

CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS OF THE AERIAL PART OF *Atractylodes macrocephala*

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Atractylodes macrocephala Koidz., belonging to the Compositae family, is widely distributed in China. It has been used as an important crude drug against stomach diseases, digestive disorders, and anorexia. Previous phytochemical investigations of *A. macrocephala* showed the presence of polyacetylenes, sesquiterpenoids, and sesquiterpene glycosides [1–3]. Most previous study on *A. macrocephala* focused on the rhizomes but not other parts because of traditional customs in the use of this plant. To the best of our knowledge, there have been no reports on the aerial part of *A. macrocephala* extracts and their chemical components. In this studies of the chemical constituents of the aerial part of *A. macrocephala*, nine compounds were isolated and identified. All compounds were obtained from this plant for the first time.

The dried and powdered aerial part of *A. macrocephala* were extracted five times (each extraction period lasted 4 days) with 75% aqueous ethanol solution repeatedly by maceration. The solution was concentrated and partitioned with solvents, starting with petroleum ether, ethyl acetate, and *n*-butanol. Part of the ethyl acetate fraction was subjected to a series of chromatographic techniques, such as silica gel column (200–300 mash), Sephadex LH-20, and PTLC, yielding compounds 1–8.

The compounds were identified using mass and NMR spectra, and all these data were in good agreement with the literature data.

7-Hydroxycoumarin (1). C₉H₆O₃, colorless crystal. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CD₃OD, δ, ppm, J/Hz): 6.15 (1H, d, J = 9.4, H-3), 7.81 (1H, d, J = 9.4, H-4), 6.41 (1H, d, J = 8.5, H-5), 6.77 (1H, dd, J = 2.3, J = 8.5, H-6), 6.68 (1H, d, J = 2.3, H-8). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 150 MHz, δ): 162.28 (C-2), 113.11 (C-3), 144.61 (C-4), 129.22 (C-5), 110.89 (C-6), 161.76 (C-7), 102.00 (C-8), 111.71 (C-4a), 155.82 (C-8a) [4].

2,6-Dimethoxyquinone (2). C₈H₈O₄, yellow powder. ESI-MS *m/z*: 169.32 [M + H]⁺. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 3.82 (6H, s, 2 × OCH₃), 5.86 (2H, s, H-3,5). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 56.46 (2 × OCH₃), 107.40 (C-3, C-5), 157.34 (C-2, 6), 176.65 (C-1), 186.89 (C-4) [5].

Apigenin (3). C₁₅H₁₀O₅, yellow powder. ESI-MS *m/z*: 271.15 [M + H]⁺. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ, ppm, J/Hz): 6.16 (1H, d, J = 2.1, H-6), 6.45 (1H, d, J = 2.1, H-8), 6.74 (1H, s, H-3), 6.89 (2H, dd, J = 2.0, J = 8.8, H-3' and H-5'), 7.89 (2H, dd, J = 2.0, J = 8.8, H-2' and H-6'). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 164.18 (C-2), 104.14 (C-3), 182.18 (C-4), 161.90 (C-5), 99.28 (C-6), 164.59 (C-7), 94.40 (C-8), 161.61 (C-9), 103.28 (C-10), 121.62 (C-1'), 157.75 (C-4'), 128.90 (C-2' and C-6'), 116.40 (C-3' and C-5') [6].

Luteolin (4). C₁₅H₁₀O₆, yellow powder. ESI-MS *m/z*: 287.05 [M + H]⁺. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ, ppm, J/Hz): 6.16 (1H, d, J = 2.0, H-6), 6.42 (1H, d, J = 2.0, H-8), 6.64 (1H, s, H-3), 6.86 (1H, dd, J = 8.3, H-5'), 7.36 (1H, dd, J = 2.1, H-2'), 7.39 (1H, dd, J = 2.2, J = 8.3, H-6'). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 164.34 (C-2), 103.30 (C-3), 182.09 (C-4), 161.90 (C-5), 99.27 (C-6), 164.57 (C-7), 94.29 (C-8), 157.73 (C-9), 104.13 (C-10), 121.94 (C-1'), 150.14 (C-4'), 113.78 (C-2'), 146.172 (C-3'), 116.46 (C-5'), 119.42 (C-6') [7].

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5,7,4'-Trihydroxy-3',5'-dimethoxyflavone (5). C₁₇H₁₄O₇, yellow needles. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ, ppm, J/Hz): 3.86 (6H, s, 2 × OCH₃), 6.17 (1H, d, J = 2.1, H-6), 6.53 (1H, d, J = 2.1, H-8), 6.95 (1H, s, H-3), 7.30 (2H, s, H-2' and H-6'). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 164.10 (C-2), 104.17 (C-3), 182.24 (C-4), 161.85 (C-5), 99.27 (C-6), 164.59 (C-7), 94.64 (C-8), 157.77 (C-9), 104.04 (C-10), 120.85 (C-1'), 140.32 (C-4'), 104.85 (C-2' and C-6'), 148.64 (C-3' and C-5') [8].

Ethyl 3-(4-Hydroxyphenyl)acrylate (6). C₁₁H₁₂O₃, colorless crystal. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CD₃OD, δ, ppm, J/Hz): 1.29 (3H, t, CH₃), 4.19 (2H, q, OCH₂), 6.28 (1H, d, J = 15.6, H-8), 6.79 (2H, dd, J = 8.6, J = 1.8, H-5 and H-3), 7.42 (2H, dd, J = 8.6, J = 1.8, H-6 and H-2), 7.43 (1H, d, J = 15.6, H-7). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CD₃OD, δ): 14.62 (CH₃), 61.39 (OCH₂), 115.35 (C-8), 116.80 (C-3 and C-5), 127.17 (C-1), 131.09 (C-2 and C-6), 146.31 (C-7), 161.19 (C-4), 169.29 (C-9) [9].

Ethyl 3,4-Dihydroxycinnamate (7). C₁₁H₁₂O₄, colorless crystal. ESI-MS *m/z*: 207.14 [M – H][–]. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CD₃OD, δ, ppm, J/Hz): 1.29 (3H, t, CH₃), 4.19 (2H, q, OCH₂), 6.22 (1H, d, J = 16.2, H-8), 6.76 (1H, d, J = 7.8, H-5), 6.91 (1H, dd, J = 7.8, J = 1.8, H-6), 7.02 (1H, d, J = 1.8, H-2), 7.52 (1H, d, J = 16.2, H-7). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CD₃OD, δ): 14.61 (CH₃), 61.40 (OCH₂), 115.11 (C-2), 115.28 (C-5), 116.49 (C-8), 122.87 (C-6), 127.74 (C-1), 146.70 (C-7), 146.77 (C-4), 149.49 (C-3), 169.32 (C-9).

Lupeol (8). C₃₀H₅₀O, white needles. ESI-MS *m/z*: 427.39 [M + H]⁺. Identification of compound **8** was performed by ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR data compared with those reported in [10].

All these compounds were isolated from *A. macrocephala* for the first time.

Phytochemical studies of the aerial part of *A. macrocephala* are continuing.

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