A New Antimicrobial Antibiotic from Actinoplanes capillaceus sp. K95-5561^T

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In our ongoing search for novel biologically active metabolites from rare actinomycetes, an antibiotic 2-hydroxyethyl-3-methyl-1,4-naphthoquinone (1, Fig. 1) was isolated from a new species named *Actinoplanes capillaceus*. This is the first report that 1 was isolated from natural source. Herein, we report the fermentation, isolation and biological activity of 1.

Materials and Methods

A Medium of Culturing K95-5561^T

The culture medium contained 2.4% starch, 0.1% glucose, 0.3% peptone, 0.3% meat extract, 0.5% yeast extract and 0.4% $CaCO_3$ (pH 7.0 before sterilization).

Spectroscopic Studies

UV spectrum was recorded on a Hitachi U-2000 spectrophotometer. IR spectrum was recorded on a Horiba FT-210 FT-IR spectrometer. FAB-MS spectra were recorded on JMS-DX300 and JMS-AX505 HA mass spectrometers. NMR spectra were obtained on a Varian UNITY INOVA 600 MHz NMR Spectrometer Systems.

Antimicrobial Activity¹⁾

Antimicrobiral activity was tested using 14 species of microorganisms. Six mm paper discs containing $10 \,\mu g$ of sample were placed upon seeded agar plates which were incubated for $24 \sim 48$ hours at 27° C or 37° C. Then antimicrobial activity was determined by the diameter of inhibitory zone.

Results and Discussion

A motile actinomycete strain K95-5561^T was isolated from a soil sample collected in Sayama City, Saitama, Japan by the chemotactic methods using xylose²⁾. The strain produced bell shaped sporangia with hairy surfaces, which released motile spores. It contained meso- and 3-hydroxy-DAP, galactose, arabinose and xylose in the whole-cell hydrolysates, and contained MK-9(H₄) as a predominant menaquinone, and MK-9(H₆) and MK- $10(H_4)$ as minor components. Based on these taxonomic properties, strain K95-5561^T was considered to belong to the genus Actinoplanes, and was classified as a new species named Actinoplanes capillaceus. This strain has been deposited at Japan Collection of Microorganisms and the Institute for Fermentation, Osaka under accession number 10268^{T} and 16408^{T} , respectively. Detailed taxonomic study of the strain K95-5561^T will be reported elsewhere³).

A stock culture of the producing organism was inoculated into two 500-ml Erlenmeyer flasks containing 100 ml of culturing medium. The flasks were incubated at 27°C for 72 hours on a rotary shaker (210 rpm). Then, 5 ml portions of the growth were transferred into thirty 500-ml Erlenmeyer flasks containing 100 ml of the same medium. The flasks were incubated at 27°C for 72 hours on a rotary shaker, and 3 liters of the resulting culture was transferred into a 90-liter jar fermentor containing 60 liters of the same medium as described above. The fermentation was carried out at 27°C for 6 days using an agitation rate of 210 rpm and an aeration rate of 60 liters per minute.

The fermentation broth of *Actinoplanes capillaceus* K95-5561^T (60 liters) was extracted with the same volume of EtOAc, and the EtOAc layer was dried up *in vacuo* to yield a brown oil (7.4 g). This brown oil was subjected to a silica

Fig. 1. Structure of 1.

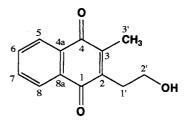


Table 1. Physico-chemical properties of 1.

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Appearance	Orange-yellow plate
Melting point (°C)	115-118
Molecular formula	$C_{13}H_{12}O_3$
Molecular weight	217 (M+H) ⁺ , 239 (M+Na) ⁺
HR FAB-MS (m/z)	Found 217.0878 (C ₁₃ H ₁₃ O ₃)
	Calcd. 217.0865
UV λ_{max} nm (log ϵ) (MeOH)	205 (4.05), 246 (4.13), 263 (4.06), 333 (3.38)
IR v_{max} (MeOH) cm ⁻¹	3321, 1660
¹ H NMR (600 MHz)	δ 8.09 (2H, m, 5-H, 6-H), 7.71 (2H, m, 6-H, 7-H),
(δ from TMS in CDCl ₃)	3.85 (2H, t, <i>J</i> =6.3, 2-H ₂), 2.97 (2H, t, <i>J</i> =6.3, 1'-
	H ₂), 2.25 (3H, s, 3'-H ₃)
¹³ C NMR (125 MHz)	δ 185.51 (C-1), 184.99 (C-4), 145.15 (C-3), 143.82
(ð from TMS in CDCl ₃)	(C-2), 133.55 (C-7), 133.44 (C-6), 132.18 (C-8a),
	132.03 (C-4a), 126.36 (C-8), 126.34 (C-5), 61.55
	(C-2'), 30.62 (C-1'), 12.96 (C-3')

Table 2. Antimicrobial spectrum of 1.

	Test organisms	Diameter of inhibition zone (mm)
	Bacillus subtilis	9 11
	Staphylococcus aureus	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Micrococcus luteus	-
	Mycobacterium smegmatis	
	Escherichia coli	12
	Pseudomonas aeruginosa	~
	Xanthomonas campestris pv.oryzae	-
	Bacteroides fragilis	~
	Acholeplasma laidlawii	-
	Pyricularia oryzae	-
	Aspergillus niger	· _
	Mucor racemosus	-
	Candida albicans	-
	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	12
	-	

Samples (10 μ g) were applied on 6 mm paper discs. Values are diameters (mm) of inhibitory zones.

gel column (70 \sim 240 mesh) using CHCl₃-acetone-EtOAc as the developing solvent. The fractions eluted with CHCl₃acetone (9:1) were rechromatographed on a silica gel column (230 \sim 400 mesh) with CHCl₃-MeOH (100:1). Final isolation was performed using a preparative HPLC (Senshu Pak Pegasil-B ODS, i.d. 20×250 mm; detection, UV at 210 nm; flow rate, 7 ml/minute; solvent system, $CH_3CN - H_2O$, 40:60 v/v) to afford pure orange-yellow plates of 1 (3.0 mg).

Physico-chemical properties of 1 are summarized in Table 1. These data were well consistent with that of synthetic compound, 2-hydroxyethyl-3-methyl-1,4naphthoquinone, a intramolecular benzannulation product of siloxycarbene complex³. This is the first report that 1 was produced by a microorganism. To date no biological activities has been reported for **1**.

Some naphthoquinone derivatives possess antimicrobial activities to Gram-positive bacteria, such as deoxylapachol⁴⁾ and alnumycin⁵⁾. Compound **1** showed antimicrobial activity on *Bacillus subtilis*, *Escherichia coli*, and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* as shown in Table 2. Detailed investigations on other biological activities are now underway.

Acknowledgments

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