

HIGHLY OXYGENATED FLAVONOID AGLYCONES FROM *GUTIERREZIA GRANDIS*

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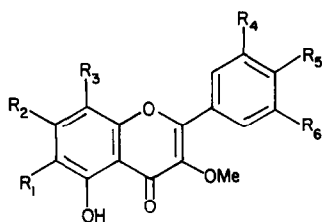
Key Word Index—*Gutierrezia grandis*; Compositae; Astereae; highly oxygenated flavonol 3-*O*-methyl ethers; unusual B-ring oxygenation; brickellin; sarothrin; permethylation.

Abstract—Twelve known and nine new highly oxygenated flavonoid aglycones, some of which exhibit 2'-oxygenation, were isolated from *Gutierrezia grandis*.

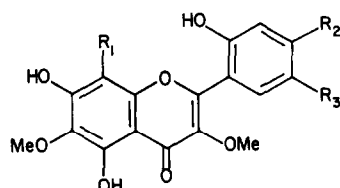
INTRODUCTION

Following the recent major systematic revision of the '*Gutierrezia-Xanthocephalum* complex' [1–4], which more than doubled the number of species assigned to the North American section of *Gutierrezia*, flavonoid studies were undertaken to clarify the validity of the taxonomic realignments. Previous chemical investigations of this group are too scant in terms of flavonoids to be useful for chemotaxonomic purposes [5–8]. Our preliminary investigations have shown each member of the genus to contain an array of flavonoid aglycones, as well as some glycosides. We report here an unusual group of 21 flavonoid aglycones from *G. grandis* S. P. Blake, a woody species of Lanes' revised *Gutierrezia* occurring in the montane region between Saltillo and Monterrey in northern Mexico. The nine new compounds (1–9) are all flavonol 3-

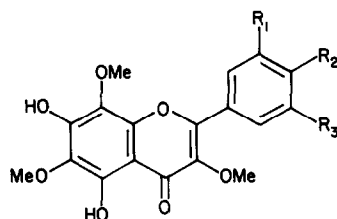
O-methyl ethers: 5,7,3',4',5'-pentahydroxy-3,6,8-trimethoxyflavone; 5,7-dihydroxy-3,6,8,3',4',5'-hexamethoxyflavone; 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-3,6,8,3',5'-pentamethoxyflavone; 5,7,3'-trihydroxy-3,6,8,4'-tetramethoxyflavone; 5,7,3',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,8,4'-trimethoxyflavone; 5,7,2',4'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,5'-trimethoxyflavone; 5,7,2',4'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,8,5'-tetramethoxyflavone; 5,7,2',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,4'-trimethoxyflavone and 5,7,2',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,8,4'-tetramethoxyflavone. In addition, 11 of the 12 known compounds (10–21) are also flavonol 3-*O*-methyl ethers: 5,3',5'-trihydroxy-3,6,7,8,4'-pentamethoxyflavone [9]; 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-3,6,8-trimethoxyflavone (sarothrin) [10]; 5,7,3'-trihydroxy-3,6,4'-trimethoxyflavone (centaureidin) [11]; 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-3,8,3'-trimethoxyflavone [11]; 5,7,4'-trihydroxy-3,6-dimethoxyflavone [11]; 5,7,3',4'-tetrahydroxy-3,6-dimethoxyflavone



| | R ₁ | R ₂ | R ₃ | R ₄ | R ₅ | R ₆ |
|----|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 5 | H | OH | OMe | OH | OMe | OH |
| 10 | OMe | OMe | OMe | OH | OMe | OH |
| 12 | OMe | OH | H | OH | OMe | H |
| 13 | H | OH | OMe | OMe | OH | H |
| 14 | OMe | OH | H | H | OH | H |
| 15 | OMe | OH | H | OH | OH | H |
| 16 | H | OH | OMe | OH | OH | H |
| 17 | OMe | OH | OMe | OH | OH | H |
| 18 | H | OH | H | OH | OMe | OH |
| 19 | OMe | OH | H | OH | OMe | OH |
| 20 | OMe | OH | OMe | OH | OMe | OH |
| 21 | OMe | OH | OMe | OH | OH | H (3-H) |



| | R ₁ | R ₂ | R ₃ |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 6 | H | OH | OMe |
| 7 | OMe | OH | OMe |
| 8 | H | OMe | OH |
| 9 | OMe | OMe | OH |



| | R ₁ | R ₂ | R ₃ |
|----|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 11 | H | OH | H |
| 1 | OH | OH | OH |
| 2 | OMe | OMe | OMe |
| 3 | OMe | OH | OMe |
| 4 | OH | OMe | H |

Table 1. Mass spectral data for flavonoid aglycones

| Flavonoid | [M] ⁺ | [M-15] ⁺ | [M-17] ⁺ | [M-31] ⁺ | [A ₁ -15] ⁺ | [A ₁ -43] ⁺ | [B ₂] ⁺ | [B ₆] ⁺ | [B ₆ -15] ⁺ |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sarothrin, 5,7,4'-OH-3,6,8,-OMe | 360 (70%) | 345 (100%) | — | — | 197 (7%) | 169 (5%) | 121 (12%) | — | — |
| 1, 5,7,3',4',5'-OH-3,6,8-OMe | 392 (99%) | 377 (100%) | — | — | 197 (20%) | 169 (15%) | 153 (28%) | — | — |
| 2, 5,7-OH-3,6,3',4',5'-OMe | 434 (94%) | 419 (100%) | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3, 5,7,4'-OH-3,6,8,3',5'-OMe | 420 (93%) | 405 (100%) | — | — | 197 (7%) | 169 (6%) | 181 (9%) | — | — |
| 4, 5,7,3'-OH-3,6,8,4'-OMe | 390 (95%) | 375 (100%) | — | — | 197 (16%) | 169 (14%) | 151 (26%) | — | — |
| 5, 5,7,3',5'-OH-3,8,4'-OMe | 376 (97%) | 361 (100%) | — | — | 167 (22%) | 139 (33%) | 167 | — | — |
| 6, 5,7,2',4'-OH-3,6,5'-OMe | 376 (100%) | 361 (71%) | 359 (27%) | 345 (50%) | 167 (20%) | 139 (10%) | 167 | 194 (27%) | 179 (43%) |
| 7, 5,7,2',4'-OH-3,6,8,5'-OMe | 406 (100%) | 391 (53%) | 389 (9%) | 375 (17%) | 197 (63%) | 169 (21%) | 167 (13%) | 194 (70%) | 179 (47%) |
| 8, 5,7,2',5'-OH-3,6,4'-OMe | 376 (100%) | 361 (35%) | 359 (38%) | 345 (68%) | 167 (26%) | 139 (11%) | 167 | 194 (32%) | 179 (51%) |
| 9, 5,7,2',5'-OH-3,6,8,4'-OMe | 406 (100%) | 391 (44%) | 389 (15%) | 375 (30%) | 197 (60%) | 169 (39%) | 167 (26%) | 194 (70%) | 179 (60%) |

(axillarin) [11]; 5,7,3',4'-tetrahydroxy-3,8-dimethoxyflavone [12]; 5,7,3',4'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,8-trimethoxyflavone [13]; 5,7,3',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,4'-dimethoxyflavone [14]; 5,7,3',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,4'-trimethoxyflavone [15] and 5,7,3',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,8,4'-tetramethoxyflavone [9]. The remaining known compound is 5,7,3',4'-tetrahydroxy-6,8-dimethoxyflavone [12].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The dried and ground leaves of *Gutierrezia grandis* were extracted with aqueous methanol and the concentrated syrup was partitioned successively with hexane, methylene dichloride and ethyl acetate according to standard procedures [16]. Flavonoid aglycones (21) were obtained from the methylene dichloride partition, including nine new compounds. Identification of the new compounds was based on mass spectral, UV and ^1H NMR data (Tables 1–4).

The spectral data for 1–4 were compared with those for the known compound sarotherin [10] (5,7,4'-trihydroxy-3,6,8-trimethoxyflavone, 11) as shown in Tables 1, 3 and 4. Since the A- and C-ring substitution patterns of sarotherin and 1–4 appeared to be identical based on mass spectral, UV and ^1H NMR data (see Tables 1, 3 and 4), the analysis of 1–4 was centred on the B-ring. Compound 1 showed a $[\text{M}]^+$ of m/z 392 (99%) indicating a flavonoid aglycone with five hydroxyl and three methoxyl substituents. Since the sarotherin A- and C-ring patterns account for three methoxyls and two hydroxyls, the remaining three hydroxyls must be in the B-ring. The colour on paper under UV light (purple) and with ammonia (yellow-green) and NA spray (orange) indicated that the compound contained a 3',4'-dihydroxyl. The UV absorption spectra also supported the *ortho*-dihydroxyl system. Moreover, the large hypsochromic shift (-67 nm) in band I in the presence of aluminium chloride–hydrochloric acid relative to band I in the aluminium chloride spectrum favoured three adjacent hydroxyls, such as found in myricetin-type B-rings. The mass spectral fragment $[\text{B}_2]^+$ at m/z 153 (28%) further indicated three hydroxyls in the B-ring. ^1H NMR showed a two-proton singlet at δ 7.42, characteristic of a 2',6'-hydrogen and, thus confirmed the 3',4',5'-trihydroxy B-ring in 1.

The mass spectrum of 2 exhibited a $[\text{M}]^+$ at m/z 434 (94%), suggesting an aglycone with two hydroxyl and six methoxyl substituents and, based on the structure of sarotherin, three methoxyls and no hydroxyl substituents are present in the B-ring. The purple colour on paper

under UV light changed little with ammonia and NA, supporting the absence of B-ring hydroxyls. The mass spectral fragment $[\text{B}_2]^+$ at m/z 195 (5%) further substantiated the presence of three B-ring methoxyls. ^1H NMR showed only a two-proton singlet at δ 7.43, characteristic of 2',6'-protons, thus confirming the B-ring pattern as 3',4',5'-trimethoxy.

The mass spectrum of 3 exhibited a $[\text{M}]^+$ at m/z 420 (93%) in accord with a flavonoid aglycone bearing five methoxyl and three hydroxyl substituents and, comparison with sarotherin established a B-ring with two methoxyl and one hydroxyl substituent. A mass spectral $[\text{B}_2]^+$ fragment at m/z 181 (9%) supported this type of B-ring. Compound 3 appeared purple on paper under UV, with the spot turning to yellow after exposure to both ammonia and NA, indicating a 4'-hydroxyl and confirming the absence of *ortho*-dihydroxyls in the B-ring. A 4'-hydroxyl was further supported by the sodium methoxide UV absorption for band I, which gave a bathochromic shift of 63 nm with an increase in intensity relative to band I in methanol. Finally, in the ^1H NMR spectrum, a two-proton singlet at δ 7.47 for 2',6'-protons allowed assignment of the B-ring as 3',5'-dimethoxy-4'-hydroxy.

Compound 4 gave a $[\text{M}]^+$ of m/z 390 (91%) indicating a flavonoid with three hydroxyl and four methoxyl groups. Thus, based on sarotherin, the B-ring must contain one hydroxyl and one methoxyl. A mass spectral fragment for $[\text{B}_2]^+$ at m/z 151 (26%) supported this substitution pattern. Moreover, 4 appeared purple on paper under UV light and showed no change when exposed to ammonia and NA, indicating no 4'-hydroxyl and no B-ring *ortho*-dihydroxyls. ^1H NMR showed B-ring signals at δ 6.90 (1H, *d*, $J = 9$ Hz), 7.72 (1H, *dd*, $J = 2.5, 9$ Hz) and 7.65 (1H, *d*, $J = 2.5$ Hz) corresponding to protons at the 5',6'- and 2'-positions, respectively. Thus, the B-ring pattern was established as 3'-hydroxy-4'-methoxy.

^1H NMR of 5 clearly established skeletal protons in at least two rings. The mass spectrum of 5 showed a $[\text{M}]^+$ at m/z 376 (97%), indicating a flavonoid aglycone with three methoxyl and four hydroxyl groups. The compound appeared as a purple spot on paper under UV light and no colour change was observed with ammonia and only a slight change to yellow-brown with NA, indicating a 5-hydroxyl and 4'-methoxyl. UV absorption spectra [sodium methoxide band III, 345 nm (sh)] also indicated a 7-hydroxyl group. Band I in the aluminium chloride UV spectrum appeared at 415 nm ($+77$ nm relative to band I in methanol) and, in aluminium chloride–hydrochloric acid a strong shoulder for band I appeared at 410 nm

Table 2. Mass spectral (permethylated) data for flavonoid aglycones

| Flavonoids | $[\text{M}]^+$ | $[\text{M}-15]^+$ | $[\text{M}-31]^+$ | $[\text{A}_1-15]^+$ | $[\text{A}_1-43]^+$ | $[\text{B}_2]^+$ |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Brickellin (permethylated) | 432 | 417 | 401 | 195 | 167 | 195 |
| 5,6,6',7,2',3',4'-OMe | (30%) | (100%) | (59%) | (6%) | (11%) | (6%) |
| 6 (permethylated) | 432 | 417 | 401 | 195 | 167 | 195 |
| 5,7,2',4',3,6,5'-OMe | (35%) | (100%) | (74%) | (3%) | 4% | (3%) |
| 7 (permethylated) | 462 | 447 | 431 | 225 | 197 | 195 |
| 5,7,2',4',3,6,8,6'-OMe | (33%) | (100%) | (43%) | (16%) | (13%) | (12%) |
| 8 (permethylated) | 432 | 417 | 401 | 195 | 167 | 195 |
| 5,7,2',5',3,6,4'-OMe | (21%) | (61%) | (32%) | (15%) | (14%) | (15%) |
| 9 (permethylated) | 462 | 447 | 431 | 225 | 197 | 195 |
| 5,7,2',5',3,6,8,4'-OMe | (22%) | (56%) | (24%) | (6%) | (12%) | (12%) |

Table 3. UV data ($\lambda_{\text{MeOH}}^{\text{max}}$ nm) for flavonoid aglycones

| Flavonoid | MeOH | NaOMe | AlCl ₃ | AlCl ₃ -HCl | NaOAc | NaOAc-H ₃ BO ₃ |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sarothrin, 5,7,4'-OH-3,6,8-OMe | 278, 338 | 282, 335, 406 | 285, 313, 366, 415 | 290, 313, 360, 415 | 283, 320 sh, 340 sh, 400 | 280, 332 |
| 1, 5,7,3',4',5'-OH-3,6,8-OMe | 260 sh, 274, 362 | 275, 400 (dec.) | 281, 325, 442 | 285, 316, 375, 420 sh | 281, 335, 405 | 267, 392 |
| 2, 5,7-OH-3,6,3',4',5'-OMe | 281, 333 | 283, 310 sh, 381 | 290, 310 sh, 362 | 285, 310 sh, 358 | 285, 310 sh, 375 | 281, 333 |
| 3, 5,7,4'-OH-3,6,8,3',5'-OMe | 256, 270, 355 | 260, 280 sh, 345 sh, 418 | 261 sh, 282, 320 sh, 382 | 288, 286, 317 sh, 370 | 280 sh, 302 sh, 380 | 279, 348 |
| 4, 5,7,3'-OH-3,6,8,4'-OMe | 258, 278, 350 | 278, 310 sh, 400 | 271, 288, 308 sh, 375, 420 sh | 265, 290, 308 sh, 365, 420 sh | 280, 315 sh, 380 | 280, 343 |
| 5, 5,7,3',5'-OH-3,8,4'-OMe | 275, 338 | 278, 320, 390 | 281, 300 sh, 352, 410 sh | 283, 305 sh, 350, 410 sh | 281, 310 sh, 388 | 275, 350 |
| 6, 5,7,2',4'-OH-3,6,5'-OMe | 260, 305 sh, 350 | 270, 305, 405 | 272, 320, 400 | 272, 320, 380 | 268, 325 sh, 388 | 262, 350 |
| 7, 5,7,2',4'-OH-3,6,8,5'-OMe | 268, 355 | 280, 338, 416 | 280, 325, 370 sh, 405 | 280, 325 sh, 370, 405 sh | 278, 330 sh, 394 | 271, 356 |
| 8, 5,7,2',5'-OH-3,6,4'-OMe | 260, 305 sh, 350 | 267, 345 (dec.) | 272, 325, 370 | 274, 322, 370 | 265, 355 | 262, 350 |
| 9, 5,7,2',5'-OH-3,6,8,4'-OMe | 264, 350 | 268, 350 (dec) | 278, 328, 375 sh, 400 | 278, 328, 370, 400 sh | 273, 350 | 264, 350 |

Table 4. ¹H NMR data for flavonoid aglycones (δ -scale in ppm, TMS as int. standard)

| | H-3 | | H-6 | | H-8 | | H-2' | | H-3' | | H-4' | | H-5' | | H-6' | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| | CCl ₄ | C ₆ D ₆ | CCl ₄ | C ₆ D ₆ | CCl ₄ | C ₆ D ₆ | CCl ₄ | C ₆ D ₆ | CCl ₄ | C ₆ D ₆ | CCl ₄ | C ₆ D ₆ | CCl ₄ | C ₆ D ₆ | CCl ₄ | C ₆ D ₆ |
| Sarothrin, 5,7,4'-OH-3,6,8-OMe | 3.83 | 3.81 | 3.70 | 3.68 | 3.86 | 3.66 | 8.03 | 8.20 | 6.87 | 6.92 | — | — | 6.87 | 6.92 | 8.03 | 8.20 |
| 1, 5,7,3',4',5'-OH-3,6,8-OMe | 3.90 | 3.86 | 3.73 | 3.63 | 3.90 | 3.74 | 7.42 | 7.77 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7.42 | 7.77 |
| 2, 5,7-OH-3,6,3',4',5'-OMe | 3.88 | 3.85 | 3.72 | 3.83 | 3.82 | 3.66 | 7.43 | 7.54 | 3.93 | 3.13 | 3.88 | 3.64 | 3.93 | 3.53 | 7.43 | 7.54 |
| 3, 5,7,4'-OH-3,6,8,3',5'-OMe | 3.91 | 3.83 | 3.73 | 3.66 | 3.91 | 3.66 | 7.47 | 7.62 | 3.90 | 3.12 | — | — | 3.90 | 3.52 | 7.47 | 7.62 |
| 4, 5,7,3'-OH-3,6,8,4'-OMe | 3.90 | 3.88 | 3.72 | 3.75 | 3.84 | 3.68 | 7.65 | 8.02 | — | — | 3.90 | 3.35 | 6.90 | 6.63 | 7.72 | 7.95 |
| 5, 5,7,3',5'-OH-3,8,4'-OMe | 3.80 | 3.82 | 6.12 | 6.50 | 3.86 | 3.72 | 7.33 | 7.70 | — | — | 3.86 | 3.70 | — | — | 7.33 | 7.70 |
| 6, 5,7,2',4'-OH-3,6,5'-OMe | 3.80 | 3.83 | 3.74 | 3.62 | 6.34 | 6.70 | — | — | 6.44 | 6.72 | — | — | 3.74 | 3.33 | 6.88 | 6.93 |
| 7, 5,7,2',4'-OH-3,6,8,5'-OMe | 3.84 | 3.82 | 3.76 | 3.70 | 3.84 | 3.66 | — | — | 6.36 | 6.67 | — | — | 3.76 | 3.35 | 6.91 | 6.91 |
| 8, 5,7,2',5'-OH-3,6,5'-OMe | 3.82 | 3.86 | 3.73 | 3.62 | 6.44 | 6.66 | — | — | 6.34 | 6.40 | 3.73 | 3.30 | — | — | 6.88 | 7.16 |
| 9, 5,7,2',5'-OH-3,6,8,4'-OMe | 3.83 | 3.86 | 3.75 | 3.64 | 3.83 | 3.71 | — | — | 6.35 | 6.38 | 3.75 | 3.33 | — | — | 6.88 | 7.13 |

(+ 72 nm relative to band I in methanol). These large shifts are in accord with an 8-methoxyl rather than at 6-methoxyl group [17]. Furthermore, the mass spectrum of 5 showed a $[M - 15]^+$ at m/z 361 (100%) thus supporting an A-ring with an 8-methoxyl. In the ^1H NMR spectrum, H-6 appeared, as expected, at δ 6.14 in carbon tetrachloride. Thus, the above data confirmed a 5,7-dihydroxy-8-methoxy A-ring. An additional ^1H NMR signal appeared as a two-proton singlet at δ 7.33, for equivalent protons at 2' and 6'. Thus, C-3 must contain a methoxyl group (i.e. no signal for H-3 and purple colour on paper under UV). The appropriate UV data also indicated the lack of *ortho*-dihydroxyls in the B-ring (aluminium chloride, aluminium chloride-hydrochloric acid spectra, band I). All relevant spectral data were compared with those of sarotherin and 19 (5,7,3',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,4'-trimethoxyflavone), which exhibited a ^1H NMR two-proton singlet at δ 7.2 for the 2',6'-protons and a one-proton singlet at δ 6.5, as expected, for H-8. Thus, the structure of 5 was established as 5,7,3',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,8,4'-trimethoxyflavone.

Compounds 6-9 form a group of new 3-O-methyl ethers quite similar in oxygenation pattern to brickellin [18], which was recently revised to 5,2'-dihydroxy-3,6,7,4',5'-pentamethoxyflavone on the basis of synthesis [19]. Indeed, upon permethylation 6 exhibited the same mass spectrum as that of the permethylated derivative of brickellin (Table 2), thus establishing the oxygenation pattern of 6. Underivatized 6 gave a $[M]^+$ at m/z 376 (100%) for a flavonol aglycone bearing four hydroxyls and three methoxyls. A fragment $[M_1 - 15]^+$ at m/z 361 (71%), and $[A_1 - 15]^+$ and $[B_2]^+$ both at m/z 167 (20%) favoured an A-ring with two hydroxyls and a 6-methoxyl. The compound appeared purple when viewed on paper under UV light and changed to yellow-green when fumed with ammonia and sprayed with NA. These results indicated hydroxylation at positions 5 and 4' and no *ortho*-dihydroxyls in the B-ring and, thus, established that, as in brickellin, 6 must have 3- and 5'-methoxyls. ^1H NMR showed a one-proton singlet at δ 6.44, corresponding to H-8. Additional ^1H NMR singlets for one proton at δ 6.88 and 6.34 indicated two *para*-protons in the B-ring, since 6 and brickellin give the same permethylated derivative. Mass spectral fragments $[M - 17]^+$ at m/z 359 (27%), $[M - 31]^+$ at m/z 345 (50%) and $[B_6]^+$ at m/z 194 (27%) [21, 22], and $[B_6 - 15]^+$ at m/z 179 (43%) indicated a 2'-hydroxyl and, therefore, the remaining hydroxyl at the 7 position. Thus, 6 is 5,7,2',4'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,5'-trimethoxyflavone.

Compound 7 gave a $[M]^+$ at m/z 406 (100%) in accordance with a flavonoid aglycone with four hydroxyl and four methoxyl substituents. Indeed, comparison of mass spectral, ^1H NMR and UV data indicated the same substitution pattern as 6, except for an extra 8-methoxyl. The data which confirmed this analysis were the absence of the ^1H NMR signal at δ 6.44 and the appearance of a new three-proton singlet at δ 3.84 with respect to 6, and $[A - 15]^+$ at m/z 197 (63%). Other data corresponded to those for 6. Thus, 7 is 5,7,2',4'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,8,5'-tetramethoxyflavone.

Compounds 8 and 9 showed many similarities to 6 and 7, respectively. However, structural difference was reflected in the colour of 8 and 9 when viewed on paper under UV; 8 and 9 appeared purple but, unlike 6 and 7, remained so with ammonia and NA. Permethylation of 8 and 9 was achieved using the diazomethane method rather

than with Methelute, with which decomposition occurred. The permethylated derivatives of 8 and 9 gave mass spectra identical to those of 6 and 7, respectively. The UV data indicated that 8 and 9 were the isomers of 6 and 7, respectively, at the 4'- and 5'-positions, i.e. 4'-methoxyl and 5'-hydroxyl. The resulting unstable *para*-hydroxyl B-rings would account for the difficulty in derivatizing these compounds with Methelute. Therefore, 8 is 5,7,2',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,4'-trimethoxyflavone and 9 is 5,7,2',5'-tetrahydroxy-3,6,8,4'-tetramethoxyflavone.

EXPERIMENTAL

Plant material. *Gutierrezia grandis* was collected from the state of Nuevo Leon, Mexico, on Highway 40 between Monterrey and Saltillo on the road to Microondas Mariposa by Mark Leidig and Meredith Lane. Voucher specimens are on deposit in the University of Texas and Lundell Herbarium (Lane collection number 2589).

Isolation of flavonoids. Air-dried leaf material (1 kg) was exhaustively extracted in aq. MeOH, first in 85% concn followed by 50% concn. These two extracts were coned, combined and the aq. soln partitioned according to standard procedures [16]. Each partition was checked for flavonoids by 2D PC. The hexane and aq. fractions showed no evidence of flavonoids, whereas the CH_2Cl_2 and EtOAc fractions showed multiple purple spots on paper in UV. These two fractions were evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*; the CH_2Cl_2 portion yielding 61.4 g syrup and the EtOAc fraction 26.3 g.

The CH_2Cl_2 fraction was run on a short, large diameter column containing 500 g cellulose powder (Merck), eluted first with H_2O , then with 15% HOAc, and, finally, with 40% HOAc. All fractions fluorescing under UV light were combined and, after evaporation to dryness, yielded a total of 10.4 g dry wt.

The 10.4 g cleaned-up mixture was chromatographed on a Polyclar (Polyclar AT, GAF corp) column (1 \times 10 cm) initiated with toluene and gradually increasing to pure MeOH in 10% increments. H_2O was then gradually introduced into the mobile phase in 10% increments until 100% H_2O was reached. All bands appearing purple under UV were collected separately. The first fraction containing flavonoid material was evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue chromatographed on a small silica gel column in CH_2Cl_2 -MeCOEt (9:1). The material in the other bands was similarly dried and separated by PC, using 15% HOAc on Whatman 3 MM paper. Final purification of each compound for spectral analysis was by standard procedures [16] using 75% or 100% MeOH over Sephadex LH-20 columns.

General techniques. All UV spectra were recorded using standard procedures [16]. ^1H NMR spectra of the TMSi ethers of these flavonoids were recorded in both CCl_4 and C_6D_6 at 90 MHz and are reported in δ -values (ppm) relative to TMS as int. standard. MS data for both underivatized and permethylated samples were recorded by direct probe EIMS at 70 eV with a source temp. of 250-270°.

The A_1 , B_1 and B_2 terminology for the fragments is according to ref. [20]. The B_6 ion was designated by authors. Permethylation was achieved using Methelute (Pierce) and/or CH_2N_2 produced by the reaction of *N*-methyl-*N*'-nitro-*N*-nitrosoguanidine with KOH. Previously published spectral data are provided only for sarotherin and brickellin. All data for new compounds are presented in Tables 1-4.

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