

Diterpenoids from the Rhizomes of *Alpinia calcarata*

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Four new labdane-type diterpenoids, calcaratarins A–D (**1**–**4**), along with six known labdane-type diterpenoids, a known elemene-type sesquiterpenoid, and a known coumarin, were isolated from the rhizomes of *Alpinia calcarata*. The structures of **1**–**4** were elucidated on the basis of spectroscopic studies.

Plants of the genus *Alpinia* (Zingiberaceae) are used as traditional herbs in some areas of the People's Republic of China and certain countries of southeast Asia for relieving stomachache, treating colds, invigorating the circulatory system, and reducing swellings. As part of our studies on the constituents and chemotaxonomy of the plants of the genus *Alpinia* found in mainland China, we have investigated the constituents of the rhizomes of *A. calcarata* Rosc., a perennial herb that grows in shaded woodland areas in Guangxi Province. Four new labdane-type diterpenoids, calcaratarins A–D (**1**–**4**); six known labdane-type diterpenoids, γ -bicyclohomofarnesal, (*E*)-15,16-bisnorlabda-8(17),11-dien-13-one, labda-8(17),11,13-trien-15(16)-olide, (*E*)-labda-8(17),12-dien-15-ol-16-al, zerumin A, and isocoronarin D; a known elemene-type sesquiterpenoid, shyo-bunone; and a known 7-methoxycoumarin were isolated from the rhizomes of *A. calcarata*. This paper describes the isolation and structure elucidation of compounds **1**–**4**.

Results and Discussion

Calcaratarin A (**1**), a colorless oil, was indicated by HRFABMS to have the molecular formula $C_{22}H_{36}O_3$. The ^{13}C NMR spectrum exhibited 22 carbon signals, including five methyls (two of which were methoxyl groups), eight methylenes, five methines, and four quaternary carbons. The 1H NMR signals at δ 0.87 (3H, s), 0.81 (3H, s), and 0.73 (3H, s), as well as those at δ 4.41 (1H, dd, $J = 2.4, 1.2$ Hz) and 4.82 (1H, dd, $J = 2.4, 1.2$ Hz), were characteristic of a labdane-type diterpenoid¹ and were assigned to the methyl groups at C-18, C-19, and C-20 and to the methylene group at C-17, respectively. The ^{13}C NMR spectral data, exhibiting signals for three methyl groups at δ 33.61, 21.74, and 14.41; a quaternary carbon at δ 148.27; and a methylene at δ 107.86, also provided evidence for **1** being a labdane-type diterpenoid. The structure of the side-chain (C-11 to C-16) of **1** was deduced from its HMQC and HMBC spectra. In the HMBC spectrum, the olefinic signal at δ 6.53 (1H, t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, H-12) correlated with the signals of the aldehyde group at δ 194.98 (C-16) and the methylene group at δ 29.06 (C-14). In the HMQC spectrum, the signal at δ 29.06 correlated with the signal at δ 2.56 (2H, dd, $J = 8.4, 5.4$ Hz, H-14), which, in the HMBC spectrum, correlated with the methine signal at δ 103.91 (C-15), and in turn correlated with two methoxyl signals at δ 3.33 (6H, s, MeO). The stereochemistry of the double bond between C-12 and C-13 of calcaratarin A (**1**) was determined from

the NOESY spectrum. A NOE correlation of the signal of the aldehyde group at δ 9.32 (H-16) and the olefinic signal at δ 6.53 (H-12) indicated this double bond to be in the *E*-configuration. Accordingly, the structure of the side-chain was established as shown. The structure of **1**, (*E*)-labda-8(17),12-dien-15,15-dimethoxy-16-al, was further confirmed by reacting **1** with hydrochloric acid to give the parent compound, (*E*)-labda-8(17),12-diene-15,16-dial (**5**), which has been known since 1980.² The HPLC analysis of an ethanol extract of the fresh rhizomes of *A. calcarata* showed the presence of **1**, which was then isolated from the ethanol extract. Therefore, calcaratarin A (**1**) appears to be a natural product and not an artifact.

Calcaratarin B (**2**), a colorless oil, was assigned the molecular formula $C_{20}H_{32}O_2$, as determined by HRFABMS. Absorption bands at 3300–2600 and 1708 cm^{-1} in the IR spectrum indicated the presence of a carboxylic acid group. The ^{13}C and 1H NMR spectra showed clearly the characteristics of a labdane-type diterpenoid. The structure of the side-chain (C-11 to C-16) was deduced from the HMBC spectrum. The olefinic signal at δ 5.31 (1H, t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, H-12) correlated with the methyl signal at δ 23.87 (C-16) and the methylene signal at δ 37.39 (C-14). Furthermore, the proton at δ 3.08 (2H, br d, $J = 1.8$ Hz, H-14) correlated with the carbonyl carbonyl at δ 177.21 (C-15). The stereochemistry of the double bond between C-12 and C-13 of calcaratarin B (**2**) was deduced from the NOESY spectrum. The NOE correlation of the methyl signal at δ 1.74 (H-16) and the olefinic resonance at δ 5.31 (H-12) showed a *Z*-configuration of this double bond and supported the side-chain as shown. The structure of calcaratarin B was therefore elucidated as (*Z*)-labda-8(17),12-dien-15-oic acid (**2**). From the point of view of its biogenesis, **2** may be related to zerumin A,³ by reduction of the C-16 aldehyde in the latter to a methyl group.

Calcaratarin C (**3**), an amorphous solid, was assigned the molecular formula $C_{20}H_{30}O_3$ from its HRFABMS. The ^{13}C and 1H NMR spectra showed the presence of a labdane-type skeleton. The structure of the side-chain (C-11 to C-16) was elucidated from the HMQC and HMBC spectra. In the HMQC spectrum, the methylene signal at δ 31.16 (C-12) correlated with the signals of the protons at δ 1.75 and 1.76. In the HMBC spectrum, the signals at δ 1.75 (H-12 α) and 1.76 (H-12 β) correlated with the methine at δ 67.40 (C-11), which was connected to a hydroxyl group, and with the methine at δ 51.97 (C-9). The olefinic signal at δ 5.96 (H-14) correlated with signals for the quaternary carbon at δ 172.98 (C-13), the carbonyl at δ 173.45 (C-15), and the methylene at δ 70.98 (C-16). The chemical shift value of C-13 (δ 172.98) suggested that the carbonyl was located at C-15 rather than C-16,⁴ and that an α,β -unsaturated

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Table 1. ¹H NMR Data of Compounds 1–4 at 600 MHz^a

H	1	2	3	4
1 α	1.07 td (13.2, 3.6)	1.03 td (12.9, 3.6)	1.04 td (12.6, 4.2)	1.05 td (12.6, 4.2)
1 β	1.72 br d (13.2)	1.73 br d (12.9)	1.67 br d (12.6)	1.70 br d (12.9)
2 α	1.48 dp (14.4, 3.6)	1.46 m	1.49 m	1.48 dp (13.8, 3.6)
2 β	1.56 qt (14.4, 3.6)	1.54 qt (13.8, 3.6)	1.56 qt (13.8, 3.6)	1.57 qt (13.8, 3.6)
3 α	1.17 td (13.5, 3.6)	1.16 td (13.8, 4.2)	1.18 td (13.5, 4.2)	1.18 td (13.2, 4.8)
3 β	1.40 br d (13.5)	1.37 br d (13.2)	1.39 br d (13.2)	1.41 br d (13.2)
5	1.12 dd (12.3, 3.0)	1.08 dd (12.6, 2.4)	1.15 dd (12.6, 2.4)	1.12 dd (12.6, 2.4)
6 α	1.73 m	1.24 m	1.78 m	1.74 ddt (12.6, 4.8, 3.0)
6 β	1.33 qd (12.9, 4.8)	1.30 qd (13.2, 4.2)	1.34 qd (13.2, 4.2)	1.31 qd (12.9, 4.2)
7 α	2.01 td (12.9, 5.4)	1.99 td (13.2, 5.4)	2.01 td (13.2, 3.6)	1.98 td (13.8, 5.4)
7 β	2.39 ddd (12.9, 4.2, 2.4)	2.36 ddd (12.9, 4.5, 2.4)	2.42 ddd (12.9, 4.2, 2.4)	2.37 ddd (13.2, 4.5, 2.4)
9	1.88 br d (10.8)	1.52 br d (9.3)	2.00 br d (9.0)	1.93 br d (10.2)
11	2.44 ddd (17.4, 11.4, 6.6)	2.01 ddd (15.6, 10.5, 5.4)	4.64 m	2.37 ddd (16.4, 10.8, 6.6)
11'	2.62 ddd (17.4, 6.0, 3.0)	2.24 ddd (15.6, 6.6, 1.8)		2.66 ddd (16.4, 7.8, 3.6)
12	6.53 t (6.0)	5.31 t (6.0)	1.75 ddd (12.0, 9.0, 3.6)	6.94 td (6.9, 1.8)
12'			1.76 ddd (12.0, 9.0, 1.2)	
14	2.56 dd (8.4, 5.4)	3.08 br d (1.8)	5.96 q (1.8)	5.04 t (6.0)
15 α	4.42 t (5.4)			4.22 dd (10.5, 1.8)
15 β				4.42 dd (10.5, 5.4)
16	9.32 s	1.74 br d (1.2)	4.87 dd (4.2, 1.8)	
17	4.41 dd (2.4, 1.2)	4.45 dd (3.0, 1.2)	4.39 d (1.2)	4.34 br s
17'	4.82 dd (2.4, 1.2)	4.80 dd (3.3, 1.2)	4.89 d (1.2)	4.81 br s
18	0.87 s	0.85 s	0.87 s	0.87 s
19	0.81 s	0.79 s	0.79 s	0.80 s
20	0.73 s	0.68 s	0.67 s	0.72 s
MeO	3.33 s			

^a The coupling constants (*J*) in parentheses are given in Hz.

Table 2. ¹³C NMR Data of Compounds 1–4 at 150 MHz^{a,b}

C	1	2	3	4
1	39.20 CH ₂ (2 α , 2 β , 3 α , 3 β , 20)	39.10 CH ₂ (2 α , 3 β , 5, 20)	39.06 CH ₂ (2 α , 2 β , 3 β , 20)	39.24 CH ₂ (2 α , 2 β , 20)
2	19.32 CH ₂ (1 β , 3 α , 3 β)	19.38 CH ₂ (1 β , 3 α)	19.24 CH ₂ (1 α , 3 α , 3 β)	19.31 CH ₂ (1 β , 3 α)
3	42.06 CH ₂ (1 β , 18, 19)	42.12 CH ₂ (1 α , 1 β , 18, 19)	41.94 CH ₂ (1 β , 18, 19)	41.98 CH ₂ (1 β , 18, 19)
4	33.56 C (3 α , 5, 18, 19)	33.55 C (3 α , 3 β , 5, 18, 19)	33.60 C (5, 18, 19)	33.58 C (5, 18, 19)
5	55.46 CH (3 β , 6 α , 18, 19)	55.39 CH (3 α , 3 β , 6 β , 18, 19)	55.50 CH (3 α , 18, 19)	55.41 CH (18, 19, 20)
6	24.14 CH ₂ (5, 7 β)	24.23 CH ₂ (5, 7 α)	24.34 CH ₂ (5, 7 α , 7 β)	24.13 CH ₂ (5, 7 α)
7	37.91 CH ₂ (6 α , 9)	38.10 CH ₂ (17, 17')	38.18 CH ₂ (9, 17, 17')	37.84 CH ₂ (17, 17')
8	148.27 C (9, 11')	148.56 C (7 α , 7 β , 11)	148.69 C (6 α , 11)	148.19 C (9, 11')
9	56.58 CH (11, 11', 17, 17', 20)	57.10 CH (11, 11', 17, 17', 20)	51.97 CH (12, 12', 20)	56.46 CH (11, 17, 17', 20)
10	39.58 C (1 α , 9, 20)	39.51 C (1 β , 5, 20)	39.43 C (5, 20)	39.75 C (5, 20)
11	24.54 CH ₂ (9, 12)	22.76 CH ₂ (9, 12)	67.40 CH (12, 12')	25.15 CH ₂ (9, 12)
12	159.93 CH (9, 11, 11')	130.24 CH (11, 11', 14, 16)	31.16 CH ₂ (9, 11)	149.87 CH (11, 11')
13	138.16 C (11, 11', 14, 16)	126.63 C (11, 11', 14, 16)	172.98 C (12, 12', 14)	127.88 C (11, 11', 14 β)
14	29.06 CH ₂ (12, 16)	37.39 CH ₂ (12, 16)	114.52 CH (12, 12', 16)	66.54 CH (12, 15 α)
15	103.91 CH (14, OMe)	177.21 C (14)	173.45 C (14, 16)	74.21 CH ₂ (14 β)
16	194.98 CH (12, 14)	23.87 CH ₃ (12, 14)	70.98 CH ₂ (14)	169.96 C (12, 14 β , 15 α)
17	107.86 CH ₂ (9, 7 α)	107.37 CH ₂ (9)	106.51 CH ₂ (7 α , 9)	107.49 CH ₂
18	33.61 CH ₃ (3 α , 5, 19)	33.62 CH ₃ (3 α , 3 β , 5, 19)	33.55 CH ₃ (5, 19)	33.54 CH ₃ (5, 19)
19	21.74 CH ₃ (3 α , 5, 18)	21.75 CH ₃ (3 α , 5, 18)	21.64 CH ₃ (5, 18)	21.69 CH ₃ (5, 18)
20	14.41 CH ₃ (1 α , 5, 9)	14.38 CH ₃ (5, 9)	14.63 CH ₃ (5, 9)	14.42 CH ₃ (5, 9)
MeO	54.30 CH ₃ (15)			

^a Multiplicities of carbons were assigned by DEPT spectra. ^b HMBC correlations are shown in parentheses.

2932, 2868, 2843, 1683, 1642, 1458, 1388, 1366, 1261, 1192, 1162, 1121, 1079, 1015, 974, 889, 757 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz), see Table 2; FABMS *m/z* 371 (100) [M + Na]⁺, 347, 319, 285, 215, 191, 154, 137; HRFABMS *m/z* 371.2563 (calcd for C₂₂H₃₆O₃Na, 371.2562).

Compound 2: colorless oil, [α]_D²⁰ +14.8° (*c* 0.5, CHCl₃); UV (CH₃CN), no absorption over 210 nm; IR (film) ν_{\max} 3082, 2929, 2868, 1708, 1644, 1459, 1441, 1412, 1388, 1295, 1216, 891, 758 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz), see Table 2; FABMS *m/z* 305 [M + H]⁺, 289, 245, 217, 191, 176, 154 (100), 137, 136; HRFABMS *m/z* 305.2473 (calcd for C₂₀H₃₃O₂, 305.2481).

Compound 3: amorphous solid, [α]_D²⁴ +36.6° (*c* 0.05, CHCl₃); UV (CH₃CN) λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 211 (3.86) nm; IR (film) ν_{\max} 3388, 3077, 2963, 2939, 2868, 2855, 1737, 1632, 1442, 1429, 1388, 1272, 1177, 1142, 1082, 1011, 898, 869 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz), see Table 2; FABMS *m/z* 341 (100) [M + Na]⁺, 321, 309, 289,

176, 154, 137, 136; HRFABMS *m/z* 341.2095 (calcd for C₂₀H₃₀O₃-Na, 341.2093).

Compound 4: amorphous solid, [α]_D²² +21.5° (*c* 0.15, CHCl₃); UV (CH₃CN) λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 223 (3.94) nm; IR (film) ν_{\max} 3397, 2997, 2919, 2845, 1726, 1676, 1647, 1456, 1435, 1386, 1364, 1292, 1219, 1089, 1046, 1011, 979, 907 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz), see Table 2; FABMS *m/z* 319 [M + H]⁺, 303, 289, 245, 219, 191, 177, 154 (100), 137, 136; HRFABMS *m/z* 319.2272 (calcd for C₂₀H₃₁O₃, 319.2273).

TLC *R_f* values using hexane–EtOAc (2:1) were as follows: **1**, 0.84; **2**, 0.26; **3**, 0.52; **4**, 0.49.

Hydrolysis of Compound 1. A solution of compound **1** (3.0 mg), 0.25 N HCl (2.5 mL), and dioxane (1.5 mL) was stirred at 60 °C for 4 h. After dilution with water (5 mL), the reaction mixture was extracted with CHCl₃ (3 × 3 mL). The combined extracts were washed with saturated aqueous NaCl solution (2 × 3 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and then concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by preparative HPLC (hexane–2-

propanol, 98:2) to give **5** (1.4 mg):² ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.08 (1H, m, H-1α), 1.74 (1H, m, H-1β), 1.51 (1H, m, H-2α), 1.55 (1H, m, H-2β), 1.20 (1H, m, H-3α), 1.43 (1H, br d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, H-3β), 1.15 (1H, dd, *J* = 12.8, 3.2 Hz, H-5), 1.75 (1H, m, H-6α), 1.35 (1H, m, H-6β), 2.02 (1H, m, H-7α), 2.42 (1H, br d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, H-7β), 1.91 (1H, br d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, H-9), 2.35 (1H, m, H-11), 2.50 (1H, m, H-11'), 6.72 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.0, 6.5 Hz, H-12), 3.42 (1H, d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, H-14), 3.51 (1H, d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, H-14'), 9.65 (1H, br s, H-15), 9.44 (1H, s, H-16), 4.36 (1H, br s, H-17), 4.89 (1H, br s, H-17'), 0.90 (3H, s, H-18), 0.82 (3H, s, H-19), 0.75 (3H, s, H-20); EIMS *m/z* 302 (M⁺), 273, 191, 177, 137 (100), 95, 81.

Oxidation of Compound 4. A mixture of **4** (3.5 mg) and freshly prepared MnO₂ (4 mg) in MeOH (5 mL) was stirred at 35 °C for 10 h. After filtration, the filtrate was concentrated and purified by preparative TLC (hexane–EtOAc 5:1) to give **6** (0.6 mg): IR (KBr) ν_{max} 3020, 2932, 2844, 1735, 1711, 1668, 1639, 1457, 1346, 1082, 1045, 992, 891 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.05 (1H, m, H-1α), 1.71 (1H, m, H-1β), 1.44 (1H, m, H-2α), 1.55 (1H, m, H-2β), 1.14 (1H, m, H-3α), 1.40 (1H, br d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, H-3β), 1.11 (1H, dd, *J* = 12.5, 2.5 Hz, H-5), 1.76 (1H, m, H-6α), 1.31 (1H, m, H-6β), 2.00 (1H, m, H-7α), 2.41 (1H, m, H-7β), 1.91 (1H, br d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, H-9), 2.62 (1H, m, H-11), 2.71 (1H, m, H-11'), 7.09 (1H, t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, H-12), 4.64 (2H, br s, H-15), 4.45 (1H, br s, H-17), 4.87 (1H, br s, H-17'), 0.86 (3H, s, H-18), 0.81 (3H, s, H-19), 0.73 (3H, s, H-20); EIMS *m/z* 316 (M⁺), 259, 191, 167, 137 (100); HRFABMS *m/z* 317.2119 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₉O₃, 317.2117).

Oxidation of Isocoronarin D. Isocoronarin D (2.5 mg) was treated with freshly prepared MnO₂ (4 mg) in MeOH (5 mL)

by the same procedure as described above to give **6** (0.5 mg), and its IR and ¹H NMR spectra were identical with those of the ketone from **4**.

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