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AJUREPTOSIDE, A NOVEL C₉ IRIDOID GLUCOSIDE
FROM *AJUGA REPTANS*

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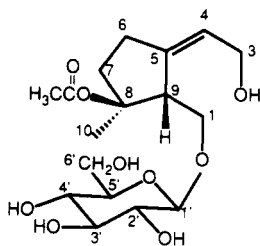
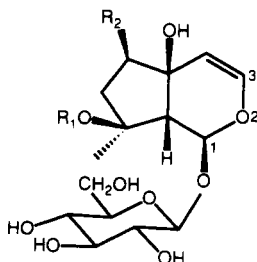
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ABSTRACT.—A novel C₉ iridooid glucoside, named ajureptoside [**1**], has been isolated from *Ajuga reptans* (Labiatae) and characterized on the basis of spectroscopic data.

Ajuga reptans L. (Labiatae), indigenous to Europe, is cultivated world-wide as a ground cover plant. Our phytochemical interest in the species led to isolation of a novel C₉ iridooid glucoside, named ajureptoside [**1**], along with three known analogues, reptoside [**2**] (1), harpagide [**3**] (2), and 8-acetylharpagide [**4**] (3). This paper deals with the structural elucidation of compound **1**.

Compound **1**, amorphous, $[\alpha]^{25}_D -14.17^\circ$ ($c = 4.4$, MeOH), was obtained in a yield of 0.007%. The ir spectrum showed a carbonyl band at 1710 cm^{-1} . The uv spectrum displayed only end absorption. The empirical formula of C₁₇H₂₈O₉, established by the $[M +$

Na]⁺ peak at m/z 399 in the fabms spectrum, differs from that of compound **2** (C₁₇H₂₆O₁₀) by two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom. The ¹H- and ¹³C-nmr spectra of compound **1** showed one tertiary methyl (δ 1.74, 3H, s; δ 20.1), one acetyl (δ 1.90, 3H, s; δ 22.1 and 170.7), and one double bond (δ 5.91, 1H, t; δ 125.8 and 143.9) as in compound **2**. These values suggested that compound **1** must be a monocyclic C₉ iridooid glucoside. The ¹³C-nmr spectra proved that a disubstituted double bond (δ 110.3 and 141.1) in compound **2** was replaced by trisubstituted one (δ 125.8 and 143.9) in compound **1**. The lack of an angular hydroxyl in compound **1** explained the reduction of one oxygen functionality compared to compound **2**. An olefinic proton at δ 5.91 was coupled with methylene protons at δ 4.45 and 4.61 on an oxygenated carbon (δ 60.4). The ¹³C-nmr spectrum showed nine oxygenated carbons, six of which were assignable to the glucose moiety (δ 62.8, 71.6, 75.1, 78.4, 78.5, and 104.6) and the rest to two methylene carbon atoms and one quarternary carbon (δ 60.4, 69.8, and 92.0, respectively). Therefore, one of the two remaining methylene groups should be bonded to the sugar, suggesting that compound **1** should be a ring-opened analogue of compound **2** between C-1 and O-2, as depicted. The structure was confirmed by the HMBC spectrum, in which the methylene protons on an oxygen-bearing carbon (C-1) at δ 69.8 were correlated with three carbons at δ 49.7, 92.0, and 143.9 (C-9, C-8, and C-5, respectively). The geometry of the double

**1**

- 2** R₁ = Ac, R₂ = H
3 R₁ = H, R₂ = OH
4 R₁ = Ac, R₂ = OH

bond was determined by nOe difference spectra. On irradiation of the olefinic proton at δ 5.91 (C-4), the methylene protons at δ 2.49 (C-6) adjacent to the double bond were enhanced, and vice versa. The β -glycosidic linkage was derived from the coupling constant of 8.06 Hz. The stereochemistry at the two chiral carbon atoms was determined from the biosynthetic point of view. All the C₉ iridoid glucosides isolated so far have an 8 α -methyl group and a 9 β -hydrogen in common. In addition, compounds 2–4 co-occurred in the same plant. These facts suggest that compound 1 should have the same stereochemistry. Some nmr noe difference measurements were obtained on compound 1 to confirm this assumption. The noe was observed between C-10 methyl protons and C-1 methylene protons, but not between C-10 methyl protons and the C-9 methine proton, supporting α -orientation of the methyl group. In conclusion, the stereostructure shown is assigned to ajureptoside [1]. Gelsemiol 1-glucoside, from *Gelsemium sempervirens* L., is the only C₁₀ iridoid glucoside ring-opened between C-1 and O-2 reported so far (4). To the best of our knowledge, ajureptoside is the first C₉ iridoid glucoside of the same type.

EXPERIMENTAL

GENERAL EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES.—*A. reptans* plants were cultivated by Mrs. S. Motoki in her garden and harvested in October. A voucher specimen is on deposit in our laboratory. Si gel F₂₅₄ (Merck, art. 5715) plates were used for tlc. Si gel 60 (Merck, art. 9583) and Sephadex LH-20 (Pharmacia) were used for cc. The solvent system CHCl₃-MeOH-H₂O (65:30:4) was employed for Si gel tlc. The following instruments were used: Shimadzu IR-27G photometer (ir), Hitachi 200-20 spectrophotometer (uv), Jasco DIP-180 digital polarimeter (optical rotation), JEOL JMS-HX-100 mass spectrometer (hrms), and JEOL JNM-GX-400FT NMR spectrometer (¹H and ¹³C nmr).

ISOLATION OF AJUREPTOSIDE [1].—Dried whole plants (1.5 kg) were extracted three times with MeOH, and the combined extracts were evaporated to dryness (524.3 g). The residue was partitioned between equal volumes of EtOAc and

H₂O. The aqueous layer was separated and extracted three times with *n*-BuOH. The combined extracts were evaporated to dryness to afford a residue (214.7 g). A 100-g sample of the residue was chromatographed on a Si gel (1500 g) column, which was eluted with CHCl₃-MeOH-H₂O (25:8:1). Fractions of 500 ml were collected and combined using tlc monitoring. Iridoid mixtures, *R_f* values of which on Si gel tlc were from 0.5 to 0.2, were repeatedly subjected to cc on Si gel with CHCl₃-MeOH-H₂O (25:8:1) and to gel filtration with Sephadex LH-20 and MeOH, to give ajureptoside [1] (50 mg) along with reptoside [2] (2.2 g), harpagide [3] (5.8 g), and 8-acetylharpagide [4] (15.6 g). The *R_f* values of Si gel tlc for compounds 1–4 were 0.47, 0.47, 0.36, and 0.24, respectively.

Ajureptoside [1]: amorphous, [α]_D²⁵ -14.17° (c = 4.4, MeOH), ir ν max (KBr) cm⁻¹ 3350, 2950, 1710, 1380, 1250, 1170, 1090, 1030; fabms *m/z* 753, 399, 377, 359, 299; ¹H nmr (C₅D₅N) δ 1.74 (3H, s, H-10), 1.90 (3H, s, Ac), 1.97 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.25 and 6.23 Hz, H-7), 2.30 (1H, m, *W*_{1/2} = 16.48 Hz, H-7), 2.49 (2H, m, *W*_{1/2} = 19.44 Hz, H-6), 3.63 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.53 and 5.56 Hz, H-1), 3.82 (1H, t, *J* = 5.56 Hz, H-9), 3.96 (1H, m, *W*_{1/2} = 20.00 Hz, H-5'), 4.03 (1H, t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, H-2'), 4.22 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.79 and 8.69 Hz, H-3'), 4.35 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.53 and 5.56 Hz, H-1), 4.36 (1H, dd, *J* = 12.46 and 5.86 Hz, H-6'), 4.44

TABLE 1. ¹³C-nmr Data of Ajureptoside [1] and Reptoside [2] in C₅D₅N.^a

Carbon	Compound	
	1	2
C-1	69.8(t)	94.1(d)
C-2		
C-3	60.4(t)	141.1(d)
C-4	125.8(d)	110.3(d)
C-5	143.9(s)	72.1(s)
C-6	29.7(t)	37.2(t)
C-7	36.2(t)	38.3(t)
C-8	92.0(s)	88.3(s)
C-9	49.7(d)	58.1(d)
C-10	20.1(q)	21.9(q)
C-1'	104.6(d)	98.6(d)
C-2'	75.1(d)	74.7(d)
C-3'	78.4(d)	78.4(d)
C-4'	71.6(d)	71.6(d)
C-5'	78.5(d)	78.6(d)
C-6'	62.8(t)	62.6(t)
Ac	22.1(q)	21.7(q)
Ac	170.7(s)	170.9(s)

^aChemical shifts in ppm. Multiplicity in an INEPT experiment.

(1H, dd, $J = 11.11$ and 6.41 Hz, H-3), 4.54
(1H, dd, $J = 12.46$ and 8.06 Hz, H-4'), 4.54
(1H, dd, $J = 12.46$ and 8.06 Hz, H-6'), 4.60
(1H, dd, $J = 11.11$ and 6.41 Hz, H-3), 4.82
(1H, d, $J = 8.06$ Hz, H-1'), 5.91 (1H, t, $J =$
 6.41 Hz, H-4); ^{13}C nmr ($\text{C}_3\text{D}_8\text{N}$) see Table 1.

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