# Brosimacutins A-I, Nine New Flavonoids from Brosimum acutifolium

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Nine new flavonoids, brosimacutins A–I (1–9), and four known flavonoids were isolated from the bark of *Brosimum acutifolium*, a Brazilian folk medicine ("Mururé"). Their structures were elucidated by spectroscopic methods, including 2D NMR. Brosimacutins A–I possess differentially functionalized isoprene units at C-8.

Brosimum acutifolium Huber (Moraceae) is a large tree of the Amazonian forests. The bark of this plant is used in Brazilian folk medicine as an anti-inflammatory and antirheumatic agent and is commonly known as "Mururé".<sup>1</sup> As part of our program to study the active constituents of Brazilian medicinal plants,<sup>2</sup> we have investigated the bark of *B. acutifolium*. In previous papers, we have reported the isolation and structural elucidation of a new rearranged flavan and five new flavans, acutifolins A-F,<sup>3</sup> as well as three new lignans, mururins A-C,<sup>4</sup> from this plant. Further investigation of extracts of the bark of this plant has led to the isolation of nine new flavonoids, brosimacutins A-I (**1**–**9**). In this paper we describe the isolation and structural elucidation of **1**–**9**.

### **Results and Discussion**

The MeOH extract of the bark of *B. acutifolium* was partitioned with EtOAc and H<sub>2</sub>O. The EtOAc-soluble portion was chromatographed over an ODS column and further purified using reversed-phase HPLC to afford brosimacutins A–I (**1–9**), together with four known flavonoids, 4',7-dihydroxyflavone,<sup>5</sup> luteolin,<sup>6</sup> (–)-liquiritigenin,<sup>7</sup> and (–)-naringenin.<sup>8</sup>

Brosimacutin A (1) was obtained as a colorless amorphous solid with the molecular formula C20H22O6 deduced from HRSIMS [m/z 359.1478 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>,  $\Delta$  –1.5 mmu]. The IR spectrum indicated the presence of the carbonyl group of a  $\gamma$ -pyrone (1653 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and hydroxyl groups (3200–3600 cm<sup>-1</sup>). The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **1** (Tables 1 and 2) indicated the presence of one ketone carbonyl, six sp<sup>2</sup> quaternary carbons (three of these were bearing oxygen atoms), six sp<sup>2</sup> methines, one sp<sup>3</sup> quaternary carbon (bearing an oxygen atom), two sp<sup>3</sup> methines (bearing oxygen atoms), two sp<sup>3</sup> methylenes, and two methyl carbons. Because seven of 10 unsaturations were thus accounted for, it was concluded that 1 contains three rings. The <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, HMBC, and NOESY correlations observed for 1 are shown in Figure 1. The <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY correlations between H-2 ( $\delta$  5.41) and H-3 ( $\delta$  2.74 and 3.01) and between H-5 ( $\delta$  7.66) and H-6 ( $\delta$  6.56) and the HMBC correlations of H-2 to C-4 ( $\delta$  194.1), H-3 to C-4 and C-10 ( $\delta$ 115.3), H-5 to C-4, C-7 (\$\delta\$ 165.0), and C-9 (\$\delta\$ 163.2), and H-6 to C-7, C-8 ( $\delta$  115.7), and C-10 revealed the presence

O⊦ HO HC HO OH OH O⊢ HO Ĉ 3 OH HO HC 5 ÒН ÓН ÒН

of a 2,8-disubstituted 7-hydroxychroman-4-one ring. In turn, the  $^1H^{-1}H$  COSY correlation between H-2' ( $\delta$  7.35) and H-3' ( $\delta$  6.81) and the HMBC correlations of H-2' to C-2' ( $\delta$  128.9) and C-4' ( $\delta$  158.9) and H-3' to C-1' ( $\delta$  131.5) and C-3' ( $\delta$  116.3) indicated the occurrence of a 4-hydroxyphenyl group. The HMBC correlations of H-2 to C-1' and C-2', H-3 to C-1', and H-2' to C-2 ( $\delta$  80.8) and the NOESY correla-

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**Table 1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectral Data of Brosimacutins A–I ( $\delta$  values, in CD<sub>3</sub>OD; J in Hz, in parentheses)

position <sup>a</sup>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	5.41 dd	5.39 dd	5.39 dd	5.42 dd	5.43 dd		7.82 d	2.90 t, 2H	
	(13.0, 2.9)	(13.1, 2.8)	(13.0, 2.7)	(13.3, 3.3)	(12.9, 2.9)		(15.4)	(7.6)	
3	2.74 dd	2.73 dd	2.75 dd	2.74 dd	2.72 dd	6.69 s	7.64 d	3.18 t, 2H	3.17 t, 2H
	(16.8, 2.9)	(17.0, 2.8)	(17.2, 2.7)	(16.7, 3.3)	(16.7, 2.9)		(15.4)	(7.6)	(7.5)
	3.01 dd	3.04 dd	3.01 dd	3.06 dd	3.09 dd				
	(16.8, 13.0)	(17.0, 13.1)	(17.2, 13.0)	(16.7, 13.3)	(16.7, 12.9)				
4									2.86 t, 2H (7.5)
5	7.66 d	7.65 d	7.60 d	7.62 d	7.72 d	7.88 d	8.11 d	7.62 d	6.74 d
	(8.7)	(8.7)	(8.7)	(8.7)	(8.4)	(9.1)	(8.9)	(9.0)	(8.2)
6	6.56 d	6.55 d	6.51 d	6.46 d	6.51 d	6.96 d	6.50 d	6.39 d	6.29 d
	(8.7)	(8.7)	(8.7)	(8.7)	(8.4)	(9.1)	(8.9)	(9.0)	(8.2)
2'	7.35 d, 2H	7.36 d, 2H	7.36 d, 2H	7.35 d, 2H	7.34 d, 2H	7.98 d, 2H	7.63 d, 2H	7.05 d, 2H	7.90 d, 2H
	(8.6)	(8.6)	(8.4)	(8.5)	(8.4)	(8.6)	(8.6)	(8.5)	(8.8)
3′	6.81 d, 2H	6.81 d, 2H	6.82 d, 2H	6.82 d, 2H	6.82 d, 2H	6.93 d, 2H	6.84 d, 2H	6.81 d, 2H	6.81 d, 2H
	(8.6)	(8.6)	(8.4)	(8.5)	(8.4)	(8.6)	(8.6)	(8.5)	(8.8)
1″	2.70 dd	2.71 dd	2.68 m, 2H	2.63 dd	3.10 d, 2H	2.63 dd	5.47 d	2.68 dd	2.56 dd
	(13.8, 10.0)	(13.8, 9.8)		(15.0, 6.0)	(9.0)	(15.0, 6.0)	(3.6)	(13.9, 10.1)	(14.0, 9.9)
	3.01 dd	2.98 dd		2.89 dd		2.89 dd		3.05 dd	3.28 dd
	(13.8, 2.2)	(13.8, 2.7)		(15.0, 4.5)		(15.0, 4.5)		(13.9, 2.4)	(14.0, 1.6)
2″	3.60 dd	3.58 dd	1.65 m, 2H	3.78 dd	4.74 t	3.78 dd	4.37 d	3.58 dd	3.53 dd
	(10.0, 2.2)	(9.8, 2.7)		(6.0, 4.5)	(9.0)	(6.0, 4.5)	(3.6)	(10.1, 2.4)	(9.9, 1.6)
4‴	1.18 s, 3H	1.16 s, 3H	1.18 s, 6H	1.31 s, 3H	1.20 s, 3H	1.31 s, 3H	1.24 s, 3H	1.24 s, 6H	1.24 s, 6H
5″	1.17 s, 3H	1.14 s, 3H		1.32 s, 3H	1.27 s, 3H	1.32 s, 3H	1.26 s, 3H		

<sup>a</sup> For comparison of the NMR data, the same flavone ring numbering was applied to all the compounds including the chalcones.

**Table 2.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectral Data of Brosimacutins A–I ( $\delta$  values, in CD<sub>3</sub>OD)

position <sup>a</sup>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	80.8	80.9	80.7	81.1	81.0	166.0	146.1	31.1	202.1
3	44.8	44.7	44.9	44.7	44.9	104.7	118.4	40.9	40.3
4	194.1	194.1	194.2	193.8	193.4	180.9	194.0	205.9	27.1
5	127.4	127.3	126.7	126.8	129.8	125.1	135.3	131.3	128.9
6	111.5	111.5	110.9	112.6	105.3	116.0	103.3	108.9	108.1
7	165.0	164.9	164.0	161.4	168.9	162.6	168.9	$164.3^{b}$	155.7
8	115.7	115.6	118.0	109.3	115.2	115.9	116.9	114.9	115.8
9	163.2	163.3	163.1	163.0	160.5	163.5	164.0	$164.5^{b}$	155.7
10	115.3	115.3	115.1	115.0	116.2	117.4	116.0	113.9	121.2
1'	131.5	131.4	131.7	131.4	131.2	124.0	127.8	133.2	129.9
2'	128.9	128.9	128.8	128.9	129.1	129.7	131.9	130.4	132.0
3'	116.3	116.3	116.3	116.4	116.4	117.0	117.0	116.2	116.2
4'	158.9	158.9	158.8	159.0	159.1	157.7	161.7	156.7	163.9
1″	26.7	26.7	19.2	26.7	28.2	26.8	71.3	26.0	27.1
$2^{\prime\prime}$	80.0	79.9	43.6	69.3	92.7	79.6	100.3	79.9	81.4
3″	74.0	74.0	71.7	79.3	72.4	73.9	71.9	74.0	74.0
4″	24.9	24.9	28.8	21.9	25.3	25.0	25.2	25.2	25.3
5″	25.9	25.9	28.9	25.5	25.3	25.9	25.3	25.6	25.4

<sup>*a*</sup> For comparison of the NMR data, the same flavone ring numbering was applied to all the compounds including the chalcones. <sup>*b*</sup> Assignments may be interchanged.



Figure 1. Selected 2D NMR correlations of 1.

tions between H-2 and H-2' and between H-3 and H-2' indicated that the 4-hydroxyphenyl group is attached to C-2 of the chroman-4-one ring. The <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>1</sup>H COSY correlation between H-1" ( $\delta$  2.70 and 3.01) and H-2" ( $\delta$  3.60) and the HMBC correlations of H-4" ( $\delta$  1.18) to C-2" ( $\delta$  80.0), C-3" ( $\delta$  74.0), and C-5" ( $\delta$  25.9), H-5" ( $\delta$  1.17) to C-2", C-3", and C-4" ( $\delta$  24.9), and H-1" to C-3" revealed the presence

of a 2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl group. The HMBC correlations of H-1" to C-7, C-8, and C-9 and H-2" to C-8 indicated that the 2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl group is attached to C-8 of the chroman-4-one ring. These data suggested that **1** is a flavanone substituted with a 2,3dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl group at C-8 and with two hydroxy groups at C-7 and C-4'. The absolute configuration at C-2 was confirmed by a positive Cotton effect at 330 nm and a negative Cotton effect at 280–290 nm in the CD spectrum, which is characteristic for the 2*S* configuration of flavanones.<sup>9</sup> Thus, the structure of brosimacutin A (**1**) was determined to be (2*S*)-4',7-dihydroxy-8-(2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl)flavanone.

The molecular formula of brosimacutin B (2),  $C_{20}H_{22}O_6$ , was determined by positive-ion HRSIMS [m/z 359.1465 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>,  $\Delta$  -2.8 mmu] and was the same as that of brosimacutin A (1). The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) and <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, HMBC, and NOESY correlations of **2** were also very similar to those of brosimacutin A (1) (Tables 1 and 2). However, the CD spectrum of brosimacutin B (**2**) showed a negative Cotton effect at 330 nm and a positive Cotton effect at 280-290 nm, suggesting the configuration at C-2 to be *R*.<sup>9</sup> These results indicated that brosimacutin B (**2**) is (2*R*)-4',7-dihydroxy-8-(2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl)flavanone, a diastereomer of brosimacutin A (**1**) at C-2.

From the results of HRSIMS  $[m/z 343.1552 (M + H)^+, \Delta +0.8 mmu]$ , the molecular formula of brosimacutin C (**3**) was deduced as  $C_{20}H_{22}O_5$ . The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) of **3** were similar to those of brosimacutins A (**1**) and B (**2**) except for the absence of a hydroxyl at C-2". The <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY correlation between H-1" ( $\delta$  2.68, 2H) and H-2" ( $\delta$  1.65, 2H) and the HMBC correlations of H-4" or H-5" ( $\delta$  1.18, 6H) to C-2" ( $\delta$  43.6), C-3" ( $\delta$  71.7), C-4" ( $\delta$  28.8), and C-5" ( $\delta$  28.9), H-2" to C-3", C-4", and C-5", and H-1" to C-3", C-7 ( $\delta$  164.0), C-8 ( $\delta$  118.0), and C-9 ( $\delta$  163.1) revealed the presence of a 3-hydroxy-3-methylbutyl group at C-8. Thus, the structure of brosimacutin C (**3**) was determined to be 4',7-dihydroxy-8-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutyl)flavanone. Brosimacutin C (**3**) did not show substantial



Figure 2. Selected 2D NMR correlations of 4.

optical activity or Cotton effects. It could be suggested that brosimactin C (3) is racemic or a mixture of (2.5)- and (2R)-flavanones.

The molecular formula of brosimacutin D (4) was determined as  $C_{20}H_{20}O_5$  on the basis of the quasi-molecular ion peak of HRSIMS at m/z 341.1358 [M + H]<sup>+</sup>. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) were also similar to those of brosimacutins A (1) and B (2) except for the absence of a 2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl group and the presence of another isoprene unit instead. These NMR data indicated that the molecule possesses a 7,8,4'-trisubstituted flavanone ring, one oxygenated sp<sup>3</sup> quarternary carbon, one oxygenated sp<sup>3</sup> methine, one sp<sup>3</sup> methylene, and two methyl groups. Since its flavanone ring accounted for 10 of 11 unsaturations, it was concluded that 4 contains one more ring in the molecule than in **1** and **2**. The  ${}^{1}H{}^{-1}H$ COSY, HMBC, and NOESY correlations observed for 4 are shown in Figure 2. The <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY correlations between H-1" ( $\delta$  2.63 and 2.89) and H-2" ( $\delta$  3.78) and the HMBC correlations of H-4" or H-5" ( $\delta$  1.31, 3H or 1.32, 3H) to C-2" (\$\delta 69.3), C-3" (\$\delta 79.3), C-4" (\$\delta 21.9), and C-5" (\$\delta 25.5), H-2" to C-4", C-5", and C-8 (& 109.3), and H-1" to C-3", C-7 (& 161.4), C-8, and C-9 ( $\delta$  163.0) revealed the presence of a 2,3-dioxygenated-3-methylbutyl group at C-8. Except for the absence of a 4-methylene carbon and the presence of a 4-carbonyl carbon instead, the NMR data of 4 were similar to those of 4'-hydroxy-7,8-(3"-hydroxy-2",2"-dimethylpyran)flavan, previously isolated from the title plant.<sup>10</sup> Therefore, it was concluded that **4** possesses a 2,2-dimethyl-3hydroxy-2,3-dihydro-4H-pyran ring. The absence of a NOESY correlation between H-2" and H-2', as observed in compound 1, and the presence of the correlation between H-4" or H-5" and H-6 also suggested the presence of a 2,2dimethyl-3-hydroxy-2,3-dihydro-4H-pyran ring fused to C-7 and C-8 of the flavanone ring. The configuration at C-2 was estimated as S from the CD spectrum, which showed a positive Cotton effect at 330 nm and a negative Cotton effect at 280-290 nm. Thus, the structure of brosimacutin D (4) was elucidated as (2*S*)-4'-hydroxy-7,8-(2,2-dimethyl-3-hydroxy-2,3-dihydro-4H-pyrano)flavanone.

The molecular formula of brosimacutin E (5),  $C_{20}H_{20}O_5$ , determined by HRSIMS [m/z 341.1393 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>,  $\Delta$  +0.5 mmu], was the same as that of brosimacutin D (4). The  $^{1}\text{H}$ and  $^{\rm 13}C$  NMR spectra of  ${\bf 5}$  were also similar to those of brosimacutin D (4) (Tables 1 and 2). These data indicated that brosimacutin E (5) is an isomer of brosimacutin D (4). Since its NMR data were similar to those of 4'-hydroxy-7,8-[2-(2-hydroxyisopropyl)dihydrofuran]flavan, previously isolated from the title species,<sup>11</sup> except for the absence of a 4-methylene carbon and the presence of a 4-carbonyl carbon, it was concluded that 5 possesses a 2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-2,3-dihydrofuran ring. The absolute configuration at C-2 was deduced to be S from the result of CD measurement. Thus, the structure of brosimacutin E (5) was elucidated as (2S)-4'-hydroxy-7,8-[2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-2,3-dihydrofurano]flavanone.





The molecular formula of brosimacutin F (6) was determined as  $C_{20}H_{20}O_6$  by positive-ion HRSIMS [m/z 357.1352  $(M + H)^+, \ \Delta + 1.5 \ mmu$ ]. The  $^1H$  and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) were also similar to those of brosimacutins A (1) and B (2) except for the absence of 2-methine and 3-methylene carbons and the presence of a sp^2 quaternary and a sp^2 methine carbon. It can be suggested that 6 is a flavone substituted with a 2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl group at C-8 and with two hydroxy groups at C-7 and C-4'. Thus, the structure of brosimacutin F (6) was determined to be 4',7-dihydroxy-8-(2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl)flavone.

The HRDCIMS of brosimacutin G (7) gave a molecular ion peak at m/z 356.1259, which corresponds to the molecular formula  $C_{20}H_{20}O_6$  ( $\Delta$  -0.1 mmu). Its <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) indicated the presence of one ketone carbonyl, six sp<sup>2</sup> quaternary carbons (three of these were bearing oxygen atoms), eight sp<sup>2</sup> methines, one sp<sup>3</sup> quaternary carbon (bearing an oxygen atom), two sp<sup>3</sup> methines (bearing oxygen atoms), and two methyl carbons. Because eight of 11 unsaturations were thus accounted for, it was concluded that 7 contains three rings. The <sup>1</sup>H<sup>-1</sup>H COSY, HMBC, and NOESY correlations obtained for 7 are shown in Figure 3. The <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>1</sup>H COSY correlations between H-5 ( $\delta$  8.11) and H-6 ( $\delta$  6.50) and between H-1" ( $\delta$  5.47) and H-2" ( $\delta$  4.37) and the HMBC correlations of H-5 to C-7 (\$\delta\$ 168.9) and C-9 (\$\delta\$ 164.0), H-6 to C-8 (\$\delta\$ 116.9) and C-10 ( $\delta$  116.0), H-1" to C-7 and C-8, and H-2" to C-7 revealed the presence of a 2,5-disubstituted 3,4-dihydroxy-2,3dihydrobenzofuran ring. The <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY correlation between H-2' ( $\delta$  7.63) and H-3' ( $\delta$  6.84) and the HMBC correlations of H-2' to C-2' ( $\delta$  131.9), C-4' ( $\delta$  161.7), and C-2 (\$\delta\$ 146.1) and H-3' to C-1' (\$\delta\$ 127.8), C-3' (\$\delta\$ 117.0), and C-4' revealed the presence of a 4-hydroxyphenyl group. The  $^{1}\text{H}{-}^{1}\text{H}$  COSY correlation between H-2 ( $\delta$  7.82) and H-3 ( $\delta$ 7.64) and the HMBC correlations of H-2 to C-4 ( $\delta$  194.0), C-1', and C-2' and H-3 to C-4 and C-1' indicated that the 4-hydroxyphenyl group was attached to C-3 of a 2-propen-1-one unit. The large coupling constant (J = 15.4 Hz)between H-2 and H-3 indicated the trans geometry of a double bond of this 2-propen-1-one moiety. The HMBC correlation of H-5 to C-4 and the NOESY correlation between H-3 and H-5 indicated that a *p*-coumaroyl group was attached to C-5 of the 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran ring. The HMBC correlations of H-4" (\$ 1.24) to C-3" (\$ 71.9) and C-5" (\$\delta\$ 25.3) and H-5" (\$\delta\$ 1.26) to C-3" and C-4" (\$\delta\$ 25.2) suggested that a 1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl group was present. The HMBC correlations of H-1" to C-3" and H-2" to C-4" and C-5" indicated that the 1-hydroxy-1-methyethyl



group was attached to C-2 of the 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran ring. These results suggested that 7 is a 2',4-dihydroxychalcone with a 2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-3-hydroxy-2,3dihydrobenzofuran ring at C-3' and C-4'. The relative stereochemistry of the substituents on the dihydrofuran ring was elucidated on the basis of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR and NOESY experiments of 7. The small coupling constants (J = 3.6 Hz) of H-1" ( $\delta$  5.47) and H-2" ( $\delta$  4.37) and the absence of NOE enhancement between these two methine proton signals indicated a *trans*-relationship of a hydroxyl group and a 1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl group substituted on the dihydrofuran ring.<sup>12</sup> On the basis of these results, the relative structure of brosimacutin G (7) was elucidated as 1-[2,3-trans-3,4-dihydroxy-2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-2,3dihydrobenzofuran-5-yl]-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-E-propenone, leaving the absolute stereochemistry undetermined.

The molecular formula,  $C_{20}H_{24}O_6$ , of brosimacutin H (8) was determined by positive-ion HRSIMS [m/z 361.1636 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>,  $\Delta$  – 1.4 mmu]. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) were also similar to those of brosimacutins A (1) and B (2) except for the absence of a 2-methine carbon and the presence of a methylene carbon instead. It could be suggested that 8 is a dihydrochalcone substituted with a 2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl group at C-3' and with three hydroxyl groups at C-2', C-4, and C-4'. Thus, the structure of brosimacutin H (8) was determined to be 2',4,4'-trihydroxy-3'-(2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl)dihydrochalcone.

The molecular formula of brosimacutin I (9), C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, established by HRSIMS [m/z 361.1665 (M + H)<sup>+</sup>,  $\Delta$  +1.5 mmu] was the same as that of brosimacutin H (8). The  $^{1}$ H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) were also similar to those of brosimacutin H (8) except for an upfield shift of H-5 ( $\delta$  6.74) and a downfield shift of H-2' ( $\delta$  7.90, 2H). These data indicated that brosimacutin I (9) is an isomer of brosimacutin H (8). The <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, HMBC, and NOE-SY correlations observed for 9 are shown in Figure 4. The HMBC correlations of H-4 ( $\delta$  2.86, 2H) to C-5 ( $\delta$  128.9), C-9 ( $\delta$  155.7), C-10 ( $\delta$  121.2), and C-2 ( $\delta$  202.1) and H-2' to C-2 and the NOESY correlations between H-4 and H-5 and between H-3 ( $\delta$  3.17, 2H) and H-2' revealed that **9** is a 2-keto-4-methylene isomer of 8. Thus, the structure of brosimacutin I (9) was determined to be 2,4,4'-trihydroxy-3-(2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl)dihydrochalcone.

The results of the present and earlier investigations on this plant<sup>3,10,11</sup> indicate that the bark of *Brosimum acuti*folium is a rich source of 8-prenylated flavonoids with various modifications of their prenyl substituent groups. Acutifolins D and  $E^3$  and brosimacutins A (1), H (2), L (6), N (8), and O (9), seven new flavonoids isolated from this plant, have a 2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl group at C-8. Lonchocarpol B has been reported as the first 8-(2,3-dyhydroxy-3-methylbutyl)flavonoid from *Lonchocarpus minimiflorus*.<sup>13</sup> Acutifolins D and E and brosimacutins A (1), H (2), L (6), N (8), and O (9) are the second examples of 8-(2,3-dihydroxy-3-methylbutyl)flavonoids as far as we know.

## **Experimental Section**

**General Experimental Procedures.** Optical rotations were determined on a JASCO DIP-370 digital polarimeter. CD data were recorded on a JASCO J-820 spectropolarimeter. UV and IR spectra were obtained on Shimadzu UV-260 and JASCO FT/IR-5300 spectrometers, respectively. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker AMX500 spectrometer using tetramethylsilane as the internal standard. Mass spectra were obtained on a Hitachi M-2000A (SIMS) or JEOL JMS-700 (DCIMS) spectrometer.

**Plant Material.** The bark of *Brosimum acutifolium* was purchased in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in July 1995. The plant was identified by Dr. K. Yoneda (Osaka University), and a voucher specimen with the identification number B 158 has been deposited at the Institute of Biomaterials and Bioengineering, Tokyo Medical and Dental University.

Extraction and Isolation. The MeOH extract (52.12 g) of the bark of *B. acutifolium* (1.5 kg) was partitioned between EtOAc and H<sub>2</sub>O. The EtOAc-soluble fraction (12.56 g) was subjected to reversed-phase column chromatography (MCI Gel ODS IMY, Mitsubishi Chemical Corp., step gradient with  $H_2O-CH_3CN$ ) to give six fractions. The third fraction (3.51 g) was eluted with H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>3</sub>CN (60:40) and further chromatographed over ODS (MCI Gel ODS IMY, step gradient with  $H_2O-MeOH$ ) to give nine fractions. The fifth fraction (600 mg), the sixth fraction (860 mg), and the seventh fraction (650 mg), which were eluted with  $H_2O$ -MeOH (55:45, 50:50, and 45:55, respectively) were purified by reversed-phase HPLC (Capcellpak C<sub>18</sub> UG 80, Shiseido, H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>3</sub>CN) to afford bromisacutins (1, 24.8 mg, 0.0017%), B (2, 17.4 mg, 0.0012%), C (3, 1.1 mg, 0.000073%), D (4, 2.1 mg, 0.00014%), E (5, 4.7 mg, 0.00031%), F (6, 2.5 mg, 0.00017%), G (7, 1.5 mg, 0.00010%), H (8, 8.3 mg, 0.00055%), I (9, 7.3 mg, 0.00049%), 7,4'dihydroxyflavone (4.8 mg, 0.00032%),5 luteolin (1.0 mg, 0.000067%),<sup>6</sup> (-)-liquiritigenin (1.0 mg, 0.000067%),<sup>7</sup> and (-)naringenin (2.2 mg, 0.00015%).8

**Brosimacutin A (1):** colorless amorphous solid;  $[α]^{22}_D$ -31.1° (*c*0.27, MeOH); CD (*c*0.027, MeOH) Δε<sup>25</sup> (nm) 8.5 (332), 0 (320), -12.9 (299), 0 (256), 12.8 (236), 2.5 (228), 34.7 (215); UV (MeOH)  $λ_{max}$  (log ε) 282 (4.45), 310 (sh, 4.19) nm; IR (KBr)  $ν_{max}$  3412 (br), 2980, 1653, 1589, 1518, 1445, 1331, 1263 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2); HRSIMS *m*/*z* 359.1478 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, 359.1493).

**Brosimacutin B (2):** colorless amorphous solid;  $[α]^{22}_{\rm D}$  +29.4° (*c* 0.43, MeOH); CD (*c* 0.025, MeOH)  $\Delta \epsilon^{25}$  (nm) -3.3 (333), 0 (320), 4.9 (302), 0 (265), -2.3 (238), 3.3 (227), -4.3 (214); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{\rm max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 282 (4.46), 310 (sh, 4.17) nm; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\rm max}$  3399 (br), 2980, 1655, 1586, 1518, 1445, 1331, 1273 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2); HRSIMS *m*/*z* 359.1465 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, 359.1493).

**Brosimacutin C (3):** colorless amorphous solid;  $[α]^{22}_D - 1.2^\circ$ (*c* 0.050, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $λ_{max}$  (log ε) 283 (4.44), 310 (sh, 4.28) nm; IR (KBr)  $ν_{max}$  3423 (br), 2926, 1655, 1518, 1440, 1383, 1278 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2); HRSIMS *m*/*z* 343.1552 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, 343.1544).

**Brosimacutin D (4):** colorless amorphous solid;  $[α]^{22}_D$ +63.0° (*c* 0.095, MeOH); CD (*c* 0.028, MeOH)  $\Delta \epsilon^{25}$  (nm) 7.6 (332), 0 (319), -10.7 (300), 0 (261), 10.2 (238), -5.3 (226), 16.1 (214); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 283 (4.49), 310 (sh, 4.24) nm; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  3422 (br), 2928, 1667, 1601, 1518, 1439, 1335, 1267, 1221 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2); HRSIMS *m*/*z* 341.1358 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, 341.1388).

**Brosimacutin E (5):** colorless amorphous solid;  $[\alpha]^{22}_{D}$ -84.0° (*c* 0.23, MeOH); CD (*c* 0.023, MeOH)  $\Delta \epsilon^{25}$  (nm) 3.5 (331), 0 (320), -10.8 (296), 0 (256), 5.9 (239), -5.8 (227), 9.6 (213); UV (MeOH) λ<sub>max</sub> (log ε) 286 (4.48), 310 (sh, 4.31) nm; IR (KBr) v<sub>max</sub> 3423 (br), 2928, 1667, 1607, 1518, 1454, 1370, 1311, 1269, 1248 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2); HRSIMS m/z 341.1393 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, 341.1388).

**Brosimacutin F (6):** colorless amorphous solid;  $[\alpha]^{22} - 3.0^{\circ}$ (*c* 0.10, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 250 (4.22), 259 (4.24), 330 (4.44) nm; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\rm max}$  3423 (bř), 2926, 1628, 1607, 1510, 1439, 1386, 1252 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2); HRSIMS m/z 357.1352 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, 357.1337).

**Brosimacutin G (7):** yellow amorphous solid;  $[\alpha]^{22}_{D} - 0.7^{\circ}$ (c 0.060, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 370 (4.43) nm; IR (KBr)  $v_{\text{max}}$  3424 (br), 2926, 1634, 1605, 1561, 1514, 1440, 1366, 1246 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2); HRDCIMS m/z 356.1259 [M]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, 356.1260)

**Brosimacutin H (8):** colorless amorphous solid;  $[\alpha]^{22}_{D} + 7.0^{\circ}$ (c 1.1, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 283 (4.47), 310 (sh, 4.11) nm; IR (KBr)  $v_{\rm max}$  3416 (br), 2930, 1618, 1516, 1441, 1372, 1260, 1225 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2); HRSIMS *m*/*z* 361.1636 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, 361.1650).

**Brosimacutin I (9):** colorless amorphous solid;  $[\alpha]^{22}_{D}$  $-33.1^{\circ}$  (*c* 0.15, MeOH); UV (MeOH)  $\lambda_{max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 282 (4.48) nm; IR (KBr) v<sub>max</sub> 3382 (br), 2975, 1655, 1603, 1514, 1453, 1368, 1283, 1213 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2); HRSIMS m/z 361.1665 [M + H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, 361.1650).

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