Three New Chalcones from the Aerial Parts of Angelica keiskei

by Yun-Seo Kil^a), Jaeyoung Kwon^b), Dongho Lee^b), and Eun Kyoung Seo*^a)

^a) Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, Ewha Womans University, Seoul 03760, Korea (phone: +82-2-32773047, fax: +82-2-32773051, e-mail: yuny@ewha.ac.kr)

^b) Department of Biosystems and Biotechnology, College of Life Sciences and Biotechnology, Korea University, Seoul 02841,

Korea

Three new chalcones, 3'-carboxymethyl-4,2'-dihydroxy-4'-methoxychalcone (1), (\pm) -4,2',4'-trihydroxy-3'-[(3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-6-methylenecyclohexyl)methyl]chalcone (2), and 2''-hydroxyangelichalcone (3), were isolated from the aerial parts of *Angelica keiskei* (Umbelliferae) together with five known compounds, artocarmitin A (4), (+)-*cis*-(3'*R*,4'*R*)-methylkhellactone (5), (-)-*trans*-(3'*R*,4'*S*)-methylkhellactone (6), 3,4-dihydroxanthotoxin (7), and (*Z*)-*p*-coumaryl alcohol (8). The known compounds **4** – **8** were identified from *A. keiskei* for the first time. The structures of **1** – **3** were elucidated by interpreting spectroscopic data including 1D- and 2D-NMR.

Keywords: Chalcones, Flavonoids, Phenolic compounds, Angelica keiskei, Umbelliferae.

Introduction

Angelica keiskei (Umbelliferae) is a hardy perennial herb [1], which is native to Japan and now widely cultivated in Korea. The aerial parts and roots of A. keiskei have been used to restore vitality and treat dysuria, dyschezia, and dysgalactia [2]. Chalcone compounds from A. keiskei were reported to have diverse biological activities, such as anticancer [2 - 4], anti-inflammatory [5], antiobesity [6] [7], antidiabetic [8], and antihypertensive [9] effects. In the present phytochemical study, three new chalcones, 3'carboxymethyl-4,2'-dihydroxy-4'-methoxychalcone (1), (\pm) -4,2',4'-trihydroxy-3'-[(3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-6-methylenecyclohexyl)methyl]chalcone (2), and 2"-hydroxyangelichalcone (3), were isolated from the aerial parts of A. keiskei together with five known compounds, artocarmitin A (4) [10], (+)-cis-(3'R,4'R)-methylkhellactone (5) [11], (-)-trans-(3'R, 4'S)-methylkhellactone (6) [11], 3, 4dihydroxanthotoxin (7), and (Z)-p-coumaryl alcohol (8) [12] (Fig. 1).

Results and Discussion

Compound **1** was isolated as a yellow solid and exhibited a protonated molecular ion peak at m/z 329.1020 $([M + H]^+)$ in the HR-ESI-MS, consistent with the molecular formula C₁₈H₁₆O₆. The ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra of **1** (*Tables 1* and 2) showed signals for a chalcone skeleton at δ (H) 7.63 (d, J = 8.8, H–C(2,6))/ δ (C) 131.9 (C(2,6)), 6.85 (d, J = 8.8, H–C(3,5))/117.0 (C(3,5)), 7.67 (d, J = 15.2, H–C(α))/118.7 (C(α)), 7.80 (d, J = 15.2, H–C(β))/ 145.6 (C(β)), 6.64 (d, J = 9.2, H–C(5'))/103.4 (C(5')), 8.03 (d, J = 9.2, H-C(6'))/131.4 (C(6')), and δ (C) 194.2 (C=O) [13]. In the ¹H-NMR spectrum, a CH₂ group was observed as a broad singlet at low field, $\delta(H)$ 3.58 (CH₂(1")). An extra C=O C-atom signal resonated at $\delta(C)$ 179.9 (C(2'')). The ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR signals at $\delta(H)$ 3.90 (s, 3 H)/ $\delta(C)$ 56.3 were assigned as an aromatic MeO group [14]. The CH₂ H-atoms at δ (H) 3.58 exhibited a HMBC correlation with C(2'') (Fig. 2), indicating the presence of a -CH₂COOH group. The connectivity of the -CH₂COOH group to the chalcone skeleton at C(3') was determined by the HMBCs $CH_2(1'')/C(2')$, C(3'), and C(4') (*Fig. 2*). The HMBC cross peak of MeO–C(4')/C(4') and NOE correlation between MeO–C(4') and CH(5') confirmed that the aromatic MeO group is apparent at C(4'). Thus, the structure of 1 was elucidated as a new compound, 3'-carboxymethyl-4,2'-dihydroxy-4'-methoxychalcone.

Compound **2** was obtained as a yellow solid and its molecular formula was determined as $C_{25}H_{28}O_5$ by the HR-ESI-MS analysis (*m*/*z* 409.2008, [*M* + H]⁺). The ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra of **2** (*Tables 1* and 2) exhibited characteristics of the 3'-substituted chalcone, as found for **1** [13]. In its ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra, an oxygenated CH group was observed at δ (H) 3.43 (*dd*, *J* = 8.2, 3.8, H– C(4''))/ δ (C) 77.7 (C(4'')), three CH₂ groups at δ (H) 3.13 (*dd*, *J* = 13.4, 11.3, H_a-C(1'')) and 2.80 (*dd*, *J* = 13.4, 3.7, H_β-C(1''))/ δ (C) 22.1 (C(1'')), 2.52 (*ddd*, *J* = 12.8, 7.2, 5.4, H_{ax}-C(6'')) and 1.93 (*m*, H_{eq}-C(6''))/32.7 (C(6'')), and 1.76 – 1.84 (*m*, H_a-C(5'')) and 1.52 – 1.63 (*m*, H_b-C(5''))/ 32.9 (C(5'')), a CH group at δ (H) 2.57 (*dd*, *J* = 11.3, 3.7, H-C(2''))/ δ (C) 51.4 (C(2'')), and two Me groups at δ (H)



Fig. 1. Structures of compounds 1 - 3 from the aerial part of *A. keiskei*.

Table 1. ¹H-NMR data (400 MHz, CD₃OD) of compounds $1 - 3^{a}$). Atom numbering as indicated in *Fig. 1.* δ in ppm, *J* in Hz.

H-atom	1	2	3
$H-C(\alpha)$	7.67 (d, J = 15.2)	$7.609 \ (d, J = 15.4)$	7.618 (d, J = 15.2)
$H-C(\beta)$	$7.80 \ (d, J = 15.2)$	$7.77 \ (d, J = 15.4)$	$7.80 \ (d, J = 15.2)$
H–C(2,6)	7.63 (d, J = 8.8)	$7.606 \ (d, J = 8.6)$	$7.620 \ (d, J = 8.8)$
H-C(3,5)	6.85 (d, J = 8.8)	$6.84 \ (d, J = 8.6)$	6.84 (d, J = 8.8)
MeO-C(4')	3.90 (s)		
H–C(5′)	$6.64 \ (d, J = 9.2)$	6.38 (d, J = 8.8)	6.38 (d, J = 8.8)
H–C(6')	8.03 (d, J = 9.2)	7.79 (d, J = 8.8)	7.98 (d, J = 8.8)
$CH_2(1'')$	3.58 (br. s)	3.13 (dd , $J = 13.4$, 11.3, H_{α})	$3.30 (d, J = 16.6, H_a)$
- ()		2.80 $(dd, J = 13.4, 3.7, H_B)$	$3.11 (d, J = 16.6, H_b)$
H–C(2'')		2.57 (dd, J = 11.3, 3.7)	
$CH_2(4'')$ or H-C(4'')		3.43 (dd, J = 8.2, 3.8)	$1.93 - 1.96 (m, H_a)$
-			$1.61 - 1.63 (m, H_b)$
$CH_2(5'')$		$1.76 - 1.84 \ (m, H_a)$	$1.94 - 1.98 (m, H_a)$
- ()		$1.52 - 1.63 (m, H_{\rm b})$	1.60 - 1.63 (m, H _b)
CH ₂ (6") or H–C(6")		$2.52 (ddd, J = 12.8, 7.2, 5.4, H_{ax})$	3.37 (br. $d, J = 8.4$)
		$1.89 - 1.96 (m, H_{eq})$	
$CH_2(8'')$ or $Me(8'')$		4.68 (br. s , H _a), 4.59 (br. s , H _b)	0.90(s)
Me(9'')		0.96 (s)	1.15(s)
Me(10'')		1.06(s)	0.98(s)
^a) Me ₄ Si was used as an inter	rnal standard.		

1.06 (s, 3 H)/ δ (C) 27.1 (C(10")) and 0.96 (s, 3 H)/18.2 (C (9")). And resonances at δ (H) 4.68 (br. s, H_a–C(8")) and 4.59 (br. s, H_b–C(8"))/ δ (C) 109.0 (C(8")) were ascribed to the presence of an *exo*-CH₂ group. In the ¹³C-NMR spectrum, two additional quaternary carbons appeared at δ (C) 41.6 (C(3")) and 150.0 (C(7")). The observation suggested the existence of a 3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-6-methylenecy-clohexylmethyl group [15][16]. The COSY correlations of H_α–C(1")/H–C(2"), H_β–C(1")/H–C(2"), H–C(4")/H_b–C(5"), and H_a–C(5")/H_{ax}–C(6") and HMBC cross peaks of H_α–C(1")/C(7"), H–C(2")/C(3"), C(7"), Me(9")/C(2"), C(3"), C(4"), Me(10")/C(2"), C(3"), C(4"), H_{ax}–C(6")/C(2"), C(6"), and H_b–C(8")/C(2"), C(2"), C(6") confirmed the assignments (*Fig. 2*). The 3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-6-methylenecyclohexylmethyl

group was assigned at C(3') by the HMBC correlations of $CH_2(1'')/C(2')$, C(3'), and C(4').

The relative configuration of **2** was determined by the NOESY correlations and coupling constants. The NOESY correlations of $H_a-C(8'')/H_{\alpha}-C(1'')$ and H-C(2'') and $H_b-C(8'')/H_{ax}-C(6'')$ demonstrated that the *exo*-CH₂ group is parallel to the mean plane of the cyclohexane. The ¹H-¹H NOESY spectrum of **2** exhibited important correlations of H–C(2'')/H–C(4'') and H_{ax}–C(6'') (*Fig.* 3), which suggested that H–C(2''), H–C(4''), and H_{ax}–C(6'') are axial H-atoms on the same side of the cyclohexane. And, the NOESY cross peaks of Me(10'')/H–C(2'') and H–C(4'') indicated the same orientation of the Me group (C(10'')) with H–C(2'') and H–C(4'') on the cyclohexane. The axial orientation of H–C(4'') (in other words, the equatorial

Table 2. ¹³C-NMR data (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) of compounds $1 - 3^{a}$). Atom numbering as indicated in *Fig. 1*. δ in ppm.

C-atom	1	2	3
$\overline{C(\alpha)}$	118.7	118.7	118.4
$C(\beta)$	145.6	145.2	145.9
C=O	194.2	193.8	193.9
C(1)	128.0	128.0	127.7
C(2,6)	131.9	131.8	131.9
C(3,5)	117.0	117.0	117.1
C(4)	161.7	161.7	162.1
C(1')	115.9	114.4	115.9
C(2')	164.4	165.8	162.1
C(3')	115.0	117.3	115.5
C(4')	165.3	164.3	168.4
MeO-C(4')	56.3		
C(5′)	103.4	108.4	102.4
C(6')	131.4	130.3	133.6
C(1'')	31.9	22.1	29.8
C(2'')	179.9 ^b)	51.4	100.7
C(3'')	*	41.6	74.5
C(4'')		77.7	36.0
C(5'')		32.9	27.5
C(6'')		32.7	74.8
C(7'')		150.0	45.4
C(8'')		109.0	21.9
C(9'')		18.2	16.7
C(10")		27.1	25.6

^a) Me₄Si was used as an internal standard. ^b) Chemical shifts were estimated by HMBC NMR data.

orientation of OH group) was confirmed by the coupling constant values between H–C(4") and CH₂ H-atoms of C(5") (${}^{3}J_{4"5"} = 8.2$, 3.8 Hz). These actual ${}^{3}J$ values approximately corresponded to the expected ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ value ranges deduced from their dihedral angles, based on the *Karplus* relationship ($\Phi = 170^\circ$, ${}^3J_{\text{HH}} = 9 - 13$ Hz; $\Phi = 53^\circ$, ${}^3J_{\text{HH}} = 2 - 6$ Hz) [17]. However, when the molecular model was drawn with equatorial H-C(4''), the dihedral angles were calculated as 62° and 55° and the splitting pattern of H-C(4'') was expected as a broad triplet not the doublet of doublet as observed in its ¹H-NMR spectrum of 2 [15]. The CH₂ H-atoms at C(1'')showed diastereotopic characteristics and each was assigned as H_{α} -C(1") and H_{β} -C(1") by considering which actual coupling constant value (${}^{3}J_{1''2''} = 11.3$, 3.7 Hz) is adequate to the calculated dihedral angle ($\Phi_{1''2''} = 168$, 53°), respectively [17]. For the overall computational calculations, the molecular modeling program (MM2 of SCI-GRESS) was utilized to build the molecular models of 2. The structure and relative configuration of the substituent in 2 were also confirmed by comparison with those in cordiaquinione L and M, naphthoquinone derivatives containing the same 3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-6-methylenecyclohexyl group [15]. Compound 2 was determined as a racemic mixture with a specific rotation of $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{25} \pm 0$ (c 0.05, MeOH). From a biosynthetic point of view, it is assumed that the 3'-geranylated chalcones of A. keiskei



Fig. 3. Key ¹H, ¹H-NOESY (H \leftrightarrow H) correlations in the energy-minimized structure of **2**.

serve as a precursor of **2** through ring formation at the geranyl group [18][19]. Moreover, the racemic nature of the chalcone compounds of *A. keiskei* [20 – 22] could be biosynthetically correlated with isolation of **2** as the racemic mixture. Therefore, the structure of **2** was elucidated as a new compound, (\pm) -4,2',4'-trihydroxy-3'-[(3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-6-methylenecyclohexyl)methyl]chalcone. The structure shown for **2** in *Fig. 1* is one of the two possible representations with the relative configuration.

Compound 3 was isolated as a yellow solid. Its molecular formula was established as C25H28O6 by the HR-ESI-MS $(m/z \ 425.1964 \ ([M + H]^+))$. The ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra of **3** (*Tables 1* and 2) also showed the typical signals for the 3'-substituted chalcone as those of 1 and 2 [13]. Three CH₂ group appeared at $\delta(H)$ 3.30 (d, $J = 16.6, H_a - C(1'')$ and 2.80 (d, $J = 16.6, H_b - C(1''))/\delta(C)$ 29.1 (C(1'')), 1.93 - 1.96 (m, $H_a - C(4'')$) and 1.61 - 1.63 $(m, H_b-C(4''))/36.0$ (C(4'')), and 1.94 - 1.98 (m, H_a-C (5'')) and 1.60 – 1.63 (*m*, H_b–C(5''))/27.5 (C(5'')), a CH group at $\delta(H)$ 3.37 (br. $d, J = 8.4, H-C(6''))/\delta(C)$ 74.8 (C (6")), and three Me groups at $\delta(H) 0.90 (s, 3H)/\delta(C) 21.9$ (C(8")), 1.15 (s, 3H)/16.7 (C(9")), and 0.98 (s, 3H)/25.6 (C(10'')). These ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR signals were comparable with those reported for angelichalcone, except for the absence of the H-atom signal corresponded to C(2'') [7] [23]. Instead, a quaternary C-atom signal was observed at $\delta(C)$ 100.7 (C(2'')), which indicated the presence of a OH group at C(2'') in 3. The unambiguous assignments of all of the ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR signals of **3** were allowed by further detailed analysis of ¹H,¹H-COSY, ¹H,¹H-NOESY, ¹H,¹³C-HSQC, and ¹H,¹³C-HMBC data (Fig. 2). Thus, the structure of 3 was elucidated as a new compound, 2''hydroxyangelichalcone.

A result of a chiral HPLC-UV separation of **3** (column: ChiralPak IB, 250×4.6 mm; mobile phase: *n*-hexane/EtOH, 4:1, v/v; flow rate: 1 ml/min; detection: UV 365 nm) exhibited mainly two signals, indicating presence of a mixture of stereoisomers. Compound **3** is not a racemic mixture according to its specific rotation, $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -54$ (c = 0.1, MeOH). However, the stereoisomers in **3** could not be each purified and identified for lack of amount.

Compounds 4-8 were identified from this plant for the first time. Furthermore, **7** was reported only as the biological metabolite of xanthotoxin [24] and the synthetic intermediate of furocoumarin derivatives [25][26] without any available spectroscopic data. For determination of the absolute configurations at C(3') and C(4') of **5** and **6**, their CD data were compared to literature values reported for (+)-*cis*-(3'*R*,4'*R*)-khellactone and (-)-*trans*-(3'*R*,4'*S*)-khellactone, respectively [27].

This research was supported by the *Basic Science Re*search Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) funded by the Korea Government (MSIP) (NRF-2013R1A2A2A01067336).

Experimental Part

General

Thin-layer chromatography (TLC): silica gel 60 F_{254} (SiO₂) and RP-18 F_{254s} SiO₂ plates (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany); spot observation under UV light and visualization by spraying with 10% aq. H₂SO₄ soln., followed by heating at 120 °C for 5 min. Column chromatography (CC): SiO₂ (230 – 400 mesh; Merck), YMC Gel ODS-A (12 nm, S-150 µm; YMC, Kyoto, Japan), and Sephadex LH-20 (GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences AB, Uppsala, Sweden). Optical rotations: JASCO P-1010 polarimeter. UV Spectra: *Hitachi U-3000* spectrophotometer; λ_{max} (log ε) in nm. Circular dichroism (CD) spectra: Jasco J-810 CD-ORD spectropolarimeter (Tokyo, Japan); λ_{max} ($\Delta \varepsilon$) in nm. 1D- and 2D-NMR spectra: Varian Unity INOVA 400 MHz FT-NMR instrument (Varian Inc., Palo Alto, CA, USA); δ in ppm rel. to Me₄Si as internal standard, J in Hz. MS: Waters ACQUITY UPLC system coupled to a Micromass O-Tof Micro mass spectrometer (Waters Cooperation, Milford, MA, USA) and Agilent 6220 Accurate-Mass TOF LC/MS system (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA); in m/z.

Plant Material

The aerial parts of *A. keiskei* were purchased from the Chodamchae in Seoul, Korea and identified by Prof. *Je-Hyun Lee* (College of Oriental Medicine, Dongguk University). A voucher specimen (No. EA327) has been deposited at the Natural Product Chemistry Laboratory, College of Pharmacy, Ewha Womans University.

Extraction and Isolation

The aerial parts of A. keiskei (8 kg) were extracted with MeOH $(2 \times 12 \text{ l})$ overnight at room temperature. The solvent was evaporated in vacuo, affording a conc. MeOH extract (2.5 kg). This extract was suspended in MeOH/ H_2O (19:1, 4 l) mixture and then fractionated with hexanes $(5 \times 4 l)$. The conc. MeOH/H₂O-soluble fraction was suspended in dist. H₂O and partitioned with AcOEt $(5 \times 4 l)$. The AcOEt extract (142 g) was chromatographed over CC (SiO₂; hexanes/AcOEt 99:1 \rightarrow 1:1, AcOEt/MeOH 1:0 \rightarrow 0:1): Fractions 1 – 16. Fr. 11 (14 g) was subjected to CC (SiO₂; CHCl₃/MeOH 199:1 \rightarrow 4:1): Frs. 11.01 - 11.16. Fr. 11.12 (9 g) was chromatographed CC (ODS-A; MeOH/H₂O 2:3 \rightarrow 4:1): Frs. over 11.12.01 – 11.12.22. Fr. 11.12.08 (625 mg) was purified by CC (ODS-A; MeOH/H₂O 1:1 \rightarrow 3:2) to yield 5 (0.7 mg) and 6 (0.6 mg). Fr. 11.15 (1 g) was separated by CC $(ODS-A; MeOH/H_2O 1:1 \rightarrow 7:3): Frs. 11.15.01 - 11.15.15.$ Fr. 11.15.01 (4 mg) was purified by Sephadex LH-20 with 100% MeOH, affording 8 (0.5 mg). Fr. 13 (3 g) was subjected to CC (SiO₂; CHCl₃/acetone 49:1 \rightarrow 4:1): Frs.

13.01 – 13.21. Fr. 13.20 (528 mg) was chromatographed over CC (ODS-A; MeOH/H₂O 9:11 \rightarrow 4:1): Frs. 13.20.01 - 13.20.22. Fr. 13.20.12 (69.9 mg) was purified by Sephadex LH-20 with 100% MeOH to afford 3 (0.7 mg) and 4 (0.4 mg). Fr. 15 (25 g) was subjected to CC (SiO₂; CHCl₃/MeOH 99:1 \rightarrow 9:1 CHCl₃/MeOH/H₂O $90:10:1 \rightarrow 15:10:2$): Frs. 15.01 – 15.12. Fr. 15.06 (3 g) was chromatographed over CC (ODS-A; MeOH/water $1:1 \rightarrow 9:1$): Frs. 15.06.01 – 15.06.17. Fr. 15.06.09 (11 mg) was separated by Sephadex LH-20 with 100% MeOH to obtain 2 (0.5 mg). Fr. 15.08 (820 mg) subjected to CC $(ODS-A; MeOH/H_2O 2:3 \rightarrow 9:1): Frs. 15.08.01 - 15.08.24.$ 7 (0.5 mg) was separated from Fr. 15.08.06 (14 mg) by CC (Sephadex LH-20; 100% MeOH). Fr. 15.12 (9 g) was chromatographed over CC (ODS-A; MeOH/water $2:3 \rightarrow 4:1$): Frs. 15.12.01 – 15.12.21. Fr. 15.12.10 (60 mg) was purified by Sephadex LH-20 with 100% MeOH affording 1 (0.7 mg).

{2-Hydroxy-3-[(2*E***)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)prop-2-enoyl]-6methoxyphenyl}acetic Acid (1).** Yellow amorphous solid. UV (MeOH): 365 (4.04). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see *Tables 1* and 2. HR-ESI-MS: 329.1020 ($[M+H]^+$, $C_{18}H_{17}O_6^+$; calc. 329.1020).

(±)-(2*E*)-1-{2,4-Dihydroxy-3-[(3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-6methylidenecyclohexyl)methyl]phenyl}-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl) prop-2-en-1-one (2). Yellow amorphous solid. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = \pm 0$ (*c* = 0.05, MeOH). UV (MeOH): 368 (4.31). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see *Tables 1* and 2. HR-ESI-MS: 409.2008 ([*M*+H]⁺, C₂₅H₂₉O₅⁺; calc. 409.2010).

2"-Hydroxyangelichalcone (= (2*E*)-1-(2,3,4,4a,9,9a-Hexahydro-2,8,9a-trihydroxy-1,1,4a-trimethyl-1*H*-xanthen-5-yl)-**3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-prop-2-en-1-one**; **3**). Yellow amorphous solid. [α]_D²⁵ = -54 (*c* = 0.1, MeOH). UV (MeOH): 369 (4.29). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see *Tables 1* and 2. HR-ESI-MS: 425.1964 ([*M*+H]⁺, C₂₅H₂₉O₆⁺; calc. 425.1959).

3,4-Dihydroxanthotoxin (= **5,6-Dihydro-9-methoxy-7***H***-furo [3,2-g][1]benzopyran-7-one**; **7**). Colorless amorphous solid. UV (MeOH): 282 (3.08), 250 (3.36). ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD): 7.55 (d, J = 2.2, H-C(2')); 7.02 (s, H-C(5)); 6.65 (d, J = 2.2, H-C(3')); 4.05 (s, MeO-C(8)); 2.94 ($t, J = 7.4, CH_2(4)$); 2.53 ($t, J = 7.4, CH_2(3)$). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD): 182.9 (C(2)); 147.0 (C(7)); 145.5 (C(9)); 144.9 (C(2')); 134.2 (C(8)); 128.1 (C(10)); 122.7 (C(6)); 116.0 (C (5)); 107.6 (C(3')); 61.0 (*MeO-C(8)*); 39.6 (C(3)); 28.4 (C (4)). HR-ESI-MS: 219.0650 ([*M*+H]⁺, C₁₂H₁₁O⁺₄; calc. 219.0652).

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Received December 7, 2015 Accepted February 24, 2016