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FLACOURTIACEAE

MANGOSTIN FROM THE BARKS OF HYDNOCARPUS SPECIES

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Key Word Index-Hydnocarpus octandra; H. venenata; Flacourtiaceae; mangostin.

The benzene extract of *Hydnocarpus octandra* Thw. (Sinhala: Wal divul) gave by initial silica gel chromatography and subsequent preparative TLC on silica gel, a yellow compound m.p. 182° in about 0.001% yield. Its IR (1645 cm⁻¹) and UV spectra indicated a tetra-oxygenated xanthene. The MW 410 (MS) and NMR signals for two aromatic protons, two isopentenyl groups, a methoxy group, a chelated hydroxy group, pointed to mangostin. 1-3

The structure was confirmed by m.m.p., IR, TLC, NMR, and MS comparison with an authentic sample, and by the properties of its dimethyl ether² (m.p., m.m.p., IR and TLC).

The benzene extract of the bark of Hydnocarpus venenata Gaertn. (Sinhala: Makulu) also gave mangostin in about 0.001% yield (characterised as above). This is the first report of the presence of mangostin in a family other than that of the Guttiferae and could have taxonomic value. Up to date the only xanthone type of compound reported from the Flacourtiaceae is mangiferrin which has been isolated from Flacourtia indica, Aphloia theaeformis and A. madagascariensis.⁴

EXPERIMENTAL

Isolation of mangostin from H. octandra Thw. Dried powdered bark (9.0 kg) of H. octandra Thw. (from Kanneliya Forest Reserve) was exhaustively extracted with hot benzene. Concentration of the extract yielded a black tarry solid (35.2 g) which was dissolved in excess benzene, concentrated to about 200 ml, left overnight, filtered, and the filtrate concentrated to a semi-solid (23.0 g). This was separated on a column of

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silica gel (Merck, 500 g, 30–70 mesh) and the 50% benzene–CHCl₃ fraction gave a greyish yellow solid (300 mg), containing mangostin. The mixture was separated on a silica gel G (Merck) plate (150 mg × 2) with 4% MeOH–CHCl₃ × 2 the UV fluorescent band being extracted with acetone. Recrystallisation of the product from EtOH–H₂O yielded pure mangostin as needles m.p. 182° (lit., 2 182–183°), R_f 0·20 in CHCl₃, M(MS) 410; λ_{max} (EtOH) 244 (log ϵ 4·54), 259 (4·44), 318 (4·38), 355 (3·80) m; ν_{max} (KBr) 1580, 1606, 1645, 3250, and 3407 cm⁻¹; τ in CDCl₃ (100 MHz) —3·65 (1H, s, 1-OH), 3·20 (1H, s, 5-H), 3·73 (1H, s, 4-H), 4·62 (2H, t, J 8 Hz, 2,8 side chains-vinyl H), 5·92 (2H, d, J 8 Hz, 8-methylene-H), 6·21 (3H, s, 7-OMe), 6·58 (2H, d, J 8 Hz, 2-methylene-H), 8·18 (6H, s, 8-= C(CH₃)₃), 8·24 and 8·32 (6H, s, 2-=C(CH₃)₂). Dimethyl mangostin. (Me₂SO₄–K₂CO₃) had m.p. 122° (lit., 2 123–124°).

Isolation of mangostin from H. venenata Gaertn. Dried powdered bark (4.6 kg) of H. venenata Gaertn. (from Naula, Matale District) was extracted with hot light petrol. (60–80°) and the extract, processed as above gave mangostin m.p. 182°.

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LAURACEAE

TERPENES OF LINDERA ERYTHROCARPA

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Key Word Index—*Lindera erythrocarpa*; Lauraceae; linderone; methyllinderone; lucidone; methyllucidone; sitosterol-p-glucoside.

Plant. Lindera erythrocarpa Makino. Source. Gifu prefecture, Japan. Uses. Folk medicine of Gifu prefecture for a stomach-ache and neuralgia. Previous work. Tannin of bark, alkaloids of root² and essential oil of leaves.³

Fruits. Linderone(I),⁴ $C_{16}H_{14}O_5$, m.p. 92–93·5°, methyllinderone(II),⁴ $C_{17}H_{16}O_5$, m.p. 84–85°, lucidone(III),⁵ $C_{15}H_{12}O_4$, m.p. 166·5–168·5°, methyllucidone(IV),⁵ $C_{16}H_{14}O_4$, m.p. 126–128° and sitosterol-D-glucoside were isolated from the etherial extract of dry fruits. They were separated by silica-gel column chromatography and identified by IR, UV, NMR, m.m.p. and TLC, color reagents: iodine and Ehlrich reagent (5% diethylaminobenzaldehyde in EtOH + dil. HCl).

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