

### Four New Triterpenes from *Anchusa azurea* var. *azurea*

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Four new triterpene glycosides, named oleanazuroside 1 (**1**), oleanazuroside 2 (**2**), ursolazuroside 1 (**3**), and ursolazuroside 2 (**4**), together with the seven known compounds **5**–**11**, were isolated from the MeOH extract of the aerial parts of *Anchusa azurea* MILLER var. *azurea*. Their structures were elucidated by means of spectroscopic evidence (UV, IR, MALDI-MS, and 1D- and 2D-NMR). The radical-scavenging activities against 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) of the BuOH extract and of **8** and **10** were very strong (*Table 5*).

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**Introduction.** – The genus *Anchusa* L. (Boraginaceae) is represented by 15 species in the flora of Turkey [1]. *Anchusa* species are used in folk medicine for wound healing and as a diuretic agent [2][3]. It was found that *A. strigosa* roots, which are used for the treatment of stomach ulcers in Jordan, prevented ulcer formation in an EtOH-induced gastric-ulcer model in rats [4]. Pyrrolizidine alkaloids, flavonoids, triterpene saponins, fatty acids, and phenolic acids were isolated from *Anchusa* species [5–17]. In our previous study on the aerial parts of *A. leptophylla*, flavonol glycosides and triterpene saponins were isolated [18]. In this study, we report the first phytochemical and biological work carried out on *A. azurea* MILLER var. *azurea*, which resulted in the isolation and characterization of four new saponins, oleanazuroside 1 (**1**), oleanazuroside 2 (**2**), ursolazuroside 1 (**3**), and ursolazuroside 2 (**4**), together with the seven known compounds **5**–**11** (*Fig.*). In addition, we tested the various extracts and isolated phenolic compounds for radical-scavenging activity by comparison with ascorbic acid as reference.

**Results and Discussion.** – The MeOH extract of the aerial parts of *A. azurea* var. *azurea* was fractionated with hexane and then BuOH. The BuOH-soluble fraction of the MeOH extract was chromatographed repeatedly on various columns and yielded the eleven compounds **1**–**11** (*Fig.*). Their structures were elucidated as oleanazuroside 1 (**1**), oleanazuroside 2 (**2**), ursolazuroside 1 (**3**), ursolazuroside 2 (**4**), (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,4 $\alpha$ ,19 $\alpha$ )-2,3,19,23-tetrahydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid  $\beta$ -glucopyranosyl ester (= quercilicosid A; **5**) [12][19], kaempferol 3-( $\beta$ -glucopyranoside) (= astragalin; **6**), quercetin 3-( $\beta$ -glucopyranoside) (= isoquercitrin; **7**), quercetin 3-( $\alpha$ -rhamnopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 6)- $\beta$ -glucopyranoside) (= rutin; **8**), kaempferol 3-( $\alpha$ -rhamnopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 6)- $\beta$ -glucopyranoside) (**9**) [20–22], rosmarinic acid (**10**), and 3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)lactic acid

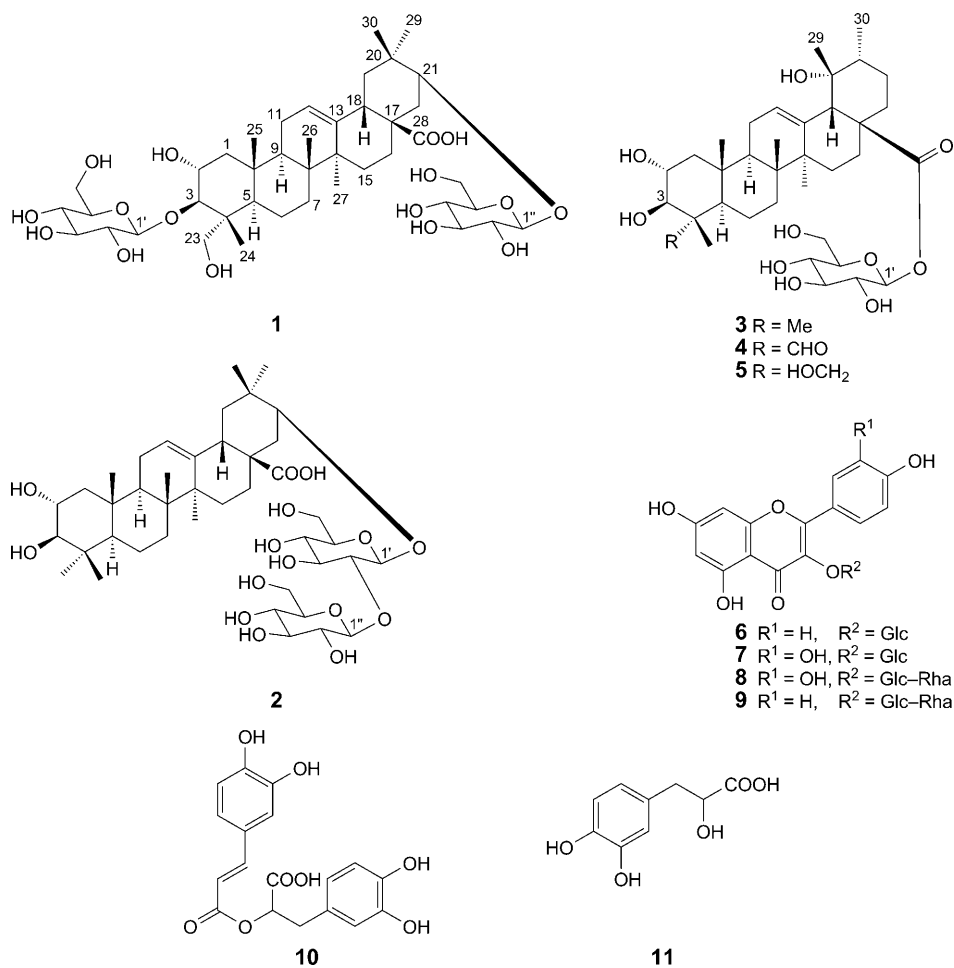


Figure. Compounds **1–11** isolated from *Anchusa azurea* MILLER var. *azurea*

(**11**) [23] by extensive spectroscopic methods including 1D- (<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C) and 2D-NMR (DQF-COSY, HSQC, and HMBC) experiments as well as positive-ion and reflectron-mode MALDI-MS analysis and by comparison of their physical and spectroscopic data with those reported for authentic samples.

The UV spectra of **1–5** showed only an end absorption at 208 nm, indicating the absence of any chromophore. The IR spectra of all compounds **1–5** showed OH group absorption (3400 cm<sup>-1</sup>), a COOH group absorption (1697 cm<sup>-1</sup>) for **1** and **2**, and an ester group absorption (1724 cm<sup>-1</sup>) for **3–5**.

Compounds **1** and **2** were isolated as white amorphous powders. The molecular formulae of **1** and **2** were defined as C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>68</sub>O<sub>16</sub> and C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>70</sub>O<sub>15</sub>, respectively, by positive-ion and reflectron-mode MALDI-MS (sodiated molecular ion [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> at *m/z* 851.4387 and 837.7763, resp.). The <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) of **1**,

which were assigned by various NMR experiments, showed signals assignable to six Me groups (6s, 3 H each, Me(24), Me(25), Me(26), Me(27), Me(29), and Me(30) at  $\delta$  0.68, 1.02, 0.80, 1.18, 1.21, and 0.96, resp.), the olefinic H–C(12) (br. s at  $\delta$  5.27), a CH<sub>2</sub> group (CH<sub>2</sub>(23)), and three CH–O groups (br. s, H–C(2) at  $\delta$  3.66; br. s, H–C(3) at  $\delta$  3.54; *d*, H–C(21) at 3.56), besides two glucopyranosyl units (*d*,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, H–C(1'') at  $\delta$  4.43 and *d*,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, H–C(1') at  $\delta$  4.64). These data also suggested the presence of an oleanolic acid derivative with one of the Me groups replaced by a CH<sub>2</sub>OH function [24]. The coupling constants of the anomeric H-atoms and the <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra of **1** indicated the  $\beta$ -conformation for both glucose moieties. Two *dd* at  $\delta$  3.68 and 3.84 and  $\delta$  3.64 and 3.84 were due to the CH<sub>2</sub>(6') and CH<sub>2</sub>(6'') groups, respectively, of the sugar units. Two *CH*–OH signals appeared at  $\delta$  3.66 (*ddd*,  $J(2\beta,1\alpha) = 11.5$ ,  $J(2\beta,3\alpha) = 9.1$  and  $J(2\beta,1\beta) = 5.5$  Hz) and 3.54 (*d*,  $J = 9.1$  Hz) and were assigned to H–C(2) and H–C(3), respectively [25].

Table 1. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Data (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz) of Compounds **1** and **2**.  $\delta$  in ppm, *J* in Hz.

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
CH <sub>2</sub> (1)	3.31 <sup>a</sup>	3.30 <sup>a</sup>	Me(25)	1.02 ( <i>s</i> )	0.80 ( <i>s</i> )
H–C(2)	3.66 <sup>a</sup>	3.68 <sup>a</sup>	Me(26)	0.80 ( <i>s</i> )	0.80 ( <i>s</i> )
H–C(3)	3.54 <sup>a</sup>	2.90 <sup>a</sup>	Me(27)	1.18 ( <i>s</i> )	1.07 ( <i>s</i> )
H–C(5)	0.88 <sup>a</sup>	0.83 <sup>a</sup>	Me(29)	1.21 ( <i>s</i> )	1.00 ( <i>s</i> )
CH <sub>2</sub> (6)	0.92 <sup>a</sup>	1.04 <sup>a</sup>	Me(30)	0.96 ( <i>s</i> )	0.98 ( <i>s</i> )
CH <sub>2</sub> (7)	<sup>a</sup>	1.28 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(1')	4.64 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 7.7$ )	4.43 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 7.3$ )
H–C(9)	1.69 <sup>a</sup>	1.72 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(2)	3.19–3.24 ( <i>m</i> )	3.52–3.55 ( <i>m</i> )
CH <sub>2</sub> (11)	1.98 <sup>a</sup>	1.94 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(3')	3.33–3.38 ( <i>m</i> )	3.56–3.59 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(12)	5.27 (br. <i>s</i> )	5.26 (br. <i>s</i> )	H–C(4')	3.28–3.33 ( <i>m</i> )	3.22–3.26 ( <i>m</i> )
CH <sub>2</sub> (15)	1.09 <sup>a</sup>	1.18 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(5')	3.30–3.38 ( <i>m</i> )	3.25–3.29 ( <i>m</i> )
CH <sub>2</sub> (16)	1.96 <sup>a</sup>	1.98 <sup>a</sup>	CH <sub>2</sub> (6')	3.68 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12, 5.5$ ),	3.69 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12.0, 5.1$ ),
H–C(18)	2.88 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 10.2, 3.6$ )	2.87 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 10.1, 3.6$ )	H–C(1'')	4.43 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 7.3$ )	4.64 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 7.7$ )
CH <sub>2</sub> (19)	1.37 <sup>a</sup>	1.82 <sup>a</sup> , 1.94 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(2'')	3.20–3.24 ( <i>m</i> )	3.17–3.19 ( <i>m</i> )
H–C(21)	3.56 <sup>a</sup>	3.56 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(3'')	3.50–3.59 ( <i>m</i> )	3.30–3.36 ( <i>m</i> )
CH <sub>2</sub> (22)	1.72 <sup>a</sup>	1.70 <sup>a</sup> , 1.90 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(4'')	3.20–3.24 ( <i>m</i> )	3.27–3.32 ( <i>m</i> )
CH <sub>2</sub> (23)	<sup>a</sup>	0.96 ( <i>s</i> )	H–C(5'')	3.20–3.29 ( <i>m</i> )	3.30–3.39 ( <i>m</i> )
or Me(23)			CH <sub>2</sub> (6'')	3.64 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12, 5.1$ )	3.65 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12, 5.0$ ),
Me(24)	0.68 ( <i>s</i> )	1.15 ( <i>s</i> )		3.84 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12, 2.2$ )	3.82 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12, 2.0$ )

<sup>a</sup>) Signal pattern unclear due to overlapping.

The <sup>13</sup>C-NMR and DEPT-90 spectra of **1** showed resonances for all 42 C-atoms revealing 6 Me, 11 CH<sub>2</sub>, 17 CH, and 8 quaternary C-atoms. They also showed one COOH signal at  $\delta$  179.5, two olefinic C-atoms at  $\delta$  122.6 and 143.2 for C(12) and C(13), eleven CH–O groups at  $\delta$  68.4–83.6 for C(2), C(3), C(21), C(2')–C(5'), and C(2'')–C(5''), three CH<sub>2</sub>–O groups at  $\delta$  61.5, 61.8, and 65.0 for C(6'), C(6''), and C(23), and two anomeric C-atoms at  $\delta$  103.5 and 103.8 for C(1') and C(1''), respectively. Direct one-bond <sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C-connectivities of each protonated C-atom were deduced with the help of HSQC data. The structure of **1** was characterized by an HMBC experiment, in which long-range correlations were observed between the

Table 2.  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Data ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 100 MHz) of Compounds **1** and **2**<sup>a</sup>.  $\delta$  in ppm.

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
$\text{CH}_2(1)$	47.8	47.8	$\text{CH}_2(22)$	39.1	39.2
$\text{CH}(2)$	68.4	68.3	$\text{CH}_2(23)$ or Me(23)	65.0	28.1
$\text{CH}(3)$	80.3	83.2	Me(24)	12.6	15.9
C(4)	42.9	38	Me(25)	16.3	16.2
$\text{CH}(5)$	46.9	55.5	Me(26)	16.5	16.5
$\text{CH}_2(6)$	17.9	18.4	Me(27)	25.1	25.1
$\text{CH}_2(7)$	32.2	32.7	C(28)	179.5	<sup>b</sup> )
C(8)	39.3	39.3	Me(29)	29.9	28.3
$\text{CH}(9)$	47.1	47.1	Me(30)	17.2	17.2
C(10)	37.8	36.4	$\text{CH}(1')$	103.5	103.8
$\text{CH}_2(11)$	23.9	23.4	$\text{CH}(2')$	75.2	80.3
$\text{CH}(12)$	122.6	122.5	$\text{CH}(3')$	76.9	77.2
C(13)	143.2	143.3	$\text{CH}(4')$	70.3	70.6
C(14)	41.8	41.7	$\text{CH}(5')$	76.6	77.1
$\text{CH}_2(15)$	28.3	27.7	$\text{CH}_2(6')$	61.5	61.8
$\text{CH}_2(16)$	23.4	24	$\text{CH}(1'')$	103.8	103.5
C(17)	48.3	48.1	$\text{CH}(2'')$	76.3	75.2
$\text{CH}(18)$	40.8	40.9	$\text{CH}(3'')$	77.2	76.6
$\text{CH}_2(19)$	46.7	46.9	$\text{CH}(4'')$	70.6	70.3
C(20)	36.4	36.4	$\text{CH}(5'')$	77.1	76.3
$\text{CH}(21)$	83.6	83.7	$\text{CH}_2(6'')$	61.8	61.5

<sup>a</sup>) Assignments were based on COSY, HSQC, and HMBC experiments. <sup>b</sup>) Signal pattern unclear due to overlapping.

following H-atom and C-atom pairs: H–C(1') ( $\delta$  4.64 ( $d$ ,  $J = 7.7$  Hz))/C(3) ( $\delta$  80.3) and H–C(1'') ( $\delta$  4.43 ( $d$ ,  $J = 7.3$  Hz))/C(21) ( $\delta$  83.6).

The 1D- and 2D-NMR data of **2** were in agreement with those of **1** (Tables 1 and 2). The only difference between **2** and **1** was the lack of one  $\text{CH}_2$  group and the presence of an additional Me group in **2** (Me(23) at  $\delta(\text{C})$  28.1 and  $\delta(\text{H})$  0.96), besides long-range correlations between these Me H-atoms and C(3), C(4), and C(5). Furthermore, the position of the sugar residues was evident from the HMBC spectra where the anomeric H–C(1') ( $\delta$  4.43) and H–C(1'') ( $\delta$  4.64) exhibited connectivities with C(21) ( $\delta$  83.7) and C(2') ( $\delta$  80.3), respectively.

Assignment of all the  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR data of **1** and **2** was accomplished by further comparisons with those of oleanolic acid (= (3 $\beta$ )-3-hydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid) and its glycosides [26][27], hederagenin (= (3 $\beta$ ,4 $\alpha$ )-3,23-dihydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid), and its glycosides [28][29], caccigenin (= (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,4 $\alpha$ ,21 $\beta$ )-2,3,21,23-tetrahydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid) and its glycosides [8][9][19][30], and arjunolic acid (= (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,4 $\alpha$ )-2,3,23-trihydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid) and arjunglucoside II (= (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,4 $\alpha$ )-2,3,23-trihydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid  $\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyl ester) [31]. The type of aglycone of compounds **1** and **2** was determined as caccigenin. Consequently, the structures of compounds **1** and **2**, which are novel natural products, were concluded to be (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,4 $\alpha$ ,21 $\beta$ )-3,21-bis( $\beta$ -glucopyranosyloxy)-2,23-dihydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid and (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,21 $\beta$ )-21-[( $\beta$ -glucopyranosyl-(1  $\rightarrow$  2)- $\beta$ -glucopyra-

nosyl)oxy]-2,3-dihydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid, respectively. Their trivial names are proposed as oleanazuroside 1 (**1**) and oleanazuroside 2 (**2**).

Saponins **3–5** were obtained as amorphous colorless compounds. Their  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra revealed 36 C-atom signals of which 6 were assigned to a hexose unit and the remaining 30 signals to a triterpenoid skeleton. The aglycones appeared to have ursane-type skeletons according to their NMR spectra (Tables 3 and 4) [26][32]. In the  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum, the signal of C(28) at  $\delta$  177.3, consistent with the IR absorption at  $1724\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , indicated the presence of an ester group. Assignments for all H- and C-atom resonances (Tables 3 and 4) were achieved by COSY, HSQC, and HMBC experiments. The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of **3–5** exhibited resonances for the anomeric H-atom of the sugar moiety at  $\delta$  ca. 5.31 (*d*,  $J = 8.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1 H) which was assigned to the anomeric H-atom of  $\beta$ -glucose. In addition, the shifts observed for the C-atoms of the  $\beta$ -glucose unit, the values of the anomeric C-atom C(1') ( $\delta$  ca. 94.5) were in agreement with a site of glycosylation at the C(28)OOH group. Furthermore, HMBCs between the anomeric H-atoms H–C(1') ( $\delta$  ca. 5.31) and C(28) ( $\delta$  177.3) were found. The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR of **3** showed two CH–O groups at  $\delta$  4.10 and 2.85, assigned to H–C(2) and H–C(3), respectively.

Table 3.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR Data ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 400 MHz) for Compounds **3** and **4**.  $\delta$  in ppm,  $J$  in Hz.

	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
$\text{CH}_2(1)$	3.40 <sup>a</sup> , 3.20 <sup>a</sup>	3.40 <sup>a</sup> , 3.20 <sup>a</sup>	$\text{CH}_2(22)$	1.75 <sup>a</sup>	1.75 <sup>a</sup>
H–C(2)	4.10 <sup>a</sup>	4.10 <sup>a</sup>	Me(23)	1.33 ( <i>s</i> )	9.8 ( <i>s</i> )
H–C(3)	2.85 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 9.5, 3.1$ )	2.85 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 9.5, 3.1$ )	or H–C(23)		
H–C(5)	1.09 <sup>a</sup>	<sup>a</sup>	Me(24)	0.79 ( <i>s</i> )	0.78 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{CH}_2(6)$	1.81 <sup>a</sup>	1.81 <sup>a</sup>	Me(25)	0.96 ( <i>s</i> )	0.93 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{CH}_2(7)$	1.79 <sup>a</sup>	1.79 <sup>a</sup>	Me(26)	1.94 ( <i>s</i> )	1.94 ( <i>s</i> )
H–C(9)	1.70 <sup>a</sup>	1.70 <sup>a</sup>	Me(27)	1.19 ( <i>s</i> )	1.18 ( <i>s</i> )
$\text{CH}_2(11)$	2.01 <sup>a</sup>	2.01 <sup>a</sup>	Me(29)	1.37 ( <i>s</i> )	1.35 ( <i>s</i> )
H–C(12)	5.30 ( <i>br. s</i> )	5.31 ( <i>br. s</i> )	Me(30)	0.92 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 6.5$ )	<sup>a</sup>
$\text{CH}_2(15)$	1.78 <sup>a</sup>	1.78 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(1')	5.31 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 8$ )	5.30 ( <i>d</i> , $J = 8$ )
$\text{CH}_2(16)$	1.21 <sup>a</sup>	1.21 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(2')	3.28–3.32 ( <i>m</i> )	<sup>a</sup>
H–C(18)	2.51 ( <i>s</i> )	2.51 ( <i>s</i> )	H–C(3')	3.30–3.33 ( <i>m</i> )	<sup>a</sup>
H–C(20)	1.33 <sup>a</sup>	1.33 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(4')	3.32–3.37 ( <i>m</i> )	<sup>a</sup>
$\text{CH}_2(21)$	1.21 <sup>a</sup>	1.21 <sup>a</sup>	H–C(5')	3.37–3.43 ( <i>m</i> )	<sup>a</sup>
			$\text{CH}_2(6')$	3.65 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12, 4.3$ ), 3.80 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12, 2.0$ )	3.67 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12, 4.5$ ), 3.77 ( <i>dd</i> , $J = 12, 2.0$ )

<sup>a</sup>) Signal pattern unclear due to overlapping.

Comparison of the NMR spectra of **3** with that of quercilicoside A (= (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,4 $\alpha$ ,19 $\alpha$ )-2,3,19,23-tetrahydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid  $\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyl ester; **5**), the major triterpene isolated from *Quercus laurifolia* previously [33], showed that most of the C-atom resonances (Table 4) were almost superimposable; the only meaningful difference was observed for the C(23) position which was attributed to the presence of a Me(23) group in **3** instead of a  $\text{CH}_2(23)\text{OH}$  group in quercilicoside A (**5**). The  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra of **4** were very similar to those of **3**, except for the replacement of a Me signal by an CHO group. This was consistent with a signal at  $\delta$

Table 4.  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  Data for Compounds **3** and **4** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 100 MHz)<sup>a</sup>).  $\delta$  in ppm.

	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
$\text{CH}_2(1)$	47.1	46.3	C(19)	72.4	72.4
CH(2)	68.2	68.0	CH(20)	41.7	41.7
CH(3)	83.3	81.5	$\text{CH}_2(21)$	28.4	28.4
C(4)	40.0	54.2	$\text{CH}_2(22)$	37.0	37.1
CH(5)	56.5	56.9	Me(23) or CH(23)	23.3	207.4
$\text{CH}_2(6)$	20.3	20.2	Me(24)	16.3	15.4
$\text{CH}_2(7)$	33.2	32.5	Me(25)	14.4	16.3
C(8)	40.0	39.9	Me(26)	15.4	18.8
CH(9)	46.7	46.2	Me(27)	25.9	24.0
C(10)	38.4	38.1	C(28)	177.3	177.3
$\text{CH}_2(11)$	23.7	23.4	Me(29)	23.9	26.0
CH(12)	128.4	128.2	Me(30)	15.4	16.4
C(13)	138.5	138.5	CH(1')	94.6	94.5
C(14)	41.6	41.5	CH(2')	72.7	72.6
$\text{CH}_2(15)$	25.3	29.1	CH(3')	77.3	77.4
$\text{CH}_2(16)$	26.0	25.3	CH(4')	69.9	69.9
C(17)	48.4	<sup>b</sup> )	CH(5')	77.1	77.0
CH(18)	53.8	53.7	$\text{CH}_2(6')$	61.2	61.2

<sup>a</sup>) Assignments were based on COSY, HSQC, and HMBC experiments. <sup>b</sup>) Signal pattern unclear due to overlapping.

207.4 for  $\text{CH}(23)=\text{O}$ . The positive-ion and reflectron-mode MALDI-MS quasi-molecular ions  $[M + \text{H}]^+$  of **3** and **4** gave peaks at  $m/z$  651.4016 for  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{59}\text{O}_{10}^+$  and 665.3812 for  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{57}\text{O}_{11}^+$ , respectively. Thus, compounds **3** and **4** were established as  $(2\alpha,3\beta,19\alpha)$ -2,3,19-trihydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid  $\beta$ -glucopyranosyl ester and  $(2\alpha,3\beta,4\alpha,19\alpha)$ -2,3,19-trihydroxy-23-oxours-12-en-28-oic acid  $\beta$ -glucopyranosyl ester for which the trivial names ursolazuroside 1 and ursolazuroside 2 are proposed, respectively.

DPPH-Radical-scavenging activity of the extracts prepared from *A. azurea* aerial parts and phenolic compounds which were isolated from their BuOH extract are shown in Table 5 (DPPH = 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl). The scavenging activities of the BuOH extract and of **8** and **10** were very strong. Recent research suggests a role for antioxidants in wound healing. *A. azurea* is rich in antioxidant phenolic compounds like flavonoids and phenolic acids. Additionally, oleanolic acid has shown a good wound-healing activity [34]. In summary, these isolated compounds may play a significant role in the ethnobotanical usage of *A. azurea*.

This work was supported by the Research Foundation of Hacettepe University (Grant No: 302301005) of Turkey. The authors thank Prof. Hayri Duman (Gazi University, Dept. of Biology) for authentication of the plant.

Table 5. DPPH-Radical-Scavenging Activities of the Extracts and of Compounds **6–10**

	$IC_{50}^a$ [ $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ]		$IC_{50}^a$ [ $\mu\text{M}$ ]
Hexane extract	–	<b>6</b>	–
BuOH extract	24.42	<b>7</b>	65.93
MeOH extract	–	<b>8</b>	25.92
H <sub>2</sub> O extract	88.65	<b>9</b>	–
		<b>10</b>	24.38
		Ascorbic acid <sup>b</sup> )	12.01

<sup>a</sup>)  $IC_{50}$  values were calculated from regression lines obtained with six different concentrations in triplicate. <sup>b</sup>) Positive control.

### Experimental Part

**General.** DPPH (2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl = 2,2-diphenyl-1-(2,4,6-trinitrophenyl)hydrazinyl) was used for the radical-scavenging-activity test. TLC: precoated silica gel 60  $F_{254}$  aluminium sheets (Merck); detection by UV fluorescence and spraying with 1% vanillin/H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> reagent, followed by heating at 105° for 1–2 min. Column chromatography (CC): silica gel 60 (0.063–0.200 mm; Merck) and Sephadex LH-20 (Fluka). Vacuum liquid chromatography (VLC): reversed-phase Lichroprep RP-18 (25–40  $\mu\text{m}$ ; Merck). Prep. HPLC: Büchi (3 × 45 cm) glass columns packed with LiChroprep C<sub>18</sub> (40–63  $\mu\text{m}$ ; Merck); Dionex-P680 pump. Optical rotation: Rudolph-Research-Analytical-Autopol-IV automatic polarimeter; in MeOH. UV Spectra: Biotek- $\mu$ Quant-MQX200 microplate spectrophotometer; in MeOH;  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) in nm. IR Spectra: Mattson-1000-FT-IR spectrophotometer; KBr pellets;  $\tilde{\nu}$  in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra: Varian-Mercury-plus spectrometer; at 400 (<sup>1</sup>H) and 100 MHz (<sup>13</sup>C) in CD<sub>3</sub>OD;  $\delta$  in ppm rel. to Me<sub>4</sub>Si as internal standard,  $J$  in Hz. HR- (pos.) and MALDI-TOF-MS (reflectron pos., mass resolution 14700): Applied Biosystems Voyager DE<sup>TM</sup>, PRO; in  $m/z$  (rel. %).

**Plant Material.** *Anchusa azurea* MILLER var. *azurea* was collected from Ankara-Beytepe, Turkey on 07/15/2003. A voucher specimen was deposited with the Herbarium of Hacettepe University, Faculty of Pharmacy, Ankara, Turkey, under the number HUEF 03012.

**Extraction and Isolation.** Air-dried and powdered aerial parts (600 g) were extracted with 3 × 3 l of MeOH at 45° for 4 h. The filtered, combined, and concentrated MeOH extract (78 g) was dissolved in dist. H<sub>2</sub>O (150 ml) and partitioned with hexane and BuOH (7 g). The BuOH-soluble fraction of the MeOH extract was subjected to CC (Sephadex LH-20): Fractions A–E. Fr. A (3.6 g) was subjected to reversed-phase prep. HPLC (30–100% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O) and repeatedly to normal-phase CC (SiO<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O 90:10:1, 80:20:2, 70:30:3, and 60:40:4), and CC (Sephadex LH-20, MeOH): **1** (96 mg), **2** (15 mg), **3** (28 mg), **4** (29 mg), **5** (16 mg), and **10** (200 mg). Fr. C (1.2 g) was purified by repeated-reversed-phase VLC (0–100% MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O), normal-phase CC (SiO<sub>2</sub>, AcOEt/MeOH:H<sub>2</sub>O 100:7.5:2.5 and 100:10:5), and CC (Sephadex LH-20): **6** (46 mg), **7** (20 mg), **8** (14 mg), **9** (70 mg), and **11** (5 mg).

**Oleanazuroside 1** (= (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,4 $\alpha$ ,21 $\beta$ )-3,21-Bis( $\beta$ -glucopyranosyloxy)-2,23-dihydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic Acid; **1**): Amorphous colorless powder.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +3.2$  ( $c = 0.5$ , MeOH). IR: 3379, 2921, 1697, 1634, 1078. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: Tables 1 and 2. MALDI-MS (pos. and reflectron mode): 851.4387 ( $[M + Na]^+$ , C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>68</sub>NaO<sub>16</sub>; calc. 851.4405).

**Oleanazuroside 2** (= (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,21 $\beta$ )-21-[(2-O- $\beta$ -Glucopyranosyl- $\beta$ -glucopyranosyl)oxy]-2,3-dihydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic Acid; **2**): Amorphous colorless powder.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -0.8$  ( $c = 0.5$ , MeOH). IR: 3374, 2945, 1699, 1634, 1077. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: Tables 1 and 2. MALDI-MS (pos. and reflectron mode): 837.7763 ( $[M + Na]^+$ , C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>70</sub>NaO<sub>15</sub>; calc. 837.4607).

**Ursolazuroside 1** (= (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,19 $\alpha$ )-2,3,19-Trihydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic Acid  $\beta$ -Glucopyranosyl Ester; **3**): Amorphous colorless powder.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -30$  ( $c = 0.06$ , MeOH). IR: 3391, 2931, 1724, 1462, 1070. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: Tables 3 and 4. MALDI-MS (pos. and reflectron-mode): 651.4016 ( $[M + H]^+$ , C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>59</sub>O<sub>10</sub>; calc. 651.4108).

*Ursolazuroside 2* (= (2 $\alpha$ ,3 $\beta$ ,4 $\alpha$ ,19 $\alpha$ )-2,3,19-Trihydroxy-23-oxours-12-en-28-oic Acid  $\beta$ -Glucopyranosyl Ester; **4**): Amorphous colorless powder.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -10$  ( $c = 0.2$ , MeOH). IR: 3400, 2935, 1735, 1070.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR: Tables 3 and 4. MALDI-MS (pos. and reflectron mode): 665.3812 ( $[M + \text{H}]^+$ ,  $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{57}\text{O}_{11}^+$ ; calc. 665.3901).

*DPPH-Radical-Scavenging Activity.* The DPPH assay was carried out by the method described in [35]. The radical-scavenging effect of the extracts and the isolated compounds **6–10** was assessed spectroscopically by the decoloration of the MeOH soln. of DPPH; ascorbic acid was used as standard. Each MeOH soln. (230  $\mu\text{l}$ ) of the tested compounds at various concentrations (100, 50, 25, 10, 5, and 1  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  for extracts and 200, 100, 50, 25, 10, and 1  $\mu\text{M}$  for substances) was added to the DPPH soln. (50  $\mu\text{l}$ ; 0.022% in MeOH). The mixture was allowed to react for 30 min at r.t. The absorbance of the soln. was read at 517 nm with a spectrophotometer. The radical-scavenging activity was determined by comparing the absorbance with that of a blank (100%) containing only DPPH and solvent. The percentage of radical-scavenging activity (*RSA* [%]) was calculated as follows:  $RSA [\%] = [(A_c - A_t)/A_c] \times 100\%$ , where  $A_c$  is the average absorbance of the control, and  $A_t$  is the absorbance of the test compounds. All the analyses were performed in triplicates.  $IC_{50}$  Values are given in Table 5.

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*Received June 12, 2009*