

Cytotoxic and Antibacterial Sesquiterpenes from *Thespesia populnea*

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Eight new sesquiterpenoids, named populene A–H (**1–8**), were isolated from dichloromethane extracts of the wood and dark heartwood of *Thespesia populnea*, together with 11 known compounds (**9–19**). Their structures were determined on the basis of spectroscopic analyses. The cytotoxic activity of isolated compounds was evaluated against four cancer cell lines: MCF-7, HeLa, HT-29, and KB. Mansonone E (**11**) and (+)-gossypol (**18**) showed significant activities. Their antibacterial properties against *Bacillus subtilis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Enterococcus faecalis* are also presented.

Thespesia populnea (L.) Soland. Ex Coor (Malvaceae) is widely distributed in Hawaii, California, Florida, Africa, the Caribbean islands, and Asia.¹ Various parts of this plant are found to possess useful medicinal properties, such as antifertility, antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, purgative, and hepatoprotective activities.² Previous chemical investigations of this species have yielded highly oxidized sesquiterpenes containing a cadinane skeleton.^{1,3,4} Some of these compounds possess significant cytotoxic,^{5–7} antifungal,⁸ or antioxidative activities.⁹ As part of our search for bioactive natural products from mangroves and tropical plants,^{10–12} we now describe the isolation and structure elucidation of compounds **1–19** from the dark heartwood and wood of *T. populnea*. Two new compounds, populenes A and B (**1** and **2**), along with mansonone E (**11**),⁵ (+)-gossypol (**18**),¹³ and (+)-6,6'-methoxygossypol (**19**)¹⁴ were purified from the wood. Six new compounds, populene C–H (**3–8**), were obtained from the dark heartwood, together with mansonones C,⁵ D,³ E,^{5,9} G,³ H,⁹ and S¹⁵ (**9–14**), 7-hydroxycadalene (**15**),³ 7-hydroxy-2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-3,6,9-trimethylnaphtho[1,8-*b,c*]pyran-4,8-dione (**16**),^{1,16} and thespesone (**17**).^{1,3} Antibacterial and cytotoxic activities of **1–19** were also evaluated.

Results and Discussion

The heartwood and wood of *T. populnea* were separately extracted with dichloromethane. These extracts showed significant cytotoxicity against MCF-7, HeLa, HT-29, and KB cancer cell lines and weak antibacterial activity against *B. subtilis*. Therefore, each extract was subjected to chromatography on silica gel to give compounds **1–19**.

Compound **1** was obtained as a yellow gum with the molecular formula C₁₅H₁₈O₃ on the basis of a molecular ion at *m/z* 246.1262 in the HREIMS. The IR spectrum of **1** showed a OH absorption (3365 cm⁻¹), and the UV spectrum showed absorption maxima at 216, 251, 259 (sh), 279, and 289, suggesting a benzofuran chromophore.¹⁷ The ¹H NMR data of **1** (Table 1) were characteristic of a cadinane skeleton^{1,3,8} with a benzofuran moiety. Aromatic protons resonating at δ 7.02 (1H, br s) and 7.10 (1H, br s) were assigned to H-4 and H-2, respectively, and a furan proton signal at δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz) was assigned to H-9. Signals assigned to a methine proton [δ 3.02 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 3.9 Hz)], two oxymethines [δ 4.01 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 7.8 Hz) and 4.90 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 0.9 Hz)], a methyl group (δ 2.48, s) and one isopropyl moiety [δ 1.16 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz); 1.18 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz) and 2.58 (m)] were also observed. The methyl signal at δ 2.48 was placed at C-3 because of HMBC

correlations to C-2 (δ 109.3) and C-4 (δ 121.6), and the isopropyl group was placed at C-5 due to HMBC correlations of the methine H-11 at δ 2.58 with C-4a (δ 131.4), C-5 (δ 49.8), and C-6 (δ 75.7). The two oxymethine protons at δ 4.01 and 4.90 were assigned to H-6 and H-7, respectively, judging from the allylic coupling (0.9 Hz) of H-9 with H-7, which was in turn coupled to H-6 in the COSY experiment. The relative configuration at C-5, C-6, and C-7 was assigned by NOESY experiment, in which only methyl protons of the isopropyl group showed a cross-peak with H-6, indicating that H-6 was on the same side of the ring as the isopropyl group but opposite that of H-5 and H-7. The pseudo-*trans*-diaxial coupling (7.8 Hz) of H-6 with H-5 and H-7 also supported the NOESY data. Therefore, the relative configuration at H-5, H-6, and H-7 should be *trans-trans*. Thus, **1** was named populene A.

Compound **2** possessed the same formula as **1** by HREIMS. The similarity of the mass, IR, UV, and ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra (Table 1) of **1** and **2** indicated that **2** was a diastereomer of **1**. The main difference was found in the small coupling constant of H-6 (δ 4.38, dd, *J* = 3.3, 3.3 Hz) in **2** as compared to that in **1** (δ 4.01, t, *J* = 7.8 Hz). The NOESY experiment exhibited cross-peaks of H-5 and H-6 and between H-6 and H-7, suggesting their *cis* orientation. Accordingly, the structure of **2** was as indicated, and it was named populene B.

Compound **3** had the molecular formula C₁₈H₂₀O₃ as determined by HREIMS. The EI mass spectrum was diagnostic, showing a relatively intense [M + 2]⁺ ion peak characteristic of *ortho*-naphthoquinones, which was not displayed by *para*-naphthoquinones.¹⁸ The IR spectrum exhibited carbonyl absorptions at 1757 and 1698 cm⁻¹. The UV spectrum showed absorption maxima at 213, 242, 259, and 380 nm. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data (Table 1) of **3** were comparable to those of mansonone D³ (**10**), which was isolated from the dark heartwood of this plant. The difference between these two compounds was that **3** contained an additional isopropyl group, which appeared as two methyl singlet signals at δ 1.57 and 1.53 in the ¹H NMR spectrum. HMBC correlations to the oxygenated quaternary carbon at δ 74.9 (C-14) supported the connection of this group to oxygen. In addition, the correlation of oxymethylene protons at δ 3.97 and 3.79 (H₂-13) with C-5 (δ 135.8) and C-14 (δ 74.9), of a *gem*-dimethyl with C-6 (δ 150.1), and of aromatic proton H-7 (δ 6.95) with C-14 (δ 74.9) indicated that a pyran moiety was connected to an aromatic ring at C-5 and C-6. The methine proton on C-11 was deduced to be equatorially oriented from the two small vicinal coupling constants (*J*_{11,13β} = 1.2 Hz and *J*_{11,13α} = 2.4 Hz). Therefore, compound **3** was named populene C.

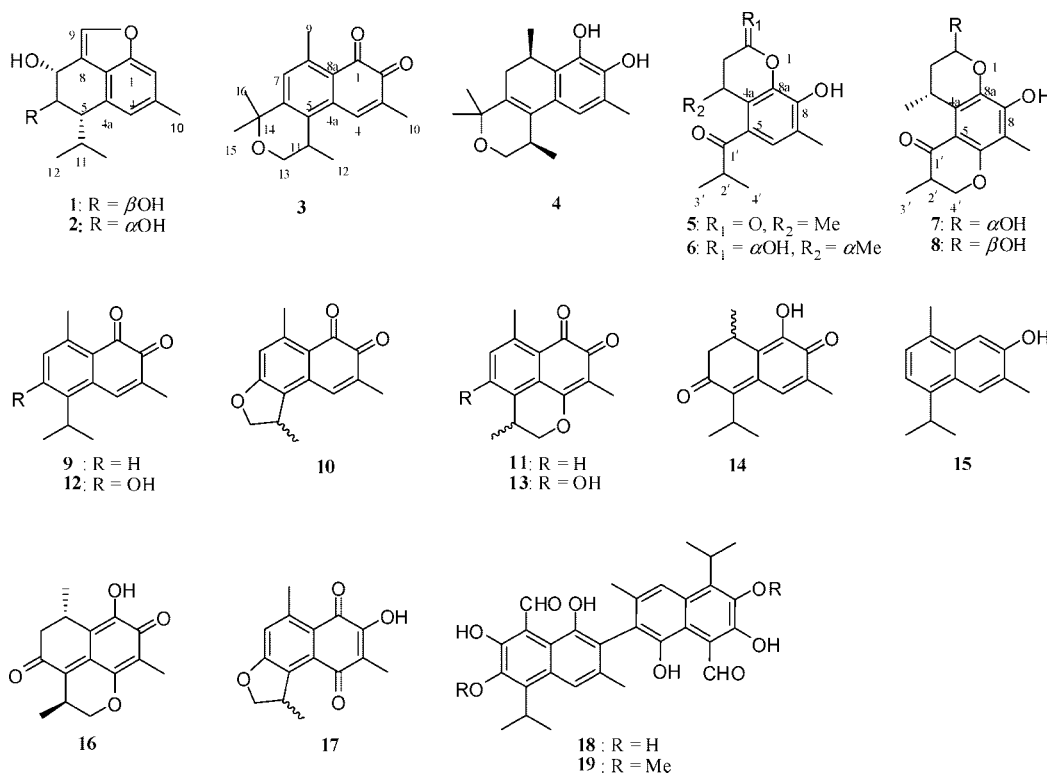
Compound **4** was a brown gum having the molecular formula C₁₈H₂₄O₃ (HREIMS). The IR spectrum exhibited an OH absorption at 3417 cm⁻¹. In the ¹H NMR (Table 1) spectrum, an aromatic proton signal at δ 6.95 and an aromatic methyl at δ 2.62, as found in **3**, were missing in **4** and the signals of –CH(CH₃)CH₂– were

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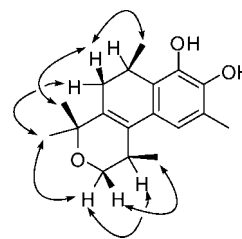
Chart 1

**Table 1.** ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Data for Compounds 1–4 (300 MHz for ^1H NMR and 75 MHz for ^{13}C NMR) in CDCl_3

position	1		2		3		4	
	δ_{H} (mult., J in Hz)	δ_{C}	δ_{H} (mult., J in Hz)	δ_{C}	δ_{H} (mult., J in Hz)	δ_{C}	δ_{H} (mult., J in Hz)	δ_{C}
1		153.5		153.6		181.7		140.3
2	7.10 (br s)	109.3	7.14 (br s)	109.8		181.6		140.9
3		135.8		135.7		135.8		121.0
4	7.02 (br s)	121.6	6.91 (br s)	124.5	7.52 (d, 1.2)	137.3	6.65 (s)	117.0
4a		131.4		129.8		128.4		125.0
5	3.02 (dd, 7.8, 3.9, H_{β})	49.8	2.90 (dd, 8.7, 3.3, H_{β})	53.5		135.8		128.7
6	4.01 (dd, 7.8, 7.8, H_{α})	75.7	4.38 (dd, 3.3, 3.3, H_{β})	73.4		150.1		132.2
7	4.90 (dd, 7.8, 0.9, H_{β})	70.5	5.08 (m, H_{β})	65.6	6.95 (s)	131.2	2.00 (d, 15.3, H_{β}) 2.36 (dd, 15.3, 5.1, H_{α})	31.0
8		118.7		118.2		142.6	3.19 (br dq, 6.9, 6.9, H_{α})	25.2
8a		123.7		123.4		133.1		125.2
9	7.50 (d, 0.9)	138.8	7.57 (d, 1.5)	140.9	2.62 (s)	23.0	1.04 (d, 6.9)	17.9
10	2.48 (s)	22.4	2.48 (s)	22.2	2.09 (d, 1.2)	16.0	2.25 (s)	15.8
11	2.58 (m)	27.8	1.63 (m)	31.0	3.01 (brq, 6.9, H_{α})	29.9	2.68 (m, H_{α})	28.4
12	1.16 (d, 7.2) ^a	20.0 ^b	1.12 (d, 6.6) ^a	21.3 ^b	1.40 (d, 6.9)	21.2	1.14 (d, 6.9)	17.6
13	1.18 (d, 7.2) ^a	20.8 ^b	0.94 (d, 6.6) ^a	21.6 ^b	3.97 (dd, 11.7, 2.4, H_{α}) 3.79 (dd, 11.7, 1.2, H_{β})	64.9	3.90 (dd, 11.1, 3.0, H_{α}) 3.66 (dd, 11.1, 2.4, H_{β})	65.7
14						74.9		75.0
15					1.53 (s)	31.3	1.26 (s)	23.6
16					1.57 (s)	27.8	1.41 (s)	27.6

^a May be interchangeable. ^b May be interchangeable.

instead observed at δ 1.04 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz, H-9), 3.19 (1H, br dq, J = 6.9, 6.9 Hz, H-8), 2.00 (1H, d, J = 15.3 Hz, H-7), and 2.36 (1H, dd, J = 15.3, 5.1 Hz, H-7). The assignments were confirmed by COSY cross-peaks and HMBC correlations of H_2 -7 to C-5 (δ 128.7), C-6 (δ 132.2), and C-9 (δ 17.9) and of H_3 -9 to C-7 (δ 31.0) and C-8a (δ 125.2). In addition, the replacement of two carbonyl carbons of the quinone ring at δ 181.7 (C-1) and 181.6 (C-2) in **3** with oxygenated aromatic carbons (δ 140.3 and δ 140.9) in **4** indicated that **4** was a reduced form of **3**. The relative configurations of H-8 and H-11 were elucidated by NOESY experiments as shown in Figure 1, which indicated that Me-9 and Me-12 were on the same side of the molecule. Thus, compound **4** was identified and named populene D.

**Figure 1.** Populene D (**4**) with selected NOESY correlations.

Compound **5** had the molecular formula $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_4$ (HREIMS). The IR spectrum exhibited absorptions characteristic of carbonyl groups at 1776 (lactone carbonyl) and 1675 cm^{-1} (conjugated

Table 2. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Data for Compounds **5–8** in CDCl_3

position	5^c		6^c		7^c		8^d	
	δ_{H} (mult., J in Hz)	δ_{C}	δ_{H} (mult., J in Hz)	δ_{C}	δ_{H} (mult., J in Hz)	δ_{C}	δ_{H} (mult., J in Hz)	δ_{C}
2		167.4	5.65 (dd, 9.0, 3.0, H_β)	92.6	5.56 (dd, 9.9, 2.7, H_β)	92.2	5.81 (dd, 7.5, 4.5, H_α)	95.9
3	2.72 (d, 3.6)	36.3	1.87 (ddd, 13.5, 9.0, 5.1, H_α) 2.07 (td, 13.5, 3.0, H_β)	36.6	1.84 (ddd, 13.5, 9.9, 5.4, H_α) 2.04 (ddd, 13.5, 13.5, 2.7, H_β)	36.8	2.00 (m)	36.1
4	3.88 (tq, 7.2, 3.6)	27.5	3.84 (m, H_β)	26.2	4.09 (m, H_β)	27.2	4.10 (m)	27.1
4a		127.9		126.3		125.1		127.2
5		126.2		127.1		109.4		111.4
6	7.40 (s)	127.8	7.18 (s)	125.0		157.7		158.7
7		123.5		121.0		110.4		110.6
8		145.4		146.2		149.3		149.9
8a		139.2		140.0		134.6		134.9
1'		205.8		207.1		195.3		196.1
2'	3.47 (sept, 6.9)	37.2	3.45 (sept, 6.9)	37.4	2.75 (dq, 6.9, 5.1)	41.2	2.75 (m)	42.1
3'	1.21 (d, 6.9) ^a	19.0 ^b	1.17 (d, 6.9) ^a	19.1 ^b	1.16 (d, 6.9)	11.0	1.17 (d, 6.5)	11.8
4'	1.14 (d, 6.9) ^a	19.4 ^b	1.15 (d, 6.9) ^a	19.6 ^b	4.03 (dd, 11.1, 11.1) 4.43 (dd, 11.1, 5.1)	71.6	4.05 (dd, 11.5, 11.5) 4.45 (dd, 11.5, 5.5)	72.6
4-Me	1.31 (d, 7.2)	20.2	1.25 (d, 6.9)	22.3	1.28 (d, 6.9)	22.4	1.32 (d, 7.0)	23.0
7-Me	2.30 (s)	15.5	2.23 (s)	15.3	2.09 (s)	8.1	2.11 (s)	9.0

^a May be interchangeable. ^b May be interchangeable. ^c 300 MHz for ^1H NMR and 75 MHz for ^{13}C NMR. ^d 500 MHz for ^1H NMR and 125 MHz for ^{13}C NMR.

carbonyl). The ^{13}C NMR spectrum (Table 2) showed 15 resonances, which corresponded by DEPT analysis to three methines (one sp^2), one methylene, four methyls, and seven sp^2 quaternary carbons including two carbonyl carbons (δ_{C} 167.4 and 205.8). The ^1H NMR (Table 2) and COSY spectra allowed assignment of signals to a dihydrocoumarin moiety^{19,20} at δ 1.31 (3H, d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 4-Me), 2.72 (2H, d, $J = 3.6$ Hz, H_{2-3}), 3.88 (1H, tq, $J = 7.2, 3.6$ Hz, H-4), and 7.40 (1H, s, H-6). This moiety was also supported by the 3J HMBC correlations between the methine proton H-4 and aromatic carbons C-5 (δ 126.2) and C-8a (δ 139.2), and a lactone carbonyl (δ 167.4). Signals of a 2-methyl-1-oxopropyl unit [δ 3.47 (1H, sept, $J = 6.9$, H-2'), 1.21 (3H, d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, H-3'), and 1.14, (3H, d, $J = 6.9$, H-4')] were also observed in the ^1H NMR spectrum, whose HMBC correlation between an aromatic proton H-6 (δ 7.40) and C-1' (δ 205.8) supported its connection at C-5 of the dihydrocoumarin moiety. An aromatic methyl signal at δ 2.30 was attributed to 7-Me due to its HMBC correlation with C-6 (δ 127.8), C-7 (δ 123.5), and C-8 (δ 145.4). Additionally, a downfield chemical shift of C-8 to δ 145.4 indicated its connection to an OH group. Compound **5** was named populene E.

Compound **6** was obtained as a yellow gum ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_4$ on the basis of HREIMS). The UV and IR spectra were similar to those of **5**, but with one carbonyl absorption at 1668 cm^{-1} . The NMR (Table 2) data were comparable to those of **5**, except for the replacement of a lactone carbonyl (δ 167.4) in **5** with a hemiacetal proton signal of H-2 at δ_{H} 5.65 (dd, $J = 9.0, 3.0$ Hz; δ_{C} 92.6) in **6**. The large coupling constant (13.5 Hz) was characteristic of geminal methylene protons, H-3 β (2.07, td, $J = 13.5, 3.0$ Hz) and H-3 α (1.87, ddd, $J = 13.5, 9.0, 5.1$ Hz), while the vicinal coupling constants of 9.0 and 5.1 Hz indicated pseudo-*trans*-diaxial coupling of H-3 α with H-2 and H-4, respectively. This was also in agreement with the multiplicity of H-3 β observed as a triplet of doublets with a large ($J_{\text{gem}} = 13.5$ Hz) and a small ($J_{\text{ax-eq}} = 3.0$ Hz) coupling constant, justifying its *syn* relationship to H-2 and H-4. Compound **6** was thus identified and named populene F.

Compound **7** was obtained as a yellow gum ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5$). The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra (Table 2) were similar to those of **6** except that an aromatic proton (H-6) present in **6** was absent and a methyl signal (Me-4') was replaced by oxymethylene protons resonating at δ 4.43 (1H, dd, $J = 11.1, 5.1$ Hz, H-4') and 4.03 (1H, dd, $J = 11.1, 11.1$ Hz, H-4') in **7**. A 3J HMBC correlation between oxymethylene protons (H_{2-4'}) with C-6 (δ 157.7) of an aromatic moiety established their fusion by an ether linkage at C-6. The small coupling constant ($J_{2',4'\text{ax}} = 5.1$ Hz) indicated that H-2' was equatorially oriented. Thus, compound **7** was named populene G.

Compound **8** had the molecular formula $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5$. The mass and NMR spectra of **7** and **8** indicated that they were diastereomers. The main spectroscopic differences were the downfield shift of H-2 in **8** at δ 5.81 and the smaller coupling constants (dd, $J = 7.5, 4.5$ Hz) as compared to those of **7** at δ 5.56 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.7$ Hz). The coupling constant J_{2-3} of 7.5 and 4.5 Hz indicated $J_{\text{eq-ax}}$ and $J_{\text{eq-eq}}$, therefore suggesting an α -orientation of H-2. Thus, compound **8** was named populene H.

All of the isolated compounds except for **1, 2, 5, 8, 9, and 12**, for which insufficient materials were available, were evaluated for cytotoxicity against four human cancer cell lines: breast cancer (MCF-7), cervical cancer (HeLa), colon cancer (HT-29), and oral cavity cancer (KB). They were also tested for antibacterial activity against both Gram-positive (*Bacillus subtilis* and *Staphylococcus aureus*) and Gram-negative (*Enterococcus faecalis*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Shigella sonnei*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*) bacteria. The results are summarized in Table 3. (+)-Gossypol (**18**) exhibited potent cytotoxic activity against HeLa and KB cell lines, with IC_{50} values of 0.08 and 0.04 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively. Mansonone E (**11**) showed good activity against all four cancer cell lines, especially MCF-7 (IC_{50} 0.05 $\mu\text{g/mL}$). Populene D (**4**) and mansonone D (**10**) possessed strong inhibitory activity against HeLa and MCF-7, respectively, whereas populene C (**3**) exhibited moderate inhibitory activity against all four cell lines. Antibacterial activity against *B. subtilis* was found for 7-hydroxycadalene (**15**). (+)-6,6'-Methoxygossypol (**19**) was weakly active against *E. faecalis*, *B. subtilis*, and *S. aureus*, whereas (+)-gossypol (**18**) exhibited moderate activity against *B. subtilis* and *S. aureus*. None of the compounds were active against *S. typhi*, *S. sonnei*, or *P. aeruginosa*. Compounds **6, 7, 13, and 17** showed no cytotoxic or antibacterial activity.

Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. Melting points were determined on an Electrothermal 9100 melting point apparatus and were uncorrected. Optical rotation was measured in CHCl_3 on a JASCO P-1020 polarimeter. UV spectra were measured with a SPECORD S100 spectrophotometer (Analytikjena). The IR spectra were measured with a FTS 165 FT-IR Perkin-Elmer spectrophotometer. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 using Bruker Avance 300 and 500 MHz spectrometers. The EIMS and HREIMS mass spectra were obtained from a Micromass LCT mass spectrometer. Quick column chromatography (QCC) was carried out on silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ (Merck). Precoated plates of silica gel 60 GF₂₅₄ were used for analytical purposes.

Material. Fresh stems of *T. populnea* were collected from Suratthani Province in the Southern part of Thailand in 2005. The plant was

Table 3. Cytotoxic and Antibacterial Activities of Compounds Isolated from *T. populnea*

compound	cytotoxicity against human cancer cell lines, IC ₅₀ (μg/mL)				antibacterial activity, MIC (μg/mL)		
	MCF-7	HeLa	HT-29	KB	<i>B. subtilis</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>E. faecalis</i>
3	2.35	3.40	2.90	3.00	4.69	— ^b	—
4	1.85	0.95	2.37	3.10	4.69	—	—
10	0.80	2.80	>5	4.90	2.34	—	—
11	0.05	0.55	0.18	0.40	4.69	—	—
14	>5	>5	>5	>5	—	—	—
15	>5	>5	>5	>5	0.59	—	—
16	>5	>5	>5	>5	—	—	—
18	NT ^a	0.08	>5	0.04	1.17	1.17	—
19	4.00	>5	3.00	>5	2.34	4.69	1.17

^a NT = not tested. ^b Inactive (>10 μg/mL).

identified by Prof. Puangpen Sirirugsa, and a voucher specimen (No. SB 01-001) has been deposited at the Herbarium of the Department of Biology, Prince of Songkla University (PSU).

Extraction and Isolation of Compounds from the Dark Heartwood of *T. populnea*. The air-dried heartwood of *T. populnea* (2.10 kg) was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ over a period of 5 days at room temperature. Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure furnished a dark residue (37.5 g). This was subjected to QCC on silica gel, eluting with CH₂Cl₂, and separated into eight fractions (A–H). Fraction A was purified by QCC using a gradient of hexane–acetone to afford nine fractions (A₁–A₉). Fractions A₂ and A₃ were combined and purified by QCC using a gradient of acetone–hexane as a mobile phase to give **15** (10.2 mg), **17** (8.3 mg), and **9** (2.5 mg), respectively. Fractions A₅ and A₆ were combined and then separated by QCC with a gradient system of acetone–hexane to afford **5** (2.0 mg) and **12** (2.0 mg). Fractions A₇ and A₈ were separately purified by QCC using a gradient of CH₂Cl₂–hexane to yield **19** (4.0 mg) from A₇ and **14** (4.5 mg), **11** (18.1 mg), and **18** (3.3 mg) from A₈. Fraction F was separated by QCC with a gradient system of increasing CH₂Cl₂ in hexane to afford nine fractions (F₁–F₉). Fraction F₄ was further purified by QCC using a gradient of CH₂Cl₂–hexane to give **3** (10.0 mg) and **4** (14.9 mg). Fraction F₆ was subjected to QCC using 20% acetone in hexane to afford four fractions (F_{6A}–F_{6D}). Fraction F_{6B} was further separated by QCC with a solvent system of 2% acetone–CHCl₃ to afford **6** (12.6 mg). Fraction F_{6C}, upon standing overnight at room temperature, gave a yellow solid of **8** (4.2 mg), and the mother liquor gave **7** (4.1 mg). Fraction G was purified by QCC with a gradient of acetone–CH₂Cl₂ to give five fractions (G_A–G_E). Fraction G_A was subjected to precoated TLC using 50% CH₂Cl₂–hexane (4 runs) to give **16** (5.1 mg). Fraction G_C gave **10** (93.0 mg). Fraction H, upon standing overnight at room temperature, gave red-brown crystals of **13** (30.5 mg).

Extraction and Isolation of Compounds from the Wood of *T. populnea*. The air-dried wood of *T. populnea* (1.40 kg) was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ over a period of 5 days at room temperature. Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure furnished a dark green residue (10.2 g). This was subjected to QCC on silica gel, eluted with a gradient of hexane–acetone to give six fractions (A–F). Fraction C was then purified by QCC using a gradient of hexane–acetone to afford **18** (22.6 mg). Fraction D, upon standing overnight at room temperature, gave **19** (20.3 mg). Fraction E was separated by QCC with a gradient system of increasing polarity (acetone–hexane) to afford five fractions (E₁–E₅). Fraction E₂ was subjected to precoated plates using 50% CH₂Cl₂–hexane as a mobile phase (4 runs) to give **11** (1.6 mg). Fraction E₃ was subjected to precoated plates using 3% MeOH–CH₂Cl₂ as a mobile phase (4 runs) to give **1** (2.3 mg) and **2** (2.1 mg).

Populene A (1): yellow gum; [α]_D²⁵ +57.9 (c 0.54, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 216 (4.22), 251 (3.98), 259 (3.91), 279 (3.44), 289 (3.40) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3365, 2959, 2870, 1617, 1591, 758 cm⁻¹; NMR data see Table 1; EIMS *m/z* 246 [M]⁺ (8), 211 (18), 185 (33), 169 (25), 72 (100), 69 (47); HREIMS *m/z* 246.1262 (calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₃, 246.1256).

Populene B (2): yellow gum; [α]_D²⁵ -63.6 (c 0.37, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 213 (4.15), 251 (3.85), 259 (3.80), 278 (3.32), 290 (3.29) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3387, 2959, 2871, 1716, 1524, 754 cm⁻¹; NMR data see Table 1; EIMS *m/z* 246 [M]⁺ (50), 199 (31), 185 (100), 157 (23), 129 (46); HREIMS *m/z* 246.1255 (calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₃, 246.1256).

Populene C (3): orange solid; mp 168–170 °C; [α]_D²⁵ -46.0 (c 0.27, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 213 (4.18), 242 (3.79), 259

(3.98), 380 (3.03) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 2974, 2930, 2871, 1757, 1698, 1657 cm⁻¹; NMR data see Table 1; EIMS *m/z*, 286.1556 [M + 2]⁺ (17), 271 (53), 241 (72), 85 (66), 83 (100); HREIMS *m/z* 286.1556 [M+2]⁺ (calcd for C₁₈H₂₄O₃, 284.1412).

Populene D (4): brown gum; [α]_D²⁵ -21.9 (c 0.75, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 219 (4.10), 264 (3.92), 277sh (3.81), 366 (2.86) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3417, 2967, 2930, 2863, 1653, 754 cm⁻¹; NMR data see Table 1; EIMS *m/z* 288 [M]⁺ (15), 274 (21), 241 (20), 273 (100); HREIMS *m/z* 288.1736 (calcd for C₁₈H₂₄O₃, 288.1725).

Populene E (5): yellow-brown gum; [α]_D²⁵ +30.1 (c 0.58, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 228 (4.11), 273 (3.86) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3410, 2970, 2925, 2873, 1776, 1675, 1616 cm⁻¹; NMR data see Table 2; EIMS *m/z* 262 [M]⁺ (31), 220 (34), 191 (43), 219 (100); HREIMS *m/z* 262.1210 (calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₄, 262.1205).

Populene F (6): yellow gum; [α]_D²⁵ +7.5 (c 0.23, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 219 (4.23), 232 (4.14), 281 (3.00) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3417, 2967, 2930, 2871, 1668, 1576 cm⁻¹; NMR data see Table 2; EIMS *m/z* 264 [M]⁺ (27), 221 (100), 203 (22), 193 (26), 179 (44), 177 (25), 151 (20); HREIMS *m/z* 264.1353 (calcd for C₁₅H₂₀O₄, 264.1362).

Populene G (7): yellow gum; [α]_D²⁵ +62.7 (c 0.07, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 214 (4.09), 235 (3.98), 286 (3.95), 339 (3.66) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3424, 2959, 2930, 2871, 1661, 1591, 1429 cm⁻¹; NMR data see Table 2; EIMS *m/z* 278 [M]⁺ (98), 249 (27), 239 (100), 208 (36), 192 (35); HREIMS *m/z* 278.1196 (calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₅, 278.1154).

Populene H (8): yellow gum; [α]_D²⁵ +43.7 (c 0.04, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 214 (4.06), 237 (3.95), 286 (3.96), 339 (3.60) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 3417, 2967, 2930, 2871, 1661, 1587 cm⁻¹; NMR data see Table 2; EIMS *m/z* 278 [M]⁺ (54), 234 (56), 208 (25), 192 (24), 72 (100); HREIMS *m/z* 278.1159 (calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O₅, 278.1154).

Antimicrobial Assay. The compounds isolated from *T. populnea* were tested against the microorganisms *Bacillus subtilis* (obtained from Department of Industrial Biotechnology, PSU), *Staphylococcus aureus* (TISTR517) (obtained from Microbial Resources Center (MIRCEN), Bangkok, Thailand), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, *Shigella sonnei*, and *Salmonella typhi*. The last four microorganisms were obtained from the Department of Pharmacognosy and Botany, PSU. The antibacterial assay employed was the same as described in Boonsri et al.¹⁰ Vancomycin, which was used as a standard, showed an antibacterial activity of 0.078 μg/mL.

Cytotoxic Assay. The procedure for the cytotoxic assay was performed by the sulforhodamine B (SRB) assay as described by Skehan et al.²¹ In this study, four cancer cell lines obtained from the National Cancer Institute, Bangkok, Thailand, were used: MCF-7 (breast adenocarcinoma), KB (human oral cancer), HeLa (human cervical cancer), and HT-29 (colon cancer). Camptothecin, which was used as a standard, showed cytotoxic activity in the range 0.2–2.0 μg/mL.

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