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### Constituents from the seeds of *Brucea javanica* with inhibitory activity of *Tobacco mosaic virus*

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## Constituents from the seeds of *Brucea javanica* with inhibitory activity of Tobacco mosaic virus

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Three new constituents were obtained along with 10 known compounds from the seeds of *Brucea javanica*. The structures of these compounds were determined based on spectral and chemical evidence. These new compounds included a monoterpenoid glycoside and two sesquiterpenes. Bioactivity screening of these constituents showed that compounds **1**, **3**, **8**, **9**, and **13** with obvious activities in inhibiting multiplication of the Tobacco mosaic virus.

**Keywords:** Simaroubaceae; *Brucea javanica*; monoterpenoid glycoside; sesquiterpene; lignan; Tobacco mosaic virus

### 1. Introduction

*Brucea javanica* is a shrub of Simaroubaceae. It distributes from southeast Asia to northern Australia, and grows in southern regions of China widely [1]. This plant has been deeply studied and found as a rich source of quassinoids. Its seed has still been used for the treatment of dysentery, malaria, and cancer in Chinese traditional medicine. Okano *et al.* [1–3] had previously reviewed the bioactive quassinoids from Simaroubaceae plants during the period of 1972–2000, which showed cytotoxic antitumor, antitumor-promoter, anti-HIV, antituberculosis, insect antifeedant, and other biological activities, and *B. javanica* is still now an interesting resource for new quassinoids and bioactivity studies [4–6].

It is a part of our search for anti-phytoviral natural products; a chloroform

fraction from the seeds of *B. javanica* showed significant inhibitory activity against the infection and the replication of Tobacco mosaic virus (TMV) *in vitro*. Previously, our institute reported the antiphytoviral activity of bruceine-D, a quassinoid isolated from the seeds of *B. javanica* [7]. It exhibited significant inhibitory activity against the infection and the replication of TMV, with IC<sub>50</sub> values of 13.98 and 7.13 μg ml<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. Bioassay-guided fractionation of the chloroform extract of the seeds of *B. javanica* using chromatography in silica gel and preparative HPLC led to the isolation of three new compounds. We report, herein, the structural elucidation and antiphytoviral activities of these new compounds and 10 known compounds.

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Table 1.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data of compound **1**<sup>a</sup>.

No.	$\delta_{\text{H}}$	$\delta_{\text{C}}$		NOESY	HMBC	H–H COSY
1		78.4	C			
2		108.9	C			
3	1.96 (1H, dt, 6.8, 5.3), 1.80 (1H, dt, 5.3, 3.4)	34.4	CH <sub>2</sub>	H4	C5, C1	H4
4	2.13 (1H, dt, 6.8, 5.3), 1.73, (1H, dt, 5.3, 3.4)	36.4	CH <sub>2</sub>	H8	C2, C8	H3
5		85.7	C			
6	1.23 (3H, s)	24.8	CH <sub>3</sub>	H7	C2, C1	
7	1.34 (3H, s)	22.8	CH <sub>3</sub>	H6	C2, C1	
8	1.29 (3H, s)	24.6	CH <sub>3</sub>		C9, C5, C4	
9	6.14 (1H, dd, 15.8, 10.0)	146.7	CH	H10 <sub>C</sub>	C4, C8	H10 (H <sub>T</sub> , H <sub>C</sub> )
10	5.12 <sup>b</sup> (1H <sub>T</sub> , dd, 15.8, 1.7), 4.90 <sup>c</sup> (1H <sub>C</sub> , dd, 10.0, 1.7)	111.6	CH <sub>2</sub>	H9	C5	H9
1'	4.57 (1H, d, 7.7)	95.0	CH	H3'	C2	H2'
2'	3.57 (1H, t, 9.3)	73.2	CH			H1', H3'
3'	3.52 (1H, dd, 9.3, 3.1)	74.7	CH	H1', H5'		H2', H4'
4'	3.40 (1H, dd, 4.6, 3.1)	72.2	CH			H3', H5'
5'	3.35 (1H, m)	79.3	CH			H4', H6'
6'	3.80 (1H, dd, 11.2, 3.4), 3.64 (1H, brd, 11.2)	62.8	CH <sub>2</sub>			H5'

<sup>a</sup> Measured in acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 400 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$  and 100 MHz for  $^{13}\text{C}$ .

<sup>b</sup> *trans*-Proton.

<sup>c</sup> *cis*-Proton.

## 2. Results and discussion

Chloroform extract of *B. javanica* was chromatographed on silica gel and eluted with 40% EtOAc–hexane to afford five fractions. The components were separated by preparative HPLC on silica gel developing with EtOAc–hexane (40:60). Thirteen compounds were obtained including the three new compounds, named as brucojavans **1**, **2**, and **3**. The 10 known compounds were identified to be pinoresinol (**4**) [8], cleomiscosin B (**5**) [9], 7,8-epoxylignans (**6**) [10], dihydrodehydrodiconiferyl alcohol (**7**) [11], 7'-hydroxylariciresinol (**8**) [12], secoisolariciresinol (**9**) [13], 4-methoxy-guaiacylglycerol (**10**) [14,15], 7-carbonyl-guaiacylglycerol (**11**) [15], 4-hydroxy-3-methoxy-benzoic acid (**12**), and 3,4-dihydroxy-benzoic acid (**13**) by comparison of their NMR spectral data with those reported data in the literature.

Brucojavan **1** was obtained as a white amorphous powder, whose molecular formula was determined to be C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>8</sub>

by observation of a quasi-molecular ion peak at *m/z* 347.1705 [M–H]<sup>–</sup> in the negative-ion HR-FAB mass spectrum. The IR spectrum indicated the presence of hydroxyl group (3310 cm<sup>–1</sup>) and double bond (1652 cm<sup>–1</sup>). Acid hydrolysis of **1** with 2 M trifluoroacetic acid afforded galactose which was identified by HPLC. The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1** showed three methyl signals at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.34 (3H, s), 1.29 (3H, s), and 1.23 (3H, s), a terminal double bond signals at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  6.14 (1H, dd, *J* = 15.8, 10.0 Hz), 5.12 (1H, dd, *J* = 15.8, 1.7 Hz), and 4.90 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.0, 1.7 Hz), and an anomeric proton signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.57 (1H, d, *J* = 7.7 Hz). The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **1** gave a terminal double bond signal at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  146.7 and 111.6, a ketal signal at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  108.9, two quaternary carbon signals bearing oxygen at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  85.7 and 78.4, two methene signals at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  36.4 and 34.4, three methyl signals at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  24.8, 24.6, and 22.8, and a hexose signals (Table 1). Evaluation of spin–spin coupling and chemical shifts of the hexose

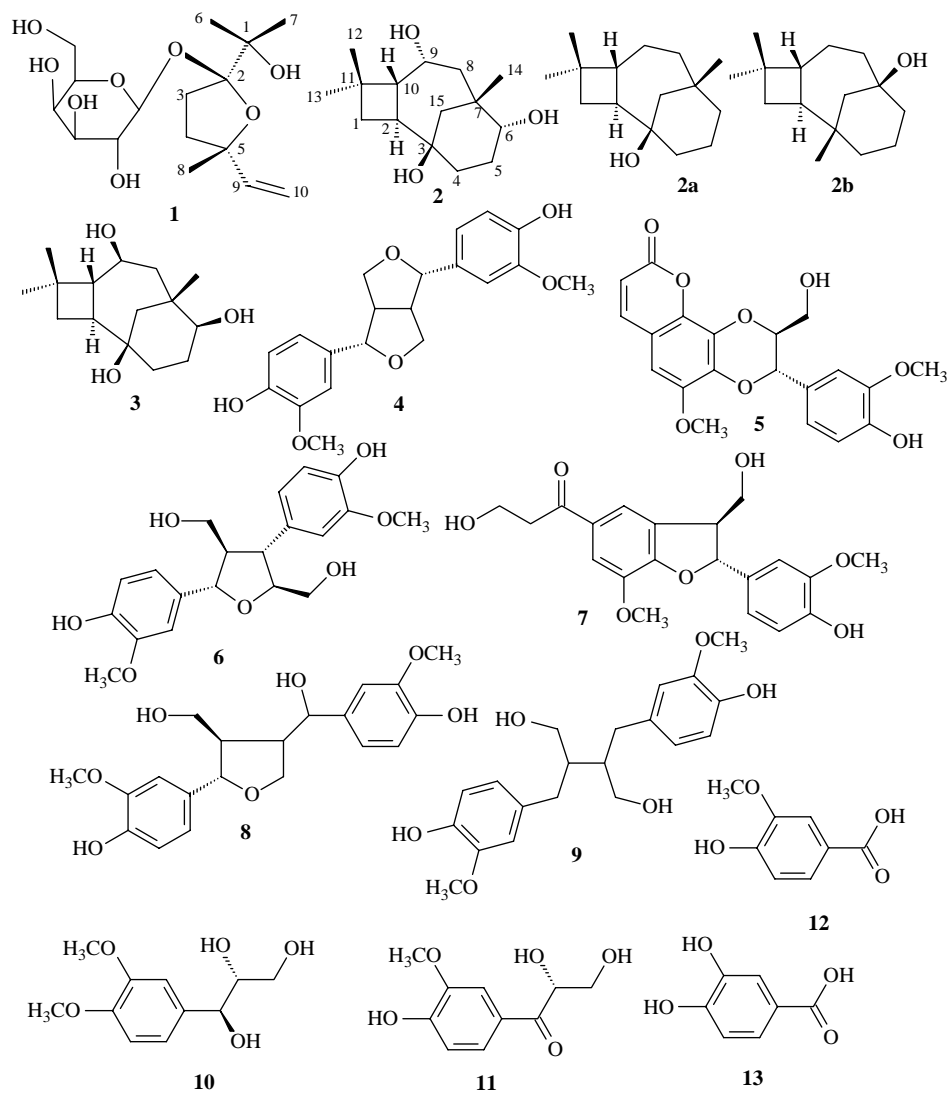


Figure 1. Structures of compounds 1–13.

allowed the identification of one  $\beta$ -galactopyranosyl unit [16]. The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **1** suggested the presence of 16 carbon signals including a galactose unit signals, so compound **1** was a monoterpenoid glycoside. In the HMBC spectrum, the key correlations were observed between the anomeric proton signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.57 and the ketal signal at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  108.9 (C-2), between the two olefinic proton signals at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.12 (H-10), 4.90

(H-10) and the oxygen-bearing quaternary carbon at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  85.7 (C-5), between two methyl signals at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.34 (H-7), 1.23 (H-6) and the ketal signal at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  108.9 (C-2) (Figure 1). Because the unsaturated degree of compound **1** was three, C-5 and C-2 had to form a furan ring, this ring was confirmed by the signal splittings (coupling constant) of H-4 and H-3 (Table 1) [17]. The relative stereochemistry of **1** was displayed by its NOESY spectrum, the

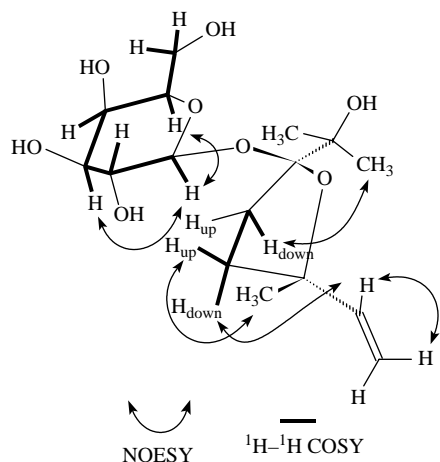


Figure 2. Key NOESY and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY correlations of compound **1**.

correlations of which were between  $\text{H}_{\text{up-4}}$  and H-8, between  $\text{H}_{\text{down-4}}$  and H-9, between  $\text{H}_{\text{down-3}}$  and H-6, H-7 (Figure 2). On the basis of above evidences, **1** was determined to be 5-ethenyltetrahydro-2-hydroxy-1,1,5-trimethyl-2-furanmethanol-

2-*O*- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside, named brucosjavan **1**.

Compound **2**,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{21} + 74.0$ , gave molecular formula,  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_3$ , which is based on HR-EI-MS peak at  $m/z$  254.1881  $[\text{M}]^+$ . The IR spectrum showed the presence of hydroxy group ( $3302\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum displayed three methyl proton signals at  $\delta$  1.00 (3H, s), 1.05 (3H, s), and 1.07 (3H, s); two signals at  $\delta$  3.42 (1H, brd,  $J = 8.3\text{ Hz}$ ), 3.91 (1H, m), the protons are on the carbon atom bonded to oxygen. The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum exhibited 15 carbon signals including three methyl, five methene, four methine, and three quaternary carbons (Table 2). The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data of **2** suggested its structure rather similar to that of  $\beta$ -caryolanol (**2a**) or isocaryolanol (**2b**) [18]. Its HMBC experiment (Figure 3) confirmed the correlations between H-12, H-13, and C-1; between H-2 and C-9, C-11; between H-9 and C-2, C-11; between H-14 and C-6, C-8; between H-4 and C-2, C-6; between H-10 and C-3, C-8; and between H-5 and

Table 2.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data of compounds **2** and **3**<sup>a</sup>.

No.	<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>	
	$\delta_{\text{C}}$	$\delta_{\text{H}}$	$\delta_{\text{C}}$	$\delta_{\text{H}}$
1	35.1	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.43 (1H, dd, 9.1, 8.7), 1.63 (1H, overlap)	35.3	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.45 (1H, dd, 13.2, 7.7), 1.42 (1H, dd, 13.2, 7.7)
2	41.3	CH 2.10 (1H, m)	47.9	CH 1.90 (1H, m)
3	70.1	C	70.1	C
4	35.5	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.42 (1H, m), 1.65 (1H, overlap)	27.7	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.67 (1H, m), 1.71 (1H, m)
5	29.0	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.68 (1H, m), 1.84 (1H, m)	29.8	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.64 (1H, m), 2.17 (1H, m)
6	71.8	CH 3.42 (1H, brd, 8.3)	74.7	CH 3.27 (1H, brd, 7.5)
7	39.4	C	38.1	C
8	47.1	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.27 (1H, dd, 8.0, 4.0), 1.64 (1H, overlap)	50.8	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.19 (1H, dd, 10.4, 3.4), 1.73 (1H, dd, 10.4, 8.5)
9	69.3	CH 3.91 (1H, m)	71.2	CH 3.68 (1H, m)
10	53.1	CH 1.90 (1H, dd, 8.2, 5.3)	53.5	CH 1.83 (1H, dd, 8.7, 2.0)
11	34.9	C	36.5	C
12	21.8	$\text{CH}_3$ 1.07 (3H, s)	20.2	$\text{CH}_3$ 1.15 (3H, s)
13	31.5	$\text{CH}_3$ 1.05 (3H, s)	31.9	$\text{CH}_3$ 1.08 (3H, s)
14	29.3	$\text{CH}_3$ 1.00 (3H, s)	32.3	$\text{CH}_3$ 1.00 (3H, s)
15	44.4	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.53 (1H, d, 12.9), 1.71 (1H, d, 12.9)	47.5	$\text{CH}_2$ 1.25 (1H, d, 14.2), 1.84 (1H, d, 14.2)

<sup>a</sup> Measured in acetone- $d_6$  at 400 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$  and 100 MHz for  $^{13}\text{C}$ .

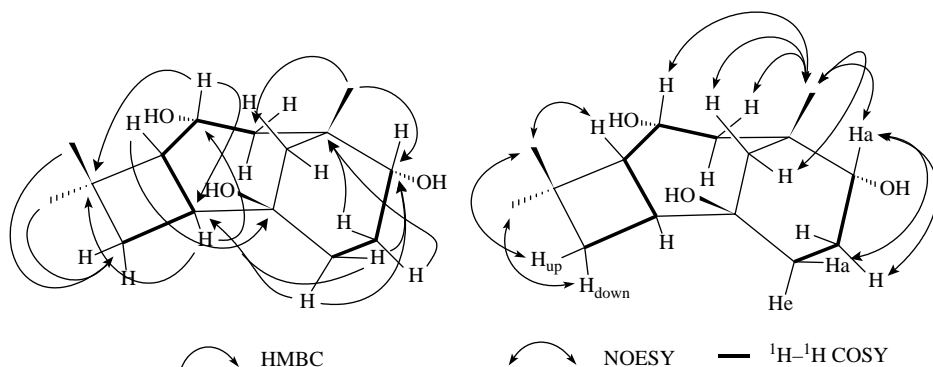


Figure 3. Key HMBC, NOESY, and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY correlations of compound **2**.

C-7. These correlations indicated the existence of 6,9-dihydroxy- $\beta$ -caryolanol skeleton. Moreover, the NOESY experiment gave the correlations (Figure 3) between H-14 and H-6, H-8, H-9, H-15; between H-12 and H-10, H-1<sub>up</sub>; between H-6 and H-4<sub>a</sub>, H-14. These correlations disclosed the axial H-6, H-9<sub>up</sub>, and H-10<sub>up</sub>. So, the two hydroxyl groups were all  $\alpha$  form. Thus, the structure of compound **2** was elucidated as 6 $\alpha$ ,9 $\alpha$ -dihydroxy- $\beta$ -caryolanol, and named brucojavan **2**.

Brucojavan **3** gave the same molecular formula,  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_3$  and similar NMR spectral data with those of **2**. Carefully comparing the data of compound **3** with those of compound **2** indicated the hydroxyl configurations of C-6 and C-9 position in **3** differed from **2**, which was confirmed by the NOESY correlations between H-9 and H-8, H-13, and between H-6 and H-5, H-8, H-14. The correlations also displayed that two hydroxy groups were all  $\beta$  form. Thus, **3** was determined as 6 $\beta$ ,9 $\beta$ -dihydroxy- $\beta$ -caryolanol.

Inhibitory replication and infection activities of compounds **1**–**13** against TMV were tested *in vitro* using local lesion assay and leaf-disk method, and the data were listed in Table 3. The compounds were tested at a final concentration of  $50 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ , five compounds (**1**, **3**, **8**, **9**, and **13**) showed a moderate inhibitory activity against TMV replication (Figure 4),

while the inhibitory activities of other compounds against TMV infection was much lower. Noticeably, compound **9** displayed an inhibitory rate of 73.5 and 52.7% against TMV replication and infection, respectively. The inhibitory activity of compound **9** was lower than bruceine-D at the equal concentration, but the chemical structure of **9** was simpler than that of bruceine-D. In this case, it could be that these compounds were assistant agents in the antiphytoviral activity of the main active constituent, bruceine-D, in *B. javanica* to TMV.

### 3. Experimental

#### 3.1 General experimental procedures

Optical rotations were measured with a Jasco DIP-180 digital polarimeter spectrophotometer. IR spectra were recorded with a Perkin-Elmer 1750 FT-IR spectrometer as KBr disks. The  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ , DEPT,  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY, NOESY, HMQC, and HMBC NMR spectra were performed using a Bruker AM-400 spectrometer. Mass spectra were recorded on a Jeol JMS-HX 110 instrument. Chromatographic stationary phases were RP-18 (40–60  $\mu\text{m}$ ; Merck, Darmstadt, Germany), silica gel (160–200 mesh; Qingdao Oceanic Chemical Co., Qingdao, China), Sephadex LH-20 (25–100  $\mu\text{m}$ ; Pharmacia Fine Chemical Co., Ltd, Tokyo, Japan), MCI-gel CHP20P (75–150  $\mu\text{m}$ ;

Table 3. The inhibitory activities of TMV in compounds 1–13 (%).<sup>a</sup>

Compound	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rate of inhibitory replication	56.0	42.8	59.0	40.1	10.4	15.5	14.7	53.4	73.5	31.5	46.8	22.9	60.3
Rate of inhibitory infection	23.7	3.5	–	–	5.2	7.6	–	13.6	52.7	19.1	8.1	5.8	–

<sup>a</sup>Compound concentration in 50 µg ml<sup>-1</sup>.

Mitsubishi Chemical Industries Ltd, Tokyo, Japan). HPLC was P-230-UV-230 (Dalian Elite Analytical Instruments Co., Ltd, Dalian, China) and HPLC column (S-5 µm, 250 × 10 mm; YMC-Pack ODS-A, Kyoto, Japan). The following solvent systems were used: (a) CHCl<sub>3</sub>–MeOH (50:3), CHCl<sub>3</sub>–MeOH–H<sub>2</sub>O (80:20:3), and MeOH–H<sub>2</sub>O (0–100%) for the glycosides and (b) CHCl<sub>3</sub>–MeOH–H<sub>2</sub>O (7:3:1) lower-layer 9+1 ml HOAc for sugars. Compounds on TLC were detected by spraying with 5% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> followed heating. Sugars were detected by spraying with aniline–phthalate reagent.

### 3.2 Plant material

The seeds of *B. javanica* were collected from Fuzhou City, Fujian Province, China in 2003 and were identified by Prof. K.Z. He, Department of Botany, Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University, Fujian, China. A voucher specimen (No. 19720031) is deposited in the Herbarium of the Key Laboratory of Biopesticide and Chemistry and Biology of the Ministry of Education, Fujian, China.

### 3.3 Extraction and isolation

The seeds of *B. javanica* (2 kg) were extracted (2 × 4 l) with MeOH at room temperature (7 days × 2). The extract was concentrated to dryness under reduced pressure and the residue (700 g) was suspended in water (2.5 l) and partitioned with ethyl acetate (3 × 3 l). The water layer was subsequently extracted with *n*-butanol (3 × 3 l). The *n*-butanol extract was evaporated *in vacuo* to give a residue of 130 g. The residue was subjected to dry column chromatography on silica gel (1.0 kg) and eluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>–MeOH (10:1), producing 13 fractions. Each fraction was then separated on Sephadex LH-20 and RP-18 columns, eluted with methanol–water (10–90%), and finally purified by a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub>–EtOAc–MeOH

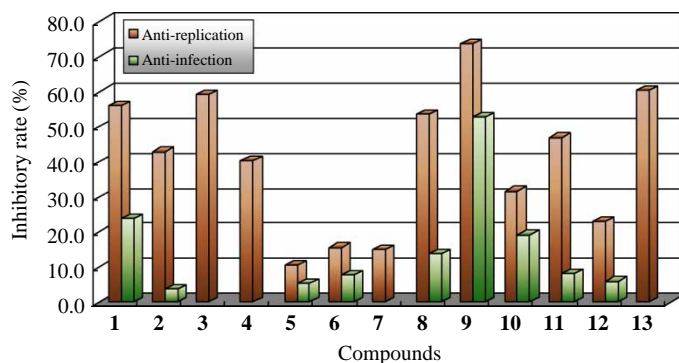


Figure 4. Inhibitory activity of 1–13 from the seeds of *B. javanica* against TMV at 50 µg ml<sup>-1</sup>.

(10:10:1) and CHCl<sub>3</sub>–EtOH (10:0.5–10:2) to yield **1** (34 mg), **2** (14 mg), **3** (11 mg), **4** (26 mg), **5** (84 mg), **6** (22 mg), **7** (15 mg), **8** (35 mg), **9** (45 mg), **10** (25 mg), **11** (26 mg), **12** (84 mg), and **13** (22 mg).

### 3.3.1 Compound (1)

A colorless amorphous powder;  $[\alpha]_D^{21} - 29$  ( $c = 0.24$ , MeOH); IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (film; cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3310, 2965, 1640, 1340, 1210, 965; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectral data, see Table 1; FAB-MS  $m/z$ : 347 [M–H]<sup>-</sup>, 185 [M–H–162]<sup>-</sup>; HR-FAB-MS  $m/z$ : 347.1705 [M–H]<sup>-</sup> (calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>27</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, 347.1706).

### 3.3.2 Compound (2)

A colorless amorphous powder;  $[\alpha]_D^{21} + 74.0$  ( $c = 0.13$ , acetone); IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (film; cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3380, 2927, 1248, 1062, 903; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectral data, see Table 1; EI-MS  $m/z$ : 254 [M]; HR-EI-MS  $m/z$ : 254.1881 [M]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 254.1882).

### 3.3.3 Compound (3)

A colorless amorphous powder;  $[\alpha]_D^{21} + 12.0$  ( $c = 0.21$ , acetone); IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (film; cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3367, 2947, 1221, 1042; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectral data, see Table 1; EI-MS  $m/z$ : 254 [M]; HR-EI-MS  $m/z$ : 254.1881 [M]<sup>+</sup> (calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 254.1882).

### 3.4 Acid hydrolysis

A solution of compound **1** (6 mg) was heated and refluxed at 100°C in 2 M aqueous CF<sub>3</sub>COOH (3 ml) on a water bath for 3 h. The reaction mixture was then diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O (15 ml) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 5 ml). The aqueous layer was neutralized with Amberlite IR-45 and concentrated *in vacuo* to dryness. The form (D or L) of sugar was determined using HPLC (Shodex RSpak DC-613, 75% CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 1 ml/min, 70°C) with refraction index detection and chiral detection (Shodex OR-1) to compare with authentic sugars (10 mmol each D-glucose and D-galactose). These sugars gave the following peaks: D-glucose 7.40 min and D-galactose 8.01 min. D-Galactose was detected in compound **1**.

### 3.5 Virus and host

The common strain of TMV was propagated and maintained in the systemic host *Nicotiana tabacum* L. cv. K326, purified as described in our previous study [7]. *N. tabacum* cv. K326 and *Nicotiana glutinosa* L. were cultivated in an insect-free glasshouse, using for systemic and local lesion host of TMV, respectively.

### 3.6 Screening material preparations

Different compounds were dissolved in a small quantity of DMSO (final



concentration <0.5%), and diluted with water to provide solutions having a concentration of  $100 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ , and placed in a  $\varnothing$  35 mm Petri dishes for the bioassay.

### 3.7 Local lesion assay

*N. glutinosa* of six-leaf stage was used for local lesion assay. The compound solution was mixed with an equal volume of TMV solution to make a mixture ( $50 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  of test compound and  $10 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  of TMV, final concentration) to use for inoculation. Half leaves of *N. glutinosa* were mechanically inoculated with the test mixtures, the other half leaves were treated with a solution of  $10 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  of TMV and an equal volume of solvent as control. The mixtures were incubated for 30 min at room temperature before inoculation, and leaves were washed with distilled water 5 min after inoculation. All assays were performed in triplicate. Local lesion number was recorded 3 days later and inhibition rate of virus infection was calculated according to the following formula:

$$\text{Inhibition rate} = (1 - T/C) \times 100,$$

where  $T$  is the average lesion number of treated half leaves and  $C$  is the average lesion number of the control.

### 3.8 Leaf-disk method

Leaves of *N. tabacum* were mechanically inoculated with TMV at  $10 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ . Leaf disks of 10 mm diameter were punched and floated on the solutions of different compounds 7 h after inoculation and incubated at  $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  for 48 h. Disks treated with solvent only were used as a positive control, whereas disks of healthy leaves were used as a negative control; 48 h later, leaf disks were ground in coating buffer (sodium carbonate buffer:  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  35 mM and  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  15 mM), and virus concentrations in them were measured by indirect ELISA. There were six repetitions in every treatment. A series

of TMV solutions at known concentrations was incorporated into every microliter plate to provide an internal calibration curve. Linearity of absorbance with TMV concentrations was obtained within a range of about two orders of magnitude (0.04888–12.5 ng of TMV). Virus concentration was calculated by the TMV standard curve with  $\text{OD}_{405}$  value of indirect ELISA, and the inhibition of virus replication was calculated as follows:

$$\text{Inhibitory rate} = (1 - T_0/C_0) \times 100,$$

where  $T_0$  is the virus concentration of compound-treated leaf disk and  $C_0$  is the virus concentration of leaf disk of the positive control.

### 3.9 Indirect ELISA procedure

One hundred microliters of diluted antigen were added to each well of a micro-ELISA plate and incubated overnight at  $4^\circ\text{C}$ . After incubation, the antigen solution was discarded and the plates were washed three times in phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), pH 7.2, containing 0.001% Tween 20 (PBS-T). Rabbit anti-TMV serum (1:2000) was added to the antigen-coated wells. The plates were incubated for 1 h at and then washed three times in PBS-T. Goat anti-rabbit alkaline phosphatase (Sigma, Pool, Dorset, UK) conjugate (1:30,000) in PBS-T was then added and a further incubation for 1 h carried out at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ . The plates were again washed three times,  $100 \mu\text{l}$  of *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate substrate ( $1000 \text{mg l}^{-1}$ ) per well was added, and after 10 min, the reaction was stopped by adding  $100 \mu\text{l}$  of 3 M sodium hydroxide. The intensity of color development was determined by measuring absorbance using a micro-ELISA reader equipped with a 405 nm filter.

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