, 45:55, 55:45, 60:40), and further by PTLC (Si gel, *n*-hexane/acetone, 2:1) to afford the known 7-*epi*-10-deacetyl-10-oxobaccatin V (1 mg), 10-deacetyl-baccatin III and wallifoliol, and the new compound **1** (1 mg). Fraction 14A (230 mg) was chromatographed on a RP-C<sub>18</sub> column using MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (3:7) as eluent to give compound **2** (2.5 mg).

Tasumatrol A (**1**): Isolated as an amorphous solid:  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -12^\circ$  ( $c=0.1$ , MeOH); IR (neat)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  3460, 1772, 1740, 1710, 1620, 1454 and  $1370\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): Table 1; FAB-MS  $m/z$ : 559  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , 581  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ .

Tasumatrol B (**2**): Isolated as an amorphous powder:  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -7.6^\circ$  ( $c=0.2$ , MeOH); IR (neat)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  3430, 1735, 1725, 1610, 1425,  $1372\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$ : 5.81 (1H, d,  $J=7.5\text{ Hz}$ , H-2), 3.00 (1H, d,  $J=7.5\text{ Hz}$ , H-3), 4.92 (1H, d,  $J=7.6\text{ Hz}$ , H-5), 2.60 (1H, m, H-6a), 1.85 (1H, m, H-6b), 5.28 (1H, t,  $J=8.0\text{ Hz}$ , H-7), 4.20 (1H, d,  $J=10.0\text{ Hz}$ , H-9), 4.55 (1H, d,  $J=10.0\text{ Hz}$ , H-10), 4.54 (1H, overlap, H-13), 1.52 (1H, m, H-14a), 2.15 (1H, m, H-14b), 1.04 (3H, s, H-16), 1.10 (3H, s, H-17), 1.94 (3H, s, H-18), 1.86 (3H, s, H-19), 4.52 (1H,  $J=7.5\text{ Hz}$ , H-20a), 4.38 (1H, d,  $J=7.5\text{ Hz}$ , H-20b), 2.00, 2.06, 2.15 (s,  $\text{OCOCH}_3$ );  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (125 MHz, acetone- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$ : 68.3 (s, C-1), 69.2 (d, C-2), 45.5 (d, C-3), 80.2 (s, C-4), 85.6 (d, C-5), 37.1 (t, C-6), 70.5 (d, C-7), 43.0 (s, C-8), 78.8 (d, C-9), 69.5 (d, C-10), 138.3 (s, C-11), 147.4 (s, C-12), 77.4 (d, C-13), 38.5 (t, C-14), 76.3 (s, C-15), 25.0 (q, C-16), 28.4 (q, C-17), 11.5 (q, C-18), 12.5 (q, C-19), 75.0 (t, C-20), 170.0, 170.5, 171.6 (s,  $\text{OCOCH}_3$ ), 21.9, 22.0, 22.7 (q,  $\text{OCOCH}_3$ ); FAB-MS  $m/z$ : 527  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , 549  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ .

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