NOTE

IDENTIFICATION OF ILICICOLINS WITH ASCOCHLORIN AND LL-Z 1272

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(Received for publication February 2, 1972)

The ARIMA group¹⁾ isolated an antibiotic, ascochlorin, from the filter cake of the fermented broth of Ascochyta viciae LIBERT in 1968, and elucidated its structure as the formula (III) by X-ray analysis²⁾. On the other hand, the Lederle group³⁾ isolated antibiotics, LL-Z 1272 $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \epsilon$ and ζ from an unclassified Fusarium species designated LL-Z 1272 and indicated their absolute stereostructures to be as I,II,III,IV,V, and VI, respectively, by chemical degradation and physicochemical data. Although there have been no idirect comparisons, LL-Z 1272 γ is identical* with ascochlorin.

Moreover, cylindrochlorin⁴⁾ was isolated from the mycelium of Cylindrocladium sp. by the ARIMA group, and it appears that cylindrochlorin is identical** with the base product (VII) which has already been obtained from LL-Z 1272 ζ by the Lederle group³⁾. In the previous paper⁵⁾, we have also isolated eight antibiotics, ilicicolins A, B,C,D,E,F,G, and H from Cylindrocladium ilicicola strain MFC-870. It was indicated that ilicicolins D and E appear to be most closely related to but are not identical with ascochlorin and cylindrochlorin, respectively, by comparisons of physical data and from the ARIMA's result¹⁾ that ascochlorin was obtained in two forms (α - and β -form) by TLC on silica gel.

After our paper appeared, ANDO⁶⁾, one of the members of the ARIMA group, informed us that ilicicolin D might be identical with ascochlorin and that the β -form of ascochlorin was not an isomer of ascochlorin but hydroxy-ascochlorin on reexamination of ascochlorin. So, we carried out identification*** of both compounds, and confirmed that ilicicolin D was identical with ascochlorin (III) by comparisons of IR, NMR, TLC and by mixed melting point determination.

Furthermore, when ilicicolin E was hydrogenated with 5 % palladized barium carbonate in ethanol, it afforded ilicicolin D (III), m.p. 168~171°C, $[\alpha]_D - 46.8°$. In the NMR spectrum, ilicicolin E showed two vinyl protons at $\tau 4.03$ (d.-d., J=10.3 and 3.0 Hz) and $\tau 3.45$ (d.-d., J=10.3 and 1.9 Hz) in addition to signals corresponding to these of ilicicolin D. As this J-value (10.3 Hz) indicates a *cis*-orientation of the two vinyl protons on a disubstituted double bond, ilicicolin E must be represented by the formula VII, and is identical with the base product obtained by the Lederle group and may be identical with cylindrochlorin****.

Ilicicolin F was easily converted into ilicicolin E (VII) by TLC on silica gel (solvent system : benzene - ethyl acetate, 7:1) with the elimination of a β -acetoxy group to a carbonyl group to give an α,β unsaturated ketone, although the Lederle group obtained VII on mild base treatment of LL-Z 1272 ζ (VI). From this result and comparisons of physical data, ilicicolin F is identical with LL-Z 1272 ζ (VI).

Moreover, ilicicolins A,C, and D have directly been compared with Lederle's LL-Z 1272 α , δ , and γ and it has been confirmed by Dr.KUNSTMANN^{*****} that ilicicolin A is identical with LL-Z 1272 α , C with δ , and D with γ .

^{*} Dr. M. KUNSTMANN'S private communication. (Lederle Laboratory).

^{**} Dr. M. KUNSTMANN also privately informed us that cylindrochlorin appears to be identical with the base product (VII).

^{***} The authors express their deep gratitude to Dr. K. ANDO (Research Laboratories, Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.) for providing us the authentic sample of ascochlorin. **** see above footnote**

^{*****} The authors are very indebted to Dr. KUNSTMANN for his kindness and generosity in identification of these compounds.





(V): R = H

Therefore, the terms of ilicicolins A,B,C, D,E, and F must be removed from the literature. Structural confirmation of ilicicolins G and H is now under investigation in our laboratory.

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