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NAPHTHOQUINONES FROM JUGLANDACEAE

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Key Word Index—Pterocarya; Juglans; Juglandaceae; juglone; 3,3'-bijuglone; cyclotrijuglone.

Abstract—The oligomeric juglones isolated from the barks of Juglandaceae plants, *Pterocarya* and *Juglans*, were shown to be 3,3'-bijuglone (8,8'-dihydroxy[2,2'-binaphthalene]-1,1',4,4'-tetrone and unsymmetrical cyclotrijuglone (1,7,16-trihydroxy-5,6,11,12,17,18-trinaphthalenehexone).

INTRODUCTION

It is well known that juglone (5-hydroxy-1,4-naphthoquinone) and hydrojuglone glucoside (4,8-dihydroxy-1naphthalenyl- β -D-glucopyranoside) occur in different parts of Juglandaceae [1]. Other monomeric naphthoquinones have also been found (e.g. 1,4-naphthoquinone [2, 3] and 5,8-dihydroxy-1,4-naphthoquinone [4] from Juglans species). The natural co-occurrence of a monomeric quinone with its oligomers (dimer, trimer and tetramer) has been widely studied, e.g. 7-methyljuglone (ramentacenone) and its oligomers in Ebenaceae and 2methyljuglone (plumbagin) and its oligomers in Droseraceae [1]. However, the oligomers from the quinones which occur among Juglandaceae plants have received little attention. Juglone oligomers, 3,3'-bijuglone (1) [5] and symmetrical cyclotrijuglone (2) [6], have been reported to occur in root-bark of J. regia in one instance only. The present paper is concerned with the isolation and structure elucidation of juglone oligomers from P. rhoifolia Sieboldiana et Zucc. (wingnut, Japanese name Sawagurumi) and J. mandshurica Maxim. var. Sieboldiana Makino (walnut, Japanese name Onigurumi).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The chloroform extracts of the fresh root-bark of P. rhoifolia was chromatographed on silica gel (benzene as eluant) to give in addition to juglone two polar light yellow compounds. The less polar of the two polar compounds was identified as bijuglone (1) by comparison with an authentic sample prepared by addition of juglone and 1,4,5-trihydroxynaphthalene [7]. The ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of isolated 1 revealed two singlets of H-3 and H-3' (δ 7.04) and 8- and 8'-OH (δ 11.75). Bijuglone (1) was distinguished from its isomers, 2,2'-bijuglone (3) and 2,3'-bijuglone (4), by ¹H NMR spectroscopy [8, 9]*. It gave a reddish violet colour with aqueous alkali and underwent reversible reduction with sodium dithionite like many other hydroxynaphthoquinones.

The second polar compound was unsymmetrical cyclotrijuglone (5), having hydroxyl groups at the unsymmetrical position. The structure followed from the ¹H NMR spectral data (1- and 16-OH singlet and 7-OH singlet at δ 11.20 and 11.27, respectively, in CDCl₃). The structure of cyclotrijuglone from J. regia had previously been assigned as symmetrical 2 rather than unsymmetrical 5 [6]. More recently, synthetic cyclotrijuglone has been obtained from the addition of juglone to 1,4,5-trihydroxynaphthalene followed by treatment with chloranil. Its structure was assigned as 5 on the grounds that the ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of its triacetate showed two singlet signals at δ 2.51 (3H, OAc) and 2.48 (6H, 2OAc) [7]. The ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of cyclotrijuglone from

^{*}The chemical shifts (CDCl₃/TMS = 0) for vinyl and hydroxyl protons of 3 and 4, prepared independently by the method of Laatsch [8, 9], are as follows. Compound 3: δ 7.05 (2H, s, H-3 and H-3'), 11.86 (2H, s, 5- and 5'-OH); 4: δ 7.02 (1H, s, H-3'), 7.06 (1H, s, H-3), 11.73 (1H, s, 8'-OH), 11.85 (1H, s, 5-OH).

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1 $R^1 = R^4 = H$, $R^2 = R^3 = OH$

3 $R^1 = R^4 = OH$, $R^2 = R^3 = H$

4 $R^1 = R^3 = OH, R^2 = R^4 = H$

2 $R^1 = H$, $R^2 = OH$

5 $R^1 = OH, R^2 = H$

P. rhoifolia was identical with that of a synthetic sample. Isolated 5 gave a pinkish violet colour with aq. alkali and reversible reduction with sodium dithionite. TLC analysis of chloroform extracts of stem-barks and green parts in P. rhoifolia showed the presence of juglone, 2 and 5, in much smaller quantities than those in root-barks. In all runs, juglone was the principal component (see Experimental).

A similar isolation from root- and stem-barks of J. mandshurica gave comparable results, and the contents of naphthoquinones were much higher than those from P. rhoifolia (see Experimental). The differences in contents of free naphthoquinones between Pterocarya and Juglans may vary with different seasons and surroundings [10]. This is the first report of co-occurrence of juglone, 3,3'-

bijuglone and unsym-cyclotrijuglone in *Pterocarya*. This co-occurrence may be found widely among Juglandaceae plants.

EXPERIMENTAL

Plant materials were taken from 15-20-yr-old wingnut and walnut plants (grown from seeds) in early August.

Isolation of naphthoquinones. The CHCl3 extracts (1 L) of fresh bark (100 g) of Pterocarva (or Juglans) were washed repeatedly with H2O, dried and concd. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with C₆H₆. The second eluate contained juglone as light yellow needles, identical with an authentic specimen. The fourth fraction consisted of 3,3'-bijuglone (1) as light yellow microcrystals (from CHCl₃), mp 275-278° (decomp) (lit. 285° [8]). R_f 0.30 (CHCl₃: Merck, silica gel 60F₂₅₄, pre-coated plastic sheet, 0.2 mm); IR v KBr cm⁻¹: 1660, 1625 (CO); ¹H NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): δ7.04 (2H, s, H-3 and H-3'), 7.26-7.42 (2H, m, H-7 and H-7'), 7.62-7.76 (4H, m, H-5, H-6, H-5' and H-6'), 11.75 (2H, s, 8- and 8'-OH); MS (75 eV) m/z (rel. int.); 346 [M]⁺ (100), 329 (24), 318 (11), 290 (18), 289 (20), 262 (20), 234 (11), 205 (10), 120 (18), 92 (35), 64 (16), 63 (17). The fifth gave cyclotrijuglone (5) as light yellow microcrystals (from CHCl₃), mp 375-377° (decomp) (lit. > 360° [7]). R_f 0.26 (CHCl₃); IR v_{max}^{KBr} cm⁻¹: 1692, 1680, 1640 (CO); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃); δ7.25–7.45 (3H, m, H-2, H-8 and H-15), 7.60-7.80 (6H, m, H-3, H-4, H-9, H-10, H-13 and H-14), 11.20 (2H, s, 1- and 16-OH), 11.27 (1H, s, 7-OH); MS (75 eV) m/z (rel. int.): 516 [M]+ (100), 488 (29), 460 (17), 432 (16), 404 (16), 376 (10), 263 (11), 258 (12), 92 (105), 63 (11). The yields of isolation products (mg/100 g fr. wt) were as follows: Pterocarya root-bark: juglone, 33, 1, 6, 5, 2; Pterocarya stem-bark: 24, 5, 1; Juglans rootbark: 330, 52, 30; Juglans stem-bark: 99, 21, 10.

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