# Tirucallane-Type Alkaloids from the Bark of Dysoxylum laxiracemosum 

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Eight novel tirucallane-type alkaloids $(\mathbf{1} \mathbf{- 8})$ and 11 known compounds were isolated from a methanol extract of the bark of Dysoxylum laxiracemosum. The structures of $\mathbf{1 - 8}$ were elucidated using extensive NMR spectrometric and mass spectroscopic methods. Compounds $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{5}$, named laxiracemosins A and E, showed significant cytotoxicity against five human cancer cell lines.

Plants of the Meliaceae family are rich sources of structurally diverse and biologically significant limonoids. ${ }^{1}$ Limonoids are of interest due to their insect antifeedant, growth regulating, antibacterial, antifungal, antimalarial, anticancer, and antiviral activities. ${ }^{2-4}$ The chemical constituents of Dysoxylum laxiracemosum C. Y. Wu et $\mathrm{H} . \mathrm{Li}$ (Meliaceae) have not been investigated previously. The present study on the chemical constituents of this species has yielded eight novel tirucallane derivatives $(\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{8})$ with a pyrrole substituent in the side chain. Compounds $6-\mathbf{8}$ were nortirucallane derivatives. To our knowledge, this is the first isolation of tirucallane-type alkaloids. Eleven known compounds were also isolated. The isolation, structural elucidation, and cytotoxicity of compounds $\mathbf{1 - 1 0}$ are reported in this paper. Compounds $\mathbf{1 - 1 0}$ were evaluated for their cytotoxicity against five human tumor cell lines.


[^0]
## Results and Discussion

The MeOH extract of $D$. laxiracemosum bark was partitioned between EtOAc and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ to afford an EtOAc extract, which was subjected to silica gel column chromatography (CC). Fractionation of the extract by repeated CC yielded eight new compounds ( $\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{8}$ ), which were named laxiracemosins $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{H}$.

The molecular formula of laxiracemosin A (1) was determined to be $\mathrm{C}_{30} \mathrm{H}_{45} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ on the basis of its HRESIMS, requiring nine degrees of unsaturation. The IR spectrum of $\mathbf{1}$ exhibited absorption bands for $-\mathrm{OH}, \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$, and $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ groups. Its UV spectrum showed the existence of conjugated groups based on the maximum absorption at 303 nm . The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum (Table 1) showed signals of an amine proton ( $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 10.60$ ), seven methyl groups, and three olefinic protons. Analysis of ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (Table 3) and HSQC spectra revealed 30 carbon resonances due to one carbonyl, six olefinic, seven methyl, seven methylene, five methine, and four quaternary carbons, accounting for four double-bond equivalents. The remaining five degrees of unsaturation revealed that 1 possessed a pentacyclic skeleton. These data were characteristic of a tirucal-lane-7-ene system with the exception of the side chain attached to $\mathrm{C}-17 .{ }^{5,6} \mathrm{HMBC}$ correlations from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 6.95(\mathrm{H}-21)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 127.0$ (C20) and $116.1(\mathrm{C}-22)$ and from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 6.86(\mathrm{H}-22)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 131.4(\mathrm{C}-23)$ and 46.2 (C-17) suggested a substituent pyrrole ring at $\mathrm{C}-17$. Furthermore, HMBC correlations from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 1.10(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-26 / 27)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 35.8$ (C-25) and 194.2 ( $\mathrm{C}-24$ ) indicated an isopropyl group attached to $\mathrm{C}-24$. A broad singlet for $\mathrm{H}-3$ suggested the $\beta$-orientation of H-3. ${ }^{5,6}$

Laxiracemosin B (2) possessed the molecular formula $\mathrm{C}_{30} \mathrm{H}_{43} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ on the basis of its HRESIMS. Analysis of the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data of 2 (Tables 1 and 3) showed that it had close structural resemblance to $\mathbf{1}$, with the exception of a carbonyl $\left(\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 216.7\right)$ in $\mathbf{2}$ instead of the methine carbon ( $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 75.7, \mathrm{C}-3$ ) in $\mathbf{1}$. The HMBC correlations from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 1.11(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-30)$ and $1.03(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-29)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}}$ 216.7 (C-3) further supported that $\mathbf{2}$ was the 3-oxo derivative of $\mathbf{1}$.

The molecular formula of laxiracemosin $\mathrm{C}(\mathbf{3})$ was assigned as $\mathrm{C}_{32} \mathrm{H}_{47} \mathrm{NO}_{3}$ (by HRESIMS). The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data of $\mathbf{3}$ (Tables 1 and 3) were similar to those of $\mathbf{1}$, except for an additional acetyl group $\left[\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 170.4\right.$ (s), $\left.21.0(\mathrm{q})\right]$. HMBC correlations from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 1.99$ $\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{COO}\right)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 170.4$ and $78.4(\mathrm{C}-3)$ indicated that $\mathbf{3}$ was the acetate of $\mathbf{1}$.

The molecular formula of laxiracemosin $D(4)$ was determined to be $\mathrm{C}_{30} \mathrm{H}_{45} \mathrm{NO}_{3}$ (by HRESIMS). Comparison of the NMR data of 4 (Tables 1 and 3 ) with those of $\mathbf{1}$ showed that they were almost identical. The difference was an additional -OH in $\mathbf{4}$ at $\mathrm{C}-25$, on the basis of the presence of two singlet methyl signals at $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 1.45$ ( $6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-26 / 27$ ). The C-25 OH was supported by HMBC correlations from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 1.45(6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-26 / 27)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 76.4(\mathrm{C}-25)$.

The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data of laxiracemosin E (5) (Tables 2 and 3) were similar to those of compound 1 except that a methyl ( $\delta_{\mathrm{C}}$

Table 1. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectroscopic Data of $\mathbf{1 - 4}(\delta$ in ppm and $J$ in Hz$)$

| position | $1^{\text {b }}$ | $2^{a}$ | $3^{\text {b }}$ | $4^{\text {b }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1a | 1.62, m | 1.48, m | 1.48, m | 1.62, m |
| 1 b | 1.87, m | $2.00, \mathrm{~m}$ | 1.91, m | 1.87, m |
| 2a | $1.59, \mathrm{~m}$ | 1.63, m | 1.94, m | 1.52, m |
| 2b | 1.89, m | 1.71, m | 2.08, m | 1.72, m |
| 3 | 3.37 , br s |  | 4.62, br s | 3.38 , br s |
| 5 | 1.87, m | 1.75, m | 1.78, m | 1.85, m |
| 6a | 1.98, m | 2.10, m | 1.63, m | 1.98, m |
| 6 b | 2.05, m |  | 1.93, m | 2.05, m |
| 7 | 5.30, br m | 5.34, br m | 5.31, br m | 5.30, br m |
| 9 | 2.37 , m | $2.30, \mathrm{~m}$ | 2.36, m | 2.37, m |
| 11 | 1.61, m | 1.61, m | 1.61, m | 1.61, m |
| 12a | $1.30, \mathrm{~m}$ | 1.45, m | 1.25, m | 1.29, m |
| 12 b | 1.46, m | 1.85, m | 1.42, m | 1.45, m |
| 15a | $1.60, \mathrm{~m}$ | 2.21, m | 1.61, m | 1.75, m |
| 15b | 1.74, m | 2.73 , dd (5.5, 14.5) | 1.78, m | 1.64, m |
| 16a | 1.95, m | 1.83, m | 1.93, m | 1.91, m |
| 16 b | 2.13, m | 2.10, m | 2.10, m | 2.08, m |
| 17 | 3.05 , dd (9.4, 9.4) | 3.02, dd (9.4, 9.4) | 3.06 , dd (9.3, 9.3) | 3.05, dd (9.4, 9.4) |
| 18 | 0.69 , s | 0.65, s | 0.70, s | 0.69 , s |
| 19 | 0.81, s | 1.02, s | 0.82, s | 0.81, s |
| 21 | 6.95, s | 6.82, s | 6.95, s | 7.05, s |
| 22 | 6.86, s | 6.75, s | 6.86, s | 6.96, s |
| 25 | $3.30, \mathrm{~m}$ | 3.25 , m | $3.30, \mathrm{~m}$ |  |
| 26 | 1.10, br s | 1.19, br s | 1.10, br s | 1.45, s |
| 27 | 1.10, br s | 1.19, br s | 1.10, br s | 1.45, s |
| 28 | 0.90, s | 1.11, s | 0.84, s | 0.90, s |
| 29 | 0.90, s | 1.03, s | 0.99, s | 0.90, s |
| 30 | 1.11, s | 1.11, s | 1.10, s | 1.10, s |
| MeCO |  |  | 1.99, s |  |
| NH | 10.60, br s | 9.43 , br s | 10.58, br s | 10.72, br s |

${ }^{a}$ Recorded at 400 MHz , in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3 .}{ }^{b}$ Recorded at 500 MHz , in acetone- $d_{6}$.
Table 2. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Spectroscopic Data of $\mathbf{5 - 8}$ ( $\delta$ in ppm and $J$ in Hz )

| position | $5^{a}$ | $6^{a}$ | $7^{a}$ | $8^{b}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1a | 1.63, m | 1.63, m | 1.21, m | 1.47, m |
| 1 b | 1.91, m | 1.93, m | 1.69, m | 2.01, m |
| 2 a | 1.56, m | 1.58, m | 1.59, m | 2.31, m |
| 2 b | 1.91, m | 1.91, m | 1.64, m | 2.77, m |
| 3 | 3.38 , br s | 3.30 , br s | 4.46, dd (5.6, 9.0) |  |
| 5 | 1.84, m | 1.87, m | 1.61, m | 1.79, m |
| 6a | 1.99, m | 2.09, m | 2.11, m | 2.14, m |
| 6 b | 2.07, m | 2.03, m | 2.02, m |  |
| 7 | 5.31, br m | 5.31 , dd ( $2.9,6.7$ ) | 5.31, br m | 5.35, br m |
| 9 | 2.37, m | 2.37, m | 2.34, m | $2.29, \mathrm{~m}$ |
| 11 | 1.61, m | 1.61, m | 1.62, m | 1.67, m |
| 12a | 1.31, m | 1.30, m | 1.47, m | 1.36, m |
| 12 b | 1.43, m | 1.45, m | 1.92, m | 2.01, m |
| 15a | 1.74, m | 1.64, m | 1.65, m | 1.84, m |
| 15b | 1.63, m | 1.75, m | 1.75, m | 1.75, m |
| 16a | 1.95, m | 1.65, m | 1.93, m | 1.85, m |
| 16b | 2.10, m | 1.75, m | 2.08, m | 2.06, m |
| 17 | 3.05, dd (9.4, 9.4) | 3.15, m | 3.06 , dd (9.4, 9.4) | 3.06 , dd (11, 11) |
| 18 | 0.70, s | 0.69 , s | 0.68, s | 0.75, s |
| 19 | 0.81, s | 0.81, s | 0.81, s | 1.02, s |
| 21 | 7.02, s | 7.07, s | 7.06, s |  |
| 22 | 6.71 , s | 6.86 , dd (1.9, 1.9) | 6.86, s | 6.32, s |
| 24 |  | 9.46, d (0.7) | 9.45, s |  |
| 26a | 5.63, s |  |  |  |
| 26b | 5.73, s |  |  |  |
| 27 | 1.95, s |  |  |  |
| 28 | 0.90, s | 0.90, s | 0.94, s | 1.11, s |
| 29 | 0.90, s | 0.90, s | 0.83, s | 1.04, s |
| 30 | 1.10, s | 1.10, s | 1.10, s | 1.12, s |
| MeCO |  |  | 1.98, s |  |
| NH | 10.68, br s | 10.90, br s | 10.90, br s | 7.39, br s |

[^1]19.9 ) and a methine ( $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 35.8, \mathrm{C}-25$ ) in $\mathbf{1}$ were replaced by a terminal double bond $\left[\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 121.8(\mathrm{t}), 145.0(\mathrm{~s})\right]$ in 5 . Together with its molecular formula $\mathrm{C}_{30} \mathrm{H}_{43} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ based on its HRESIMS, compound $\mathbf{5}$ was assumed to be a dehydro derivative of $\mathbf{1}$. The assumption was supported by HMBC correlations from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 5.63(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-26)$ and $5.73(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-26)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 145.0(\mathrm{C}-25)$ and $186.1(\mathrm{C}-24)$.

The molecular formula of laxiracemosin $\mathrm{F}(\mathbf{6})$ was $\mathrm{C}_{27} \mathrm{H}_{39} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ (by HRESIMS), corresponding to nine degrees of unsaturation. IR absorptions revealed the presence of $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ and -OH groups. The UV spectrum indicated a conjugated system based on the absorption maximum at 303 nm . The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum (Table 2) showed signals characteristic of five methyl groups, an amine proton $\left(\delta_{\mathrm{H}}\right.$

Table 3. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Spectroscopic Data for $\mathbf{1 - 8}$ ( $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{3}-\mathbf{7}$ in acetone- $d_{6}, \mathbf{2}$ and $\mathbf{8}$ in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, \delta$ in ppm)

| position | $1^{a}$ | $2{ }^{\text {b }}$ | $3^{a}$ | $4^{\text {b }}$ | $5^{a}$ | $\mathbf{6}^{\text {b }}$ | $7{ }^{\text {b }}$ | $8^{a}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 31.7, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 38.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 31.6, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 31.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 31.7, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 32.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 37.3, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 38.3, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ |
| 2 | 26.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 34.3, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 24.3, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 26.5, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 26.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 26.5, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 24.6, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 34.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ |
| 3 | 75.7, CH | 216.7, qC | 78.4, CH | 75.7, CH | 75.7, CH | 75.8, CH | 81.1, CH | 216.7, qC |
| 4 | 38.0, qC | 47.8, qC | 37.2, qC | 38.1, qC | 38.0, qC | 38.1, qC | 38.4, qC | 47.8, qC |
| 5 | 45.2, CH | 52.3, CH | 46.5, CH | 45.3, CH | 45.2, CH | 45.3, CH | 51.5, CH | 52.3, CH |
| 6 | 24.6, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 24.3, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 23.5, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 24.7, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 24.5, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 24.6, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 24.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 24.3, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ |
| 7 | 118.9, CH | 117.9, CH | 118.6, CH | 118.9, CH | 118.9, CH | 119.0, CH | 118.5, CH | 118.8, CH |
| 8 | 146.8, qC | 145.7, qC | 146.3, qC | 146.9, qC | 146.8, qC | 146.9, qC | 146.6, qC | 144.8, qC |
| 9 | 49.5, CH | 48.4, CH | 49.5, CH | 49.6, CH | 49.5, CH | 49.7, CH | 49.5, CH | 48.2, CH |
| 10 | 35.0, qC | 35.1, qC | 35.5, qC | 35.6 , qC | $35.5, \mathrm{qC}$ | $35.5, \mathrm{qC}$ | 35.6, qC | 35.1, qC |
| 11 | 17.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 17.5, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 17.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 18.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 17.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 18.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 18.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 17.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ |
| 12 | 31.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 30.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 32.6, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 32.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 31.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 31.7, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | $31.5, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | $30.5, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ |
| 13 | 45.2, qC | 44.8, qC | 45.1, qC | 45.3 , qC | 45.2, qC | 48.2, qC | 45.2, qC | 46.1, qC |
| 14 | 51.1, qC | 50.4, qC | 51.1, qC | 51.2 , qC | 51.2 , qC | 51.2 , qC | 51.1, qC | 51.5 , qC |
| 15 | 35.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 34.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 34.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 35.1, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 35.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 35.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 34.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 34.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ |
| 16 | 27.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 26.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 27.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 27.5, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 27.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 27.5, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 27.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 26.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ |
| 17 | 46.2 , CH | 45.5, CH | 46.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 46.2, CH | 46.1, CH | 46.1, CH | 46.0, CH | 43.8 , CH |
| 18 | 23.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $22.7, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 23.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 23.3, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 23.3, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 23.3, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 23.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $23.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ |
| 19 | 13.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 12.7, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 13.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 13.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 13.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 13.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 13.4, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 12.7, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ |
| 20 | 127.0, qC | 127.0, qC | 127.0, qC | 127.3, qC | 127.2, qC | 127.9, qC | 127.9, qC | 152.5, qC |
| 21 | 123.7, CH | 122.6, CH | 123.7, CH | 123.7, CH | 124.5, CH | 125.3, CH | 125.3, CH | 171.5, qC |
| 22 | 116.1, CH | 115.4, CH | 116.1, CH | 118.7, CH | 118.4, CH | 120.6, CH | 120.6, CH | 128.2, CH |
| 23 | 131.4, qC | 130.5, qC | 131.4, qC | 128.7, qC | 131.0, qC | 133.8, qC | 133.8, qC | 170.5, qC |
| 24 | 194.2, qC | 194.8, qC | 194.2, qC | 194.1, qC | 186.1, qC | 179.1, CH | 179.1, CH |  |
| 25 | 35.8, CH | 35.5, CH | 35.8, CH | 76.4, qC | 145.0, qC |  |  |  |
| 26 | 19.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 19.6, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 19.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $28.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 121.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ |  |  |  |
| 27 | 19.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 19.6, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 19.9, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $28.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 19.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ |  |  |  |
| 28 | $22.2, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $21.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 21.6, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 22.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 22.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 22.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 16.1, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $21.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ |
| 29 | $28.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $24.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 27.5, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $27.9, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $28.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $28.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 27.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $24.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ |
| 30 | 27.2, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $27.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 27.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $27.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 27.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 27.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 27.8, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | $27.5, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ |
| MeCO |  |  | 21.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ |  |  |  | 21.0, $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ |  |
| MeCO |  |  | 170.4, qC |  |  |  | 170.7, qC |  |

${ }^{a}$ Recorded at $100 \mathrm{MHz} .{ }^{b}$ Recorded at 125 MHz .
10.90), an aldehyde ( $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 9.46$ ), and three olefinic protons. A combined analysis of ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (Table 3) and HSQC spectra revealed 27 carbon signals attributed to one aldehyde ( $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 179.1$ ), six olefinic, five methyl, seven methylene, four methine, and four quaternary carbons. These data suggested that $\mathbf{6}$ was a degraded derivative of 1. HMBC correlations from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 9.46(\mathrm{H}-24)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 133.8$ (C-23) and from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 6.86(\mathrm{H}-22)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 133.8(\mathrm{C}-23)$ and 179.1 (C24) revealed that the side chain of $\mathbf{6}$ was a substituent pyrrole ring conjugated with an aldehyde ${ }^{7}$ and that the structure of 6 was as indicated.
Laxiracemosin $G$ (7) had the molecular formula $\mathrm{C}_{29} \mathrm{H}_{41} \mathrm{NO}_{3}$. Comparison of the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data of 7 (Tables 2 and 3) with those of $\mathbf{6}$ indicated that 7 was the $\mathrm{C}-3$ acetate of $\mathbf{6}$, which was supported by HMBC correlations from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 1.98\left(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{COO}\right)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 170.7$ and 81.1 (C-3). Unlike compounds $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{3 - 6}$, the coupling constants of H-3 in 7 were 5.6 and 9.0 Hz , which suggested the $\alpha$-orientation for $\mathrm{H}-3$.

The UV spectrum of laxiracemosin $\mathrm{H}(\mathbf{8})$ showed maximum absorption at 224 nm , which indicated a conjugated group different from that in compounds $\mathbf{1 - 7}$. The IR spectrum exhibited absorption bands for $\mathrm{NH}, \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$, and $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ groups. Similar to compounds $1-7$, the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data (Tables 2 and 3) of $\mathbf{8}$ showed the tirucallan-7-ene pattern in rings $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{D} .{ }^{6}$ In combination with the molecular formula $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{35} \mathrm{NO}_{3}$, based on its HRESIMS, the chemical shifts of the remaining four carbons [ $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 152.5$ (s), 128.2 (d), $170.5(\mathrm{~s})$, and $171.5(\mathrm{~s})$ ] and NH suggested the presence of a maleimide ring. ${ }^{8}$ HMBC correlations from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 6.32(\mathrm{H}-22)$ to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}}$ $170.5(\mathrm{C}-23), 152.5(\mathrm{C}-20)$, and $43.8(\mathrm{C}-17)$ and from $\delta_{\mathrm{H}} 3.06(\mathrm{H}-$ 17) to $\delta_{\mathrm{C}} 152.5(\mathrm{C}-20)$ and $171.5(\mathrm{C}-21)$ confirmed the structure as indicated.

The structures of the known compounds, 3-oxo-24,25,26,27-tetranortirucall-7-ene-23(21)-lactone (9), ${ }^{9} 3$-hydroxy-24,25,26,27-tet-ranortirucall-7-ene-23(21)-lactone (10), ${ }^{9} \beta$-amyrone, ${ }^{10} \beta$-amyrin, ${ }^{11}$ 24,25-epoxytirucall-7-ene-3,23-dione, ${ }^{12}$ syringaresinol, ${ }^{13}$ scopoletin, ${ }^{14}$ $3 \alpha$-hydroxy-12-ursen-28-oic acid, ${ }^{15}$ xylobuxin, ${ }^{16}$ piscidinol B, ${ }^{17}$ and

Table 4. Cytotoxic Activities of Compounds 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6

|  | $\mathrm{IC}_{50}(\mu \mathrm{M})$ |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| compound | HL-60 | SMMC-7721 | A-549 | MCF-7 | SW480 |
| 1 | 3.1 | 9.5 | 5.4 | 16.8 | 7.2 |
| 2 | 12.8 | 19.0 | 13.4 | $>20$ | $>20$ |
| 4 | 6.8 | $>20$ | $>20$ | $>20$ | $>20$ |
| 5 | 1.5 | 2.7 | 3.7 | 5.1 | 3.7 |
| 6 | 15.7 | 15.6 | $>20$ | $>20$ | $>20$ |
| cisplatin | 2.4 | 11.2 | 17.6 | 18.7 | 14.9 |

$\beta$-amyrin acetate, ${ }^{18}$ were determined by comparing their spectroscopic data with reported values. ${ }^{9-18}$

Compounds $\mathbf{1} \mathbf{- 1 0}$ were evaluated for their cytotoxicity against the HL-60, SMMC-7721, A-549, MCF-7, and SW480 cell lines by the MTT method, ${ }^{19}$ and the results are shown in Table 4. The most potent cytotoxic compound was laxiracemosin E (5), while compound $\mathbf{1}$ also showed significant cytotoxicity against these cell lines. Compounds 2, 4, and $\mathbf{6}$ showed some evidence of cytotoxicity against the HL-60 cell line. Compounds 3, 7, 8, 9, and $\mathbf{1 0}$ were inactive against all five cell lines $\left(\mathrm{IC}_{50}>20 \mu \mathrm{M}\right)$.

## Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. Melting points were obtained on an X-4 micro melting point apparatus. Optical rotations were measured with a Horiba SEPA-300 polarimeter. UV spectra were obtained using a Shimadzu UV-2401A spectrophotometer. IR spectra were obtained using a Tenor 27 spectrophotometer and KBr pellets. 1D and 2D NMR spectra were run on Bruker DRX-500 or AV-400 spectrometers with TMS as the internal standard. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are expressed in ppm with reference to the solvent signals. Mass spectra were recorded on a VG Autospec-3000 spectrometer or an API QSTAR Pulsar I spectrometer. Column chromatography (CC) was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh, Qingdao Marine Chemical Ltd., Qingdao, People's Republic of China), RP-18 gel ( $20-45 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, Fuji Silysia Chemical Ltd., Japan), and Sephadex LH-20 (Pharmacia Fine Chemical Co., Ltd., Sweden). Fractions were monitored by TLC (GF 254,

Qingdao Haiyang Chemical Co., Ltd. Qingdao), and spots were visualized by heating silica gel plates sprayed with $10 \% \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ in EtOH .

Plant Material. D. laxiracemosum plants were collected in Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China, and identified by Mr. Jing-Yun Cui, Xishuangbanna Tropical Plant Garden. A voucher specimen (No. Cui20081117) has been deposited at the Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Extraction and Isolation. Air-dried and powdered bark of $D$. laxiracemosum ( 9.7 kg ) was extracted with MeOH at room temperature three times ( 2 days $\times 3$ ), and solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was partitioned between $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and EtOAc. The EtOAc extract ( 240 g ) was subjected to silica gel (200-300 mesh, 2.5 $\mathrm{kg}) \mathrm{CC}$, eluting with a $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}-\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}$ step-gradient $(1: 0,50: 1,30: 1$, $20: 1,10: 1,5: 1,2: 1,1: 2)$, to yield fractions $1-5$. Fraction $1(42.5 \mathrm{~g})$ was chromatographed on silica gel (petroleum ether $-\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}, 50: 1-1$ : 2), silica gel (petroleum ether-EtOAc, 20:1-1:2), and then silica gel (petroleum ether-EtOAc, $15: 1-1: 2$ ) to give $\beta$-amyrone ( 105 mg ), $\beta$-amyrin acetate ( 90 mg ), $\beta$-amyrin ( 105 mg ), and 24,25-epoxytirucall-7-ene-3,23-dione ( 206 mg ). Fraction $2(54 \mathrm{~g})$ was chromatographed on silica gel (petroleum ether $-\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}, 30: 1-1: 2$ ) and then silica gel (petroleum ether-EtOAc, 10:1-1:2) to yield $\mathbf{1}(20 \mathrm{mg}), 2(26 \mathrm{mg}), 9$ $(42 \mathrm{mg})$, and a mixture $(10 \mathrm{~g})$, which was subjected to chromatography over RP-18 (MeOH- $\left.\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}, 50 \%-95 \%\right)$ followed by Sephadex LH-20 $\left(\mathrm{CHCl}_{3}-\mathrm{MeOH}, 1: 1\right)$ to give $10(24 \mathrm{mg})$, syringaresinol ( 20 mg ), and $7(5 \mathrm{mg})$. Fraction $3(20 \mathrm{~g})$ was subjected to $\mathrm{RP}-18 \mathrm{CC}\left(\mathrm{MeOH}-\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right.$, $40 \%-95 \%$ ) to give 10 subfractions, 3.1-3.10. Fraction 3.7 (5 g) was applied to silica gel CC (petroleum ether $-\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}, 30: 1-1: 2$ ), silica gel CC (petroleum ether-EtOAc, 12:1-1:2), and then Sephadex LH$20(\mathrm{MeOH})$ to yield $\mathbf{3}(12 \mathrm{mg})$ and $5(5 \mathrm{mg})$. Fraction $3.8(1 \mathrm{~g})$ was chromatographed on silica gel (petroleum ether-EtOAc, 12:1-1:2) to yield scopoletin $(10 \mathrm{mg})$ and $\mathbf{8}(10 \mathrm{mg})$. Fraction $3.9(3 \mathrm{~g})$ was subjected to silica gel CC (petroleum ether-EtOAc, 15:1-1:2) to give $3 \alpha$ -hydroxy-12-ursen-28-oic acid ( 300 mg ). Fraction $4(21 \mathrm{~g})$ was chromatographed over RP-18 ( $\mathrm{MeOH}-\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}, 40 \%-95 \%$ ) to give subfractions 4.1-4.10. Fraction $4.5(2 \mathrm{~g})$ was chromatographed on silica gel (petroleum ether-EtOAc, 6:1) followed by silica gel CC (petroleum ether $-\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}, 12: 1-1: 2$ ) and Sephadex $\mathrm{LH}-20(\mathrm{MeOH})$ to give piscidinol $B(20 \mathrm{mg})$ and $4(5 \mathrm{mg})$. Fraction $4.6(1 \mathrm{~g})$ was chromatographed on silica gel (petroleum ether-EtOAc, 16:1-1:2) and then silica gel CC (petroleum ether-EtOAc, 10:1-1:2) to yield xylobuxin $(11 \mathrm{mg})$ and a mixture $(8 \mathrm{mg})$, which was chromatographed on Sephadex LH-20 (MeOH) to give $6(4 \mathrm{mg})$.

Laxiracemosin A (1): white powder; mp $219-220^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; $[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}+8.9$ (c 0.3, $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}$ ); UV $(\mathrm{MeOH}) \lambda_{\max }(\log \varepsilon) 303$ (3.79), 259 (3.45), 206 (4.23) nm; IR (KBr) $\nu_{\max } 3441,2963,2871,1714,1632 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (acetone- $d_{6}$ ), Tables 1 and 3 ; positive ion HRESIMS $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$. 452.3519 (calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{30} \mathrm{H}_{45} \mathrm{NO}_{2}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, 452.3528).

Laxiracemosin B(2): white powder; mp $238-240^{\circ} \mathrm{C} ;[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}-7.2$ (c 0.2, $\left.\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}\right)$; UV $(\mathrm{MeOH}) \lambda_{\text {max }}(\log \varepsilon) 302$ (3.84), 258 (3.45), 206 (3.43), 195 (3.34) nm; IR (KBr) $\nu_{\max } 3384,2939,2858,1709,1636$ $\mathrm{cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$, Tables 1 and 3 ; positive ion HRESIMS m/z 450.3380 (calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{30} \mathrm{H}_{43} \mathrm{NO}_{2}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}, 450.3372$ ).

Laxiracemosin C (3): white powder; mp $267-268^{\circ} \mathrm{C} ;[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}+1.7$ (c 0.36, $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}$ ); UV (MeOH) $\lambda_{\text {max }}(\log \varepsilon) 302$ (3.93), 257 (3.59), 220 (3.07), 207 (3.29) nm; IR (KBr) $\nu_{\max } 3439,2927,1720,1637 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (acetone- $d_{6}$ ), Tables 1 and 3 ; positive ion HRESIMS $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z} 516.3448$ (calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{32} \mathrm{H}_{47} \mathrm{NO}_{3}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}, 516.3453$ ).

Laxiracemosin D (4): white powder; mp 201-202 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} ;[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}+10.1$ (c 0.4, $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}$ ); UV (MeOH) $\lambda_{\max }(\log \varepsilon) 306$ (3.88), 262 (3.47), 220 (3.08), 208 (3.25) nm; IR (KBr) $v_{\max } 3425,2948,1626 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (acetone- $d_{6}$ ), Tables 1 and 3; positive ion HRESIMS $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ 490.3290 (calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{30} \mathrm{H}_{45} \mathrm{NO}_{3}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}, 490.3297$ ).

Laxiracemosin E (5): white powder; mp $145-146{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} ;[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}+18.6$ (c 0.32, $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}$ ); UV $(\mathrm{MeOH}) \lambda_{\text {max }}(\log \varepsilon) 318$ (3.78), 220 (3.51), 208 (3.53) nm; IR (KBr) $\nu_{\max } 3433,2923,1633 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (acetone- $d_{6}$ ), Tables 2 and 3; positive ion HRESIMS m/z 472.3197 (calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{30} \mathrm{H}_{43} \mathrm{NO}_{2}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}, 472.3191$ ).

Laxiracemosin $\mathbf{F}$ (6): white powder; mp $218-220^{\circ} \mathrm{C} ;[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}+4.7$ (c 0.3, $\left.\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}\right)$; UV $(\mathrm{MeOH}) \lambda_{\text {max }}(\log \varepsilon) 303$ (3.78), 258 (3.53), 220 (2.79), 208 (2.95) nm; IR (KBr) $\nu_{\max } 3431,2923,2870,1641 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (acetone- $d_{6}$ ), Tables 2 and 3 ; positive ion HRESIMS $m / z 432.2871$ (calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{27} \mathrm{H}_{39} \mathrm{NO}_{2}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{Na}]^{+}, 432.2878$ ).

Laxiracemosin G (7): white powder; mp 270-272 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} ;[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}+17.4$ (c 0.11, $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}$ ); UV (MeOH) $\lambda_{\text {max }}(\log \varepsilon) 303$ (3.91), 258(3.64), 206 (3.53), 193 (3.38) nm; IR (KBr) $\nu_{\max } 3406,2921,2850,1719,1646$ $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (acetone- $d_{6}$ ), Tables 2 and 3 ; positive ion HRESIMS $m / z 452.3157$ (calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{29} \mathrm{H}_{41} \mathrm{NO}_{3}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$, 452.3164).

Laxiracemosin H (8): white powder; mp $225-226^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; $[\alpha]^{25}{ }_{\mathrm{D}}+35.8$ ( $c 0.34, \mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{CO}$ ); UV (MeOH) $\lambda_{\text {max }}(\log \varepsilon) 279$ (2.72), 224 (3.62), 195 (3.44) nm; IR (KBr) $\nu_{\max } 3433,2953,1775,1718,1624 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$, Tables 2 and 3 ; positive ion HRESIMS $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ 410.2692 (calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{35} \mathrm{NO}_{3}[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}, 410.2695$ ).

Cytotoxicity Assay. The following human cancer cell lines were used: human myeloid leukemia HL-60, hepatocellular carcinoma SMMC-7721, lung cancer A-549, breast cancer MCF-7, and colon cancer SW480. All cells were cultured in RPMI-1640 or DMEM medium (Hyclone, USA), supplemented with $10 \%$ fetal bovine serum (Hyclone, USA) in $5 \% \mathrm{CO}_{2}$ at $37{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The cytotoxicity assay was performed according to the MTT (3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5diphenyltetrazolium bromide) method in 96-well microplates. ${ }^{19}$ Briefly, $100 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ of adherent cells were seeded into each well of 96 -well cell culture plates and allowed to adhere for 12 h before drug addition, while suspended cells were seeded just before drug addition with initial density of $1 \times 10^{5}$ cells $/ \mathrm{mL}$. Each tumor cell line was exposed to the test compound at concentrations of $0.0625,0.32,1.6,8$, and $40 \mu \mathrm{M}$ in triplicates for 48 h , with cisplatin (Sigma, USA) as a positive control. After compound treatment, cell viability was detected and a cell growth curve was graphed. $\mathrm{IC}_{50}$ values were calculated by Reed and Muench's method. ${ }^{20}$

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Supporting Information Available: 1D and 2D NMR and HRMS spectra of laxiracemosins $\mathrm{A}-\mathrm{H}(\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{8})$. These materials are available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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[^1]:    ${ }^{a}$ Recorded at 400 MHz , in acetone- $d_{6} .{ }^{b}$ Recorded at 500 MHz , in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$.

