

Xenia Diterpenoids from the Formosan Soft Coral *Xenia blumi*

Ali A. H. El-Gamal,^{†,‡} Chin-Ying Chiang,[†] Shin-Huei Huang,[†] Shang-Kwei Wang,[§] and Chang-Yih Duh^{*,†}

Department of Marine Resources, National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, Republic of China, Faculty of Pharmacy, Mansoura University, Egypt, and Department of Microbiology, Kaohsiung Medical University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, Republic of China

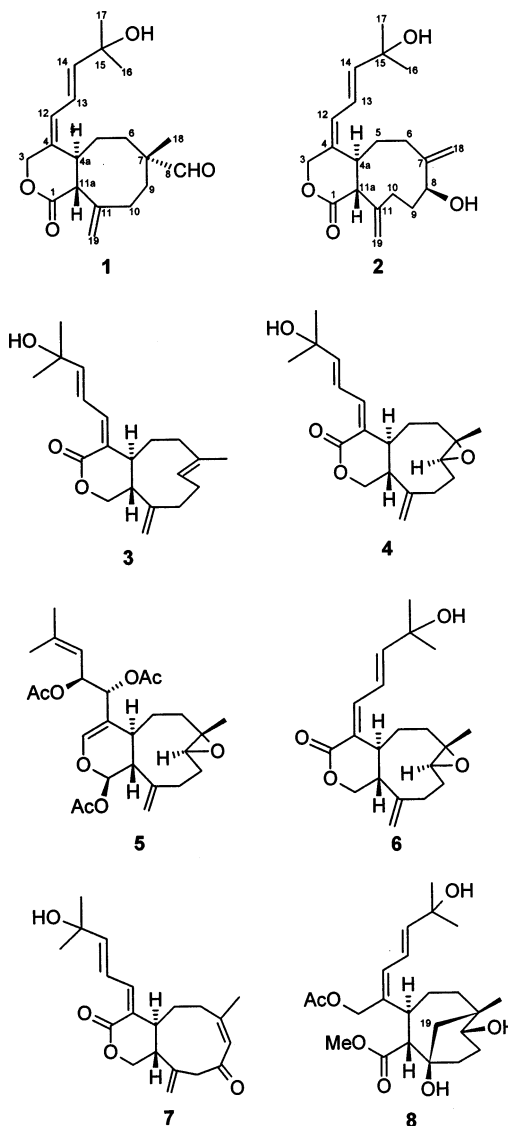
Received March 21, 2005

Eight new xenia diterpenoids, blumiolide-A (**1**) (novel carbon skeleton), blumiolide-B (**2**), 9-deoxy-isoxeniolide-A (**3**), 9-deoxy-7,8-epoxy-isoxeniolide-A (**4**), 9-deacetoxy-7,8-epoxy-13-epi-xenicin (**5**), 9-deoxy-7,8-epoxy-xeniolide-A (**6**), blumiolide-C (**7**), and blumicin-A (**8**), were isolated from the methylene chloride solubles of the Formosan soft coral *Xenia blumi*. Their structures were elucidated by extensive spectroscopic analysis, and their cytotoxicity against selected cancer cells was measured in vitro.

Soft corals belonging to the genus *Xenia* (order Alcyonacea, family Xenidiidae) have proved to be a rich sources of terpenoids and have afforded several types of bioactive diterpenoids.¹ As part of our search for bioactive substances from marine organisms, the Formosan soft coral *Xenia blumi* Roxas was studied because the CH₂Cl₂ extract showed significant cytotoxicity to A549 (human lung adenocarcinoma), HT-29 (human colon adenocarcinoma), and P-388 (mouse lymphocytic leukemia) cell cultures, as determined by standard procedures.^{2,3} Bioassay-guided fractionations of this extract resulted in the isolation of eight new xenia diterpenoids, blumiolide-A (**1**) (novel carbon skeleton), blumiolide-B (**2**), 9-deoxy-isoxeniolide-A (**3**), 9-deoxy-7,8-epoxy-isoxeniolide-A (**4**), 9-deacetoxy-7,8-epoxy-13-epi-xenicin (**5**), 9-deoxy-7,8-epoxy-xeniolide-A (**6**), blumiolide-C (**7**), and blumicin-A (**8**).

Results and Discussion

Compound **1** was isolated as a colorless oil, [α]_D²⁵ +18° (c 0.4, CHCl₃). The IR spectrum of **1** exhibited absorptions due to hydroxyl (3419 cm⁻¹) and carbonyl (1735 cm⁻¹) groups. HRFABMS and NMR data of **1** suggested a molecular formula of C₂₀H₂₈O₄. The structure of **1** was completely solved by a combination of 1D and 2D NMR methods. The carbon resonances at δ_C 134.7 (qC), 128.4 (CH), 120.5 (CH), and 145.3 (CH) in the ¹³C NMR and DEPT spectra (Table 2) suggested the presence of a diene, while the quaternary carbon signal at δ_C 143.9 along with the methylene olefinic carbon signal at δ_C 118.4 indicated the presence of an *exo* methylene double bond. Furthermore, the presence of two oxygenated carbons was deduced from the carbon signals at δ_C 71.3 (qC) and 70.9 (CH₂). Three methylene groups were inferred from four carbon signals at δ_C 29.5, 29.8, 31.2, and 33.3, a lactone carbonyl at δ 172.5, an aldehyde carbonyl at δ 205.9, and, finally, two methyl signals at δ_C 29.8 and 29.9. The ¹H NMR spectrum (Table 1) confirmed the presence of an *exo* methylene double bond by two singlet signals at δ_H 5.07 and 5.34. In addition, one oxygenated methylene was observed at δ_H 4.91 and 4.43. Two intense singlet signals are also observed at δ_H 1.38 and 1.39 (s, 3H each), and these correspond to two methyl groups. In this manner the seven degrees of unsaturation present in **1** were established.



Three spin systems (see a–c in Figure 1) were deduced from combined use of ¹H–¹H COSY and HMQC spectra of **1**. These substructures were connected through HMBC correlations between the protons H₂-3 (δ_H 4.43 and 4.91) and the carbons C-1 (δ_C 172.5), C-4 (δ_C 134.7), C-12 (δ_C 128.4), and C-4a (δ_C 43.5), between the proton H-11a (δ_H 3.16) and the carbons C-1 (δ_C 172.5) and C-10 (δ_C 33.3),

* To whom correspondence should be addressed. Tel: 886-7-525-2000, ext. 5036. Fax: 886-7-525-5020. E-mail: yihduh@mail.nsysu.edu.tw.

[†] National Sun Yat-sen University.

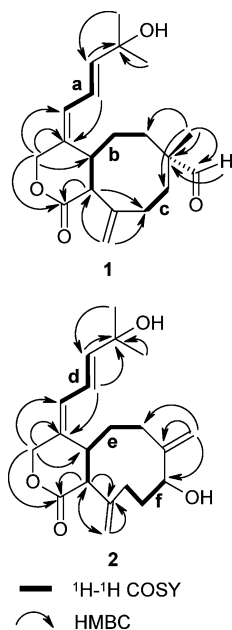
[‡] Mansoura University.

[§] Kaohsiung Medical University.

Table 1. ^1H NMR Data of 1–7

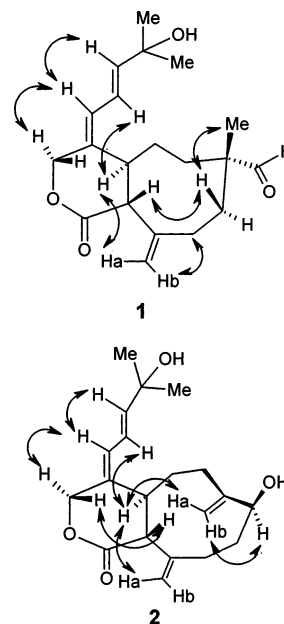
H	1 ^a	2 ^b	3 ^a	4 ^a	5 ^b	6 ^b	7 ^b
1 α			3.60 t (12.0)	3.67 t (11.5)	5.97 d (1.8)	3.67 t (12.6)	4.01 t (11.5)
1 β			4.08 dd (12.0, 5.5)	4.18 dd (11.5, 5.5)		4.16 dd (12.6, 5.4)	4.19 dd (11.5, 4.2)
3 α	4.43 d (12.0) ^c	4.42 d (12.0)			6.52 br s		
3 β	4.91 d (12.0)	4.89 d (12.0)					
4a	2.88 m	3.16 m	2.57 dt (10.0, 3.0)	2.64 dd (8.5, 3.0)	2.37 m	3.13 m	2.55 m
5	2.08 m	2.09 m	1.62 m	1.83 m	2.13 m	1.69 m	1.72 m
	1.48 m	1.91 m			1.69 m		
6	2.24 m	2.23 m	2.21 m	1.20 m	2.25 m	2.23 m	2.24 m
	1.80 m	2.40 m	2.21 m	2.24 m	1.22 m	1.37 m	3.05 dt (4.2, 13.5)
8	9.57 s	4.30 t (4.5)	5.38 t (7.5)	2.93 dd (11.0, 4.5)	2.99 dd (10.5, 8.3)	3.02 dd (10.5, 3.9)	5.97 s
9	1.74 m	2.03 m	2.49 m	2.30 m	2.30 m	2.33 m	
	2.04 m	2.12 m	2.24 m		1.50 m	1.50 m	
10	2.45 m	2.49 m	2.33 m	2.52 m	2.43 m	2.45 m	3.45 d (14.1)
	2.36 m	2.34 m				2.29 m	3.52 d (14.1)
11a	3.16 d (11.0)	3.42 d (9.6)	2.10 m	2.44 m	2.43 m	2.52 m	2.53 m
12	6.08 d (11.5)	6.07 d (11.1)	6.35 d (11.0)	6.38 d (11.0)	5.30 d (6.3)	6.99 d (11.4)	6.32 d (11.1)
13	6.30 dd (11.5, 15.0)	6.36 dd (11.1, 15.0)	6.84 dd (15.5, 11.0)	6.88 dd (15.5, 11.0)	5.69 dd (9.0, 6.3)	6.46 dd (11.4, 15.0)	6.91 dd (11.1, 15.6)
14	5.95 d (15.0)	5.94 d (15.0)	6.07 d (15.5)	6.09 d (15.5)	5.15 d (9.0)	6.27 d (15.0)	6.09 d (15.6)
16	1.38 s	1.36 s	1.38 s	1.38 s	1.75 s	1.37 s	1.36 s
17	1.39 s	1.36 s	1.37 s	1.37 s	1.75 s	1.37 s	1.36 s
18	1.04 s	a: 5.14 s b: 5.33 s	1.71 s	1.38 s	1.32 s	1.37 s	1.92 s
19a	5.07 s	5.03 s	4.88 s	5.02 s	4.90 s	5.15 s	5.13 s
19b	5.34 s	5.26 s	4.95 s	5.16 s	5.03 s	5.01 s	4.94 s
OCOCH ₃					2.08 s 2.03 s 2.01 s		

^a Recorded in CDCl₃ at 500 MHz. ^b Recorded in CDCl₃ at 300 MHz. The values are ppm downfield from TMS, and assignments were made by COSY, NOESY, HMQC, and HMBC experiments. ^c *J* values (in Hz) in parentheses.

**Figure 1.** Key COSY and HMBC correlations of 1 and 2.

between the methyl proton Me-18 (δ_{H} 1.04) and carbons C-6 (δ_{C} 29.5), C-7 (δ_{C} 49.3), C-8 (δ_{C} 205.9), and C-9 (δ_{C} 31.2), between the aldehydic proton H-8 (δ_{H} 9.57) and carbon C-7 (δ_{C} 49.3), and between the *exo* methylene protons H₂-19 (δ_{H} 5.07 and 5.34) and carbons C-11a (δ_{C} 48.2) and C-10 (δ_{C} 33.3). These relationships are represented in Figure 1. All these data allowed us to identify compound 1 as a new diterpenoid with a novel skeleton.

The relative stereochemistry of compound 1 was established from NOESY correlations (Figure 2) and by comparison of its spectroscopic data to those of xenioidide

**Figure 2.** Key NOESY correlations of 1 and 2.

analogues.^{4–15} The *E* geometry was assigned to the $\Delta^{4,12}$ double bond on the basis of the observation of NOESY correlations between H-3 α and H-12 and between H-4a and H-13. The *E* geometry of the $\Delta^{13,14}$ double bond was established by the large coupling constant observed between H-13 and H-14 (*J* = 15.0 Hz). The coupling constant (*J* = 11.0 Hz) between H-4a and H-11a suggested a *trans* ring junction, which implied that H-4a was α -oriented.^{4–15} NOESY correlations from H-11a to H-9 β and H-3 β and from H-9 β to Me-18 were observed. This suggests that H-11a and Me-18 are on the same face (β) of the ring.

The IR spectrum of **2** indicated absorption bands due to hydroxyl (3450 cm^{-1}) and ester carbonyl (1736 cm^{-1}) functionalities. The molecular formula, $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_4$, was obtained by the HRFABMS. The NMR spectral data of **2** revealed a ring A and the side chain similar to those of **1**. Resonances due to two methyl groups on a carbon carrying a hydroxyl group at δ_{H} 1.36 (6H, s) were assigned to H-16 and H-17. The resonance due to H-13 (δ_{H} 6.36, 1H, dd, $J = 11.1, 15.0\text{ Hz}$) showed that H-13 was coupled to H-12 (δ_{H} 6.07, 1H, d, $J = 11.1\text{ Hz}$) and H-14 (1H, δ_{H} 5.94, d, $J = 15.0\text{ Hz}$). An AB system at δ_{H} 4.42 (1H, d, $J = 12.0\text{ Hz}$) and 4.89 (1H, d, $J = 12.0\text{ Hz}$) was due to H₂-3. Two coupled methines at δ_{H} 3.16 and 3.42 were due to two methine protons at the ring junction. The ^{13}C NMR resonances at δ_{C} 114.8 (CH_2) and 118.1 (CH_2) indicated the presence of two *exo* methylene double bonds, which were confirmed by the observation of four singlet signals at δ_{H} 5.14, 5.33, 5.03, and 5.26 in the ^1H NMR spectrum. In addition, the presence of an oxygenated methine was deduced from the carbon signal at δ_{C} 75.7 (CH) and the proton signal at δ_{H} 4.30. Four methylene signals (two allylic) were observed at δ_{C} 28.7, 30.7, 35.1, and 35.6 and, finally, two methyl signals at δ_{C} 29.9 and 30.0.

Analysis of ^1H - ^1H COSY and HSQC on **2** enabled us to distinguish three spin systems (see **d-f** in Figure 1). These substructures were connected through HMBC correlations between the protons H₂-3 (δ_{H} 4.42 and 4.89) and the carbons C-1 (δ_{C} 173.2), C-4 (δ_{C} 135.1), C-12 (δ_{C} 128.1), and C-4a (δ_{C} 38.1), between the proton H-11a (δ_{H} 3.42) and the carbons C-1 (δ_{C} 173.2), C-11 (δ_{C} 146.6), and C-19 (δ_{C} 118.1), between the *exo* methylene protons H₂-18 (δ_{H} 5.14 and 5.33) and carbons C-6 (δ_{C} 28.7), C-7 (δ_{C} 152.4), and C-8 (δ_{C} 75.7), and between the *exo* methylene protons H₂-19 (δ_{H} 5.03 and 5.26) and carbons C-11a (δ_{C} 50.7) and C-10 (δ_{C} 30.7). These relationships are represented in Figure 1. All these data allowed us to identify compound **2** as a new xeniolide diterpenoid.

The relative stereochemistry of compound **2** was deduced from NOESY correlations (Figure 2) and by comparison of its spectroscopic data with those of xeniolide analogues. The *E* geometry was assigned to the $\Delta^{4,12}$ double bond on the basis of the observation of NOESY correlations between H-3 α and H-12 and between H-4a and H-13. The *E* geometry of the Δ^{13} double bond was established by the large coupling constant observed between H-13 and H-14 ($J = 15.0\text{ Hz}$). The coupling constant ($J = 9.6\text{ Hz}$) between H-4a and H-11a suggested a *trans* ring junction, which implied that H-4a was α -oriented.⁴⁻¹⁵ NOESY correlations from H-4a to Ha-18 and Ha-19 and from H-18b to H-8 were observed. This suggests that two *exo* methylenes are perpendicular to the ring and H-4a, H₂-18, H₂-19, and H-8 are on the same face (α) of the ring.

Compound **3** had a molecular formula of $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_3$, as indicated by HRFABMS and NMR spectral data. The NMR features of compound **3** were analogous to those of 9-deoxy-xeniolide-A¹⁶ with the exception of the stereochemistry at C-12. The *Z* geometry was assigned to the $\Delta^{4,12}$ double bond on the basis of the resonances due to H-13 (δ_{H} 6.84, 1H, dd, $J = 11.0, 15.5\text{ Hz}$), H-12 (δ_{H} 6.35, 1H, d, $J = 11.5\text{ Hz}$), and H-14 (1H, δ_{H} 6.07, d, $J = 15.5\text{ Hz}$) as well as the observation of NOESY correlations between H-4a and H-12. The relative stereochemistry of the ring system, which was similar to that of 9-deoxyxeniolide-A, was established by a NOESY experiment.

Compound **4** had a molecular formula of $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_4$, as indicated by HRFABMS and NMR spectral data. The NMR features of compound **4** were analogous to those of com-

pound **3** with the exception that the resonances for the methyl-bearing *E*-trisubstituted olefin were replaced by those of a methyl-bearing trisubstituted epoxide [δ_{H} 1.38 s, 2.93 dd; δ_{C} 16.3 (CH_3), 59.0 (qC), 62.1 (CH)]. Cross-peaks in the ^1H - ^1H COSY spectrum showed couplings between the epoxide methine proton at C-8 and methylene protons at C-9. HMBC correlations between H-8 and C-6, C-7, C-9, and C-10 and between Me-18 and C-6, C-7, and C-8 positioned the methyl-bearing trisubstituted epoxide at C-7, C-8, and C-18. The relative stereochemistry of **4** was established by a NOESY experiment. NOESY correlations from H-11a to H-1 β (δ 4.18) and Me-18 showed that these protons occurred on the same face of the ring system (β). The coupling constant ($J = 8.5\text{ Hz}$) between H-4a and H-11a suggested a *trans* ring junction, which implied that H-4a was α -oriented.⁴⁻¹⁵ A NOESY correlation from H-4a to H-8 showed that these protons occurred on the α face of the ring system.

Compound **5** was analyzed for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_8$ by HRFABMS and NMR spectral data. The NMR features of compound **5** were analogous to those of 9-desacetyl-7,8-epoxy-13-epixenicine¹⁷ except the absence of the hydroxyl group at C-9, and this was confirmed by ^1H - ^1H COSY cross-peaks between the epoxide methine proton at δ 2.99 (dd, H-8) and methylene protons at δ 2.30 and 1.50 as well as HMBC correlations between H-18 and C-6, C-7, C-9, and C-10. The relative stereochemistry of the ring system, which is similar to **4**, was established by a NOESY experiment. The relative stereochemistry of the side chain was determined as 12*R**, 13*S** by comparison of the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts and coupling constants of **5** with those of 13-epi-9-deacetyl-xenicine.⁶

Compound **6** had a molecular formula of $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_4$, as shown by HRFABMS and NMR spectral data. The NMR features of compound **6** closely resembled those of compound **4** with the exception of the stereochemistry at C-12. The *E* geometry was assigned to the $\Delta^{4,12}$ double bond on the basis of the observation of NOESY correlations between H-3 α and H-12 and between H-4a and H-13. The relative stereochemistry of the ring system, which was similar to that of **4**, was established by a NOESY experiment.

Compound **7** exhibited a molecular formula of $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_4$ by HRFABMS and NMR spectral data. The NMR features of compound **7** were analogous to those of compound **3** except the methylene at C-9 was oxidized to a ketone, and this was confirmed by HMBC correlations from Me-18 to C-6/C-7/C-8 and from H₂-10 to C-9/C-10/C-19/C-11a. The *Z*-trisubstituted olefin at C-7 was established by the NOESY correlation between H₃-18 and H-8, and the relative stereochemistry of the ring system was deduced from the NOESY experiment.

Compound **8** was shown to have a molecular formula of $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_7$ by HRFABMS and NMR spectral data. The presence of the bicyclic [4.3.1] ring system, containing two hydroxyl groups at C-8 and C-11, was assumed from the resonances due to methyl protons at C-18 (δ 1.02, 3H, s), isolated methylene protons at C-19 (δ 1.76), and a broad singlet at C-8 (δ 3.50, 1H).¹⁸ Resonances due to two methyl protons on a carbon carrying a hydroxyl group at δ 1.36 (6H, s) were assigned to H-16 and H-17. The resonance due to H-13 (δ 6.48, 1H, dd, $J = 10.5, 15.6\text{ Hz}$) showed that H-13 was coupled to H-12 (δ 6.02, 1H, d, $J = 10.5\text{ Hz}$) and H-14 (1H, δ 5.88, d, $J = 15.6\text{ Hz}$). An AB system at δ 4.56 (1H, br d, $J = 12.0\text{ Hz}$) and 4.63 (1H, d, $J = 12.0\text{ Hz}$) was due to H₂-3. The acetoxy was placed at C-3 on the basis of a HMBC correlation from H₂-3 to the acetoxy carbonyl carbon. The remaining carbomethoxy group (δ_{H} 3.58, 3H,

Table 2. ^{13}C NMR Data of 1–8

carbon	1 ^a	2 ^b	3 ^a	4 ^a	5 ^c	6 ^a	7 ^a	8 ^b
1	172.5	173.2	71.2	71.6	91.0	71.1	69.1	173.0
3	70.9	71.7	169.2	168.5	140.0	170.4	168.5	65.0
4	134.7	135.1	133.4	132.5	113.3	132.4	133.0	142.2
4a	43.5	38.1	51.5	50.7	36.8	42.3	47.0	40.3
5	29.8	35.1	37.8	36.3	29.6	36.4	36.0	30.0
6	29.5	28.7	40.0	39.7	39.1	39.7	30.7	38.5
7	49.3	152.4	135.5	59.0	60.2	59.1	142.8	37.2
8	205.9	75.7	124.3	62.1	62.6	62.7	130.4	73.8
9	31.2	35.6	24.8	25.0	24.2	25.5	200.6	27.8
10	33.3	30.7	34.9	29.7	29.6	31.8	52.5	28.0
11	143.9	146.6	152.1	141.8	142.4	148.9	149.7	73.6
11a	48.2	50.7	49.9	48.9	48.8	49.1	45.4	60.7
12	128.4	128.1	135.5	136.9	75.1	137.3	139.1	130.0
13	120.5	120.8	122.6	122.5	69.6	119.7	122.4	121.4
14	145.3	145.1	147.4	148.3	119.6	151.4	149.0	144.0
15	71.3	71.0	70.9	70.9	140.5	71.2	71.0	71.0
16	29.8	29.9	29.4	29.4	24.6	29.9	29.4	29.8
17	29.9	30.0	29.3	29.3	17.4	29.9	29.5	29.8
18	24.1	114.8	16.3	16.3	15.1	16.8	25.0	29.6
19	118.4	118.1	113.0	114.9	113.5	115.9	116.2	44.8
OCOCH ₃						19.8		21.2
						19.5		
						19.4		
OCOCH ₃						170.3		171.0
						170.0		
						169.6		
OCH ₃								51.8

^a Recorded at 125 MHz in CDCl₃. ^b Recorded at 75 MHz in CDCl₃. ^c Recorded at 75 MHz in *d*₄-methanol. The values are in ppm downfield from TMS, and assignments were made by DEPT, COSY, HMQC, and HMBC experiments.

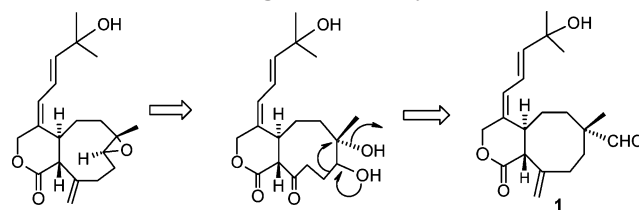
Table 3. Cytotoxicity^a of 1–8

compound	cell lines ED ₅₀ (μg mL ⁻¹)	
	HT-29	P-388
1	4.6	3.3
2	4.9	3.7
3	8.7	>20
4	5.6	4.7
5	>20	>20
6	8.6	6.9
7	0.5	0.2
8	>20	>20

^a For significant activity of pure compounds, an ED₅₀ of ≤4.0 μg/mL is required.

s; δ_{C} 51.8, q; δ_{C} 173.0, s) to be assigned was deduced to be located at C-11a by a HMBC correlation from H-11a to C-1. The *E* geometry of the double bond at C-13 was determined by the coupling constant ($J = 15.6$ Hz) between H-13 and H-14. The geometry of the olefinic bond between C-4 and C-12 was concluded to be *E* on the basis of a strong NOESY correlation between H-4a (δ 3.22, m) and H-13. The stereochemistry of all chiral centers was elucidated from NOESY experiments of **8**. NOESY correlations from H-19 (δ 1.76) to H-11a (δ 2.74) and H-18 and from H-11a to H-3 showed that these protons occur on the β face of the ring system. The large coupling constant ($J = 12.6$ Hz) between H-4a (δ 3.22 m) and H-11a (δ 2.74) suggested that the configuration of H-4a was α -oriented.¹⁸ The α -configuration of H-8 was assumed from the signal pattern (broad singlet) as for floridicins.¹⁸ Therefore, the structure of blumicin-C was assigned as **8** on the basis of the above results.

The cytotoxicity of compounds 1–8 is shown in Table 3. Compound **7** exhibited potent cytotoxicity against P-388 and HT-29 cells. Compounds **1** and **2** exhibited moderate cytotoxicity against P-388 cells. A plausible biogenetic pathway of **1** was proposed as shown in Scheme 1.

Scheme 1. Plausible Biogenetic Pathway of 1

Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. Melting points were determined using a Yanagimoto micromelting point apparatus and are reported uncorrected. Optical rotations were determined on a JASCO DIP-181 polarimeter. UV spectra were obtained on a Shimadzu UV-160A spectrophotometer, and IR spectra were recorded on a Hitachi 26-30 spectrophotometer. The NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 300 NMR spectrometer at 300 MHz for ¹H and 75 MHz for ¹³C or on a Varian Unity INOVA 500 FT-NMR at 500 MHz for ¹H and 125 MHz for ¹³C, using CDCl₃ with TMS as internal standard. FABMS spectra were obtained with a JEOL JMS-SX/SX 102A mass spectrometer. Silica gel 60 (Merck, 230–400 mesh) was used for column chromatography; precoated silica gel plates (Merck, Kieselgel 60 F₂₅₄, 0.25 mm) were used for TLC analysis.

Animal Material. The soft coral *X. blumi* was collected at Green Island, off Taiwan, in May 2002, at a depth of 3–4 m and was stored for 2 months in a freezer until extraction. A voucher specimen, NSUGN-4751, was deposited in the Department of Marine Resources, National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan.

Extraction and Isolation. The bodies of the soft coral *X. blumi* were freeze-dried to give 0.55 kg of a solid, which was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (4.0 L × 3). After removal of solvent in vacuo, the residue (60 g) was chromatographed over silica gel 60 using *n*-hexane and *n*-hexane–EtOAc mixtures of increasing polarity. Elution by *n*-hexane–EtOAc (5:1) afforded fractions containing compound **5**. Elution by *n*-hexane–EtOAc (4:1) afforded fractions containing compound **3**. Elution by *n*-hexane–EtOAc (3:1) afforded fractions containing compound **4**. Elution by *n*-hexane–EtOAc (7:3) afforded fractions containing compound **8**. Elution by *n*-hexane–EtOAc (5:2) afforded fractions containing compounds **6** and **7**. Elution by *n*-hexane–EtOAc (3:2) afforded fractions containing compounds **1** and **2**. Compounds **1** and **2** were further purified by silica gel column chromatography, by eluting with CH₂Cl₂–acetone (20:1). Compound **3** was further purified by HPLC (Si 60) by eluting with *n*-hexane–acetone (3:1). Compounds **5**–**8** were further purified by HPLC (RP-18) by eluting with MeOH–H₂O (82:18), MeOH–H₂O (70:30), MeOH–H₂O (67:33), and MeOH–H₂O (65:35), respectively.

Blumiolide-A (1): oil; [α]_D²⁵ +18° (c 0.4, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 226 (3.6) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3419, 1735, 1650 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, see Table 1; ¹³C NMR, see Table 2; HRFABMS m/z 333.2054 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₉O₄, 333.2058).

Blumiolide-B (2): oil; [α]_D²⁵ +33° (c 0.4, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 225 (3.8) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3450, 1736, 1660 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, see Table 1; ¹³C NMR, see Table 2; HRFABMS m/z 333.2064 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₉O₄, 333.2058).

9-Deoxy-isoxeniolide-A (3): oil; [α]_D²⁵ +36° (c 0.6, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 265 (4.1) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3420, 1720, 1642 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, see Table 1; ¹³C NMR, see Table 2; HRFABMS m/z 317.2117 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₉O₃, 317.2109).

9-Deoxy-7,8-epoxy-isoxeniolide-A (4): oil; [α]_D²⁵ +26° (c 0.2, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 261 (3.9) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3450, 1718, 1650 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, see Table 1; ¹³C NMR, see Table 2; HRFABMS m/z 333.2056 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₉O₄, 333.2058).

9-Deacetoxy-7,8-epoxy-13-epi-xenicin (5): oil; [α]_D²⁵ +35° (c 0.6, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 233 (3.5) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3441, 1722, 1645 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, see Table 1; ¹³C NMR, see Table 2; HRFABMS m/z 477.2476 (calcd for C₂₆H₃₇O₈, 477.2478).

9-Deoxy-7,8-epoxy-xeniolide-A (6): oil; $[\alpha]_{25}^{25} +28^\circ$ (c 0.3, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 258 (3.9) nm; IR (neat) ν_{\max} 3400, 1722, 1660 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, see Table 1; ¹³C NMR, see Table 2; HRFABMS *m/z* 333.2056 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₉O₄, 333.2058).

Blumiolide-C (7): oil; $[\alpha]_{25}^{25} +66^\circ$ (c 0.4, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 256 (4.2) nm; IR (neat) ν_{\max} 3460, 1720, 1640 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, see Table 1; ¹³C NMR, see Table 2; HRFABMS *m/z* 331.1905 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₇O₄, 331.1902).

Blumicin-A (8): oil; $[\alpha]_{25}^{25} -23^\circ$ (c 0.1, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{\max} (log ϵ) 235 (4.23) nm; IR (neat) ν_{\max} 3520, 1740, 1705 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.02 (3H, s, Me-18), 1.31 (1H, m, H-6), 1.36 (6H, s, Me-16, 17), 1.38 (1H, m, H-5), 1.56 (1H, m, H-10), 1.64 (1H, m, H-6), 1.76 (2H, m, H₂-19), 1.96 (1H, m, H-5), 2.08 (3H, s, OAc), 2.74 (1H, d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, H-11a), 3.22 (1H, m, H-4a), 3.50 (1H, br s, H-8), 3.58 (3H, s, OMe), 4.56 (1H, d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, H-3), 4.63 (1H, d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, H-3), 5.88 (1H, d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, H-14), 6.02 (1H, d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, H-12), 6.48 (1H, dd, *J* = 15.6, 10.5 Hz, H-13); ¹³C NMR, see Table 2; HRFABMS *m/z* 447.2362 (calcd for C₂₃H₃₆O₇Na, 447.2359).

Cytotoxicity Testing. The P-388 cell line was kindly supplied by J. M. Pezzuto, Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, University of Illinois at Chicago; A549 and HT-29 were purchased from the American Type Culture Collection. Cytotoxic assays were carried out according to previously described procedures.^{3,19}

Acknowledgment. We thank C.-F. Dai, Institute of Oceanography, National Taiwan University, for identification of the soft coral sample and J. M. Pezzuto, Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois at Chicago, for providing the P-388 cell line. This work was supported by grants from the National Science Council of Taiwan awarded to C.-Y.D.

References and Notes

- Blunt, J. W.; Copp, B. R.; Munro, M. H. G.; Northcote, P. T.; Prinsep, M. R. *Nat. Prod. Rep.* **2004**, *21*, 1–49, and references therein.
- Geran, R. I.; Greenberg, N. H.; MacDonald, M. M.; Schumacher, A. M.; Abbott, B. J. *Cancer Chemother. Rep.* **1972**, *3*, 1–91.
- Hou, R.-S.; Duh, C.-Y.; Chiang, M. Y.; Lin, C.-N. *J. Nat. Prod.* **1995**, *58*, 1126–1130.
- Groweiss, A.; Kashman, Y. *Tetrahedron* **1983**, *39*, 3385–3396.
- Iwagawa, T.; Kawasaki, J.; Hase, T. *J. Nat. Prod.* **1998**, *61*, 1513–1515.
- Kashman, Y.; Groweiss J. *Org. Chem.* **1980**, *45*, 3814–3824.
- Iwagawa, T.; Nakamura, K.; Hirose, T.; Okamura, H.; Nakatani, M. *J. Nat. Prod.* **2000**, *63*, 468–472.
- Miyaoka, H.; Nakano, M.; Iguchi, K.; Yamada, Y. *Tetrahedron* **1999**, *55*, 12977–12982.
- Miyaoka, H.; Mitome, H.; Nakano, M.; Yamada, Y. *Tetrahedron* **2000**, *56*, 7737–7740.
- Rho, J.; Lee, H.; Seo, Y.; Cho, K. W.; Shin, J. *J. Nat. Prod.* **2000**, *63*, 254–257.
- Vanderah, D. J.; Steudler, P. A.; Ciereszho, L. S.; Schimitsz, F. J.; Ekstrand, J. D.; van der Heim, D. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1977**, *99*, 5780–5784.
- Iwagawa, T.; Amano, Y.; Hase, T.; Shiro, M. *Tetrahedron* **1995**, *51*, 11111–11118.
- Iwagawa, T.; Amano, Y.; Nakatani, M.; Hase, T. *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* **1996**, *69*, 1309–1312.
- Anta C.; González, N.; Santafé, G.; Rodríguez, J.; Jiménez, C. *J. Nat. Prod.* **2002**, *65*, 766–768.
- Duh, C.-Y.; El-Gamal, A. A. H.; Chiang, C.-Y.; Chu, C.-J.; Wang, S.-K.; Dai, C.-F. *J. Nat. Prod.* **2002**, *65*, 1882–1885.
- Rho, J.-R.; Oh, M.-S.; Jang, H.; Cho, K. W.; Shin, J. *J. Nat. Prod.* **2001**, *64*, 540–543.
- Almourabit, A.; Ahond, A.; Poupat, C.; Potier, P. *J. Nat. Prod.* **1990**, *53*, 894–908.
- Iwagawa, T.; Kawasaki, J.; Hase, T.; Wright, J. L. C. *Tetrahedron* **1997**, *53*, 6809–6816.
- Duh, C.-Y.; Chia, M.-C.; Wang, S.-K.; Chen, H.-J.; El-Gamal, A. A. H.; Dai, C.-F. *J. Nat. Prod.* **2001**, *64*, 1028–1031.

NP058047R