DITERPENOIDS FROM RABDOSIA INFLEXA

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Abstract—Four new diterpenoids, inflexarabdonins C, D, E, and F were isolated from the aerial parts of Rabdosia inflexa and their structure established on the basis of spectroscopic and chemical evidence.

INTRODUCTION

Six ent-kaurenoid diterpenoids, inflexin (12), inflexinol (13), inflexanins A (3) and B (14), and inflexarabdonins A (8) and B (9) were isolated from Rabdosia inflexa (Thunb.) HARA [1] and the structures determined [2-6]. Some of these compounds showed cytotoxic activity against cultured cancer cells in vitro [2, 3]. We have examined the minor diterpenoid constituents of R. inflexa collected in Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan and isolated additional new diterpenoids, inflexarabdonins C (1), D (5), E (6) and F (7). This paper deals with the structure determination of these new compounds.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Inflexarabdonin C (1), mp 179-181°, $[\alpha]_D$ -55.2° (c 0.87, MeOH) has the molecular formula, C₂₂H₃₀O₅ based on the results of HRMS. This compound contains a five-membered ketone conjugated with an exo-methylene group [λ_{max} 239 nm (ε 6560); ν_{max} 1710 and 1645 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (pyridine- d_5): δ 6.05 (H_a) and 5.31 (H_b) (each 1H, br s); ¹³C NMR (pyridine- d_5): δ 205.0 (s), 150.0 (s), 112.9 (t)], a secondary acetoxy group [ν_{max} 1730 and 1260-1200 cm⁻¹; δ 1.92 (3H, s) and 4.68 (1H, t, J = 2.5Hz, H_c); δ 20.8 (q), 169.8 (s) and 77.7 (d)], a secondary hydroxyl group [v_{max} 3600 and 3450 cm⁻¹; δ 4.33 (1H, br d, J = 4.5 Hz, H_d); δ 63.6 (d)] and an isolated ketone group $[v_{\text{max}} \quad 1710 \text{ cm}^{-1}; \quad \delta 210.8 \quad (s)], \text{ three tertiary}$ methyl groups [δ 1.06, 1.08 and 1.40 (each 3H, s); δ 18.8, 21.9 and 26.9 (each q)] as partial structures. The ¹³C NMR spectrum of 1 (Table 1) showed, in addition to the above mentioned signals, signals due to five methylene groups, three methine groups and three quaternary carbon atoms. Acetylation of 1 gave the monoacetate (2) $[\delta 5.21 (1H, br d, J=4.5 Hz, H_d)]$. These spectral data, together with a consideration of the structures of diterpenoids isolated from the genus Rabdosia [7], suggested that inflexarabdonin C has a structure which acetoxy, hydroxyl and ketone groups were introduced to the basic skeleton, ent-kaur-16-en-15-one. An acetoxy group was suggested to be located between a methylene group and a

Inflexarabdonin D (5), mp 210–212°, $C_{24}H_{36}O_7$, $[\alpha]_D$ – 17.1° (MeOH; c 0.82) showed very similar spectral data (see Experimental) to those of inflexarabdonin A (8) [6] and was presumed to be an isomer concerning the position of an acetyl group. Acetylation of 5 gave inflexarabdonin A diacetate (11). Comparison of the ¹H NMR spectra (in CDCl₃) of 5 and 8 led to the conclusion that two acetoxy groups were located at C-3 and C-15, and three hydroxyl groups were located at C-1, C-6 and C-11. The signal due to H-11 resonated at δ 5.05, ca 1.2 ppm upfield compared to that (δ 6.23) of 8. On the other hand, the signal due to H-15 resonated at δ 5.33, ca 1.5

quaternary carbon atom with an axial arrangement judged from the coupling pattern of the proton on the carbon having an acetoxy group. The position was determined to be C-3 on the basis of the results from NOE experiments. On irradiation at $\delta 1.08$ (H₃-18) and 1.40 (H₃-19), respectively, NOE (5.9%) and difference NOE for H_c were observed. A secondary hydroxyl group must be located at C-11 from the following considerations. On irradiation at the frequency of H_d, the signal at δ 2.04 (1H, m, H-12 α , H_k) changed to a doublet of doublet (J = 14 and 4 Hz) and that at $\delta 2.26 (1 \text{H}, br d, J = 14 \text{ Hz})$ H-12 β , H_i) became sharp. The signal due to H_k changed to a doublet of doublet ($\hat{J} = 14$ and 4.5 Hz) and the signal due to H_i became sharp on irradiation at δ 3.00 (1H, m, H-13, H_f). An NOE (5.4%) was observed for H_d on irradiation at δ 1.06 (H₃-20). An isolated ketone might be located between a methine group and a methylene group based on the findings that signals due to a methylene group [δ_H 3.55 (1H, d, J = 13.5 Hz), H_e and 2.07 (1H, d, J=13.5 Hz), H_i] and a methine group $[\delta_H 2.96 (1H, s),$ H_g] adjacent to a carbonyl group were observed. The possible position is C-6. On irradiation at δ 1.08 (H₃-18) and 2.96 (H_g), respectively, an NOE for H_g (10.5%) and that for H_c (6.8%) were observed, confirming the location of a ketone group at C-6. On the basis of the findings, inflexarabdonin C was elucidated as ent-3α,11αdihydroxy-kaur-16-en-6,15-dione 3-acetate (1). The structure was chemically confirmed from the following chemical correlation with inflexanin A (3) [4]. Acetylation of 3 gave the monoacetate (4) which was oxidized by Jones reagent to give inflexarabdonin C monoacetate (2). Thus, the structure of inflexarabdonin C is represen-

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$$\begin{array}{c} R^2O \\ H \\ O \end{array}$$

3 R¹ =
$$\alpha$$
-OH, β -H, R² = H
4 R¹ = α -OH, β -H, R² = COMe

MeCOO H R³O R⁴

5 R¹ = R³ = H, R² =
$$\alpha$$
-OH, β -H, R⁴ = α -H, β -OCOMe

6
$$R^1 = R^3 = H, R^2 = R^4 = O$$

7
$$R^1 = R^3 = H, R^2 = \alpha - OH, \beta - H, R^4 = \alpha - H, \beta - OH$$

8 R¹ = H, R² =
$$\alpha$$
-OH, β -H, R³ = COMe, R⁴ = α -H, β -OH

9 R¹ = H, R² = O, R³ = COMe, R⁴ =
$$\alpha$$
-H, β -OH

10
$$R^1 = R^3 = COMe$$
, $R^2 = R^4 = O$

11
$$R^1 = R^3 = COMe$$
, $R^2 = \alpha - OH$, $\beta \cdot H$, $R^4 = \alpha - H$, $\beta \cdot OCOMe$

12
$$R^1 = H, R^2 = R^4 = O, R^3 = COMe$$

13
$$R^1 = H, R^2 = \alpha - OH, \beta - H, R^3 = COMe, R^4 = O$$

14
$$R^1 = R^3 = H \cdot R^2 = \alpha \cdot OH \cdot \beta \cdot H \cdot R^4 = O$$

ppm downfield compared to that $(\delta 3.83)$ of **8**. Thus, the structure of inflexarabdonin D was determined as $ent-1\beta$, 3α , 6β , 11α , 15α -pentahydroxy-kaur-16-ene 3, 15-diacetate (5).

Table 1. ¹³C NMR data* of inflexarabdonins C(1), D(5), E (6) and F (7)

C	1	5	6	7
1	33.4	77.3	74.7	77.9
2	22.5	34.3	33.4	34.5
3	77.7	80.1	78.9	80.2
4	36.0	37.9	36.1	37.9
5	60.1	49.1	59.4	49.6
6	210.8	66.6	211.2	67.6
7	50.5	47.4	51.0	48.5
8	55.0	44.1a	54.8	44.4 ^b
9	64.6	58.5	64.9	57.3
10	45.3	43.8ª	50.9	44.0 ^b
11	63.6	66.8	65.9	67.0
12	41.2	43.6	40.8	42.9
13	37.3	39.8	37.6	40.8
14	37.2	38.4	37.6	38.7
15	205.0	83.3	205.3	84.0
16	150.0	154.1	150.8	159.5
17	112.9	107.3	111.8	104.8
18	26.9	28.2	26.5	28.4
19	21.9	24.2	21.9	24.0
20	18.8	14.1	15.3	14.7
MeCO	20.8	20.88	20.7	20.9
		20.94		
MeCO	169.8	169.9	170.0	170.2
		170.4		

^{*}The spectra were measured in C_5D_5N and the shifts are given in ppm(δ) relative to the internal TMS.

Inflexarabdonin E (6), mp 234–237°, $C_{22}H_{30}O_6$, $[\alpha]_D$ –42.8° (MeOH; c 0.80) showed similar spectroscopic data (see Experimental) to those of inflexanin B (14) [4, 5] and the M_r is two mass units less than that of 14. In the ¹H NMR spectrum (pyridine- d_5), inflexarabdonin E did not show any signals due to H-6 which was observed at δ 4.72 in the spectrum of 14. Instead, signals due to a methylene group [δ 3.62 and 2.12 (each 1H, d, J = 13 Hz), H₂-7] and a methine group [δ 3.11 (1H, s), H-5] which are adjacent to a ketone group, were observed in the ¹H NMR spectrum of 6. Acetylation of 6 gave the diacetate (10) which was identical with inflexin monoacetate. Thus, the structure of inflexarabdonin E was determined as ent-1 β ,3 α ,11 α -trihydroxy-kaur-16-en-6,15-dione 3-acetate (6).

Inflexarabdonin F (7), mp $263-266^{\circ}$, $C_{22}H_{34}O_{6}$, $[\alpha]_{D}+13.4^{\circ}$ (MeOH; c 1.10) showed similar spectral data (see Experimental) to those of inflexanin B (14) [4, 5]. This compound did not show any absorption maxima above 220 nm and the molecular formula has two mass units more than that of 14. This fact suggests that inflexarabdonin F must have a structure corresponding to dihydroinflexanin B in which the ketone group at C-15 was reduced to an allylic alcohol. Acetylation of 7 gave inflexarabdonin A diacetate (11) and sodium borohydride reduction of inflexanin B (14) gave inflexarabdonin F (7). Thus, the structure of inflexarabdonin F was determined as ent- 1β , 3α , 6β , 11α , 15α -pentahydroxy-kaur -16-ene 3-acetate (7).

EXPERIMENTAL

General. Mps: uncorr. NMR: 1 H (200 MHz) and 13 C (50.1 MHz). EIMS: 70 eV. CC Kiesel gel 60 (Merck). Prep. TLC (Kiesel gel 60 F_{254}).

Plant material. The same plant material was used as in the previous report [6].

Isolation of diterpenoids. The residue (233 mg) from the fractions 59-92 of column II in the previous report [6] was

a,bThe assignments may be interchanged.

further purified by a silica gel CC (EtOAc-hexane with increasing amount of EtOAc content) followed by prep. TLC (CHCl₃-Me₂CO 19:1, developed × 4) to give inflexarabdonin C (1) (35.3 mg). The residue (2.40 g) from the fraction 47-63 of column I in the previous report [6] was subjected to a silica gel CC (Et₂O and then Me₂CO). The residue (550 mg) from the Me₂CO eluate was further subjected to a silica gel CC (CHCl₃-MeOH with increasing MeOH content). The residue (64 mg) from the faster cluate was purified by prep. TLC (CHCl₃-MeOH 9:1, developed × 2) to give inflexarabdonin D (5) (36.5 mg). The residue (110 mg) from the slower eluate was purified repeatedly by prep. TLC (CHCl₃-Me₂CO 8:2, developed × 4; Et₂O, developed × 5) to give inflexarabdonin E (6) (28.6 mg) and inflexarabdonin F (7) (4.2 mg). The physical properties of the isolated compounds were as follows.

Inflexarabdonin C (1). Mp 179–181° (from MeOH), $[\alpha]_D^{124}$ – 55.2° (MeOH; c0.87); UV λ_{meOH}^{MeOH} : 239 nm (ε 6560); IR ν_{max}^{CHC1s} cm⁻¹: 3600, 3450, 1730, 1710, 1645, 1375, 1260–1200, 1060, 1035 and 985; ¹H NMR (pyridine- d_s): δ 1.06, 1.08 and 1.40 (each 3H, s, 3× tert. Me), 1.46 (1H, br dd, J = 12 and 4 Hz, H-14 β), 1.92 (3H, s, OAc), 2.04 (1H, m, H-12 α), 2.07 (1H, d, J = 13.5 Hz, H-7 α), 2.26 (1H, br d, J = 14 Hz, H-12 β), 2.35 (1H, d, J = 12 Hz, H-14 α), 2.50 (1H, br s, H-9), 2.96 (1H, s, H-5), 3.00 (1H, m, H-13), 3.55 (1H, d, J = 13.5 Hz, H-7 β), 4.33 (1H, br d, J = 4.5 Hz, H-11), 4.68 (1H, t, J = 2.5 Hz, H-3), 5.31 (1H, t r s, H-17), 6.05 (1H, t r s, H-17); t C NMR: see Table 1; MS t m/t: 374.2105 [M]t + t C₂₂H₃₀O₅ requires 374.2094.

Inflexarabdonin D (5). Mp 210–212° (from MeOH), $[\alpha]_D^{24}$ – 17.1° (MeOH; c 0.82); IR $v_{\max}^{CHCl_3}$ cm⁻¹: 3575, 3400, 1730, 1375, 1260–1200, and 1030; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.92, 1.29, and 1.39 (each 3H, s, 3 × tert. Me), 2.07 and 2.23 (each 3H, s, 2 × OAc), 2.36 (1H, d, J = 12.5 Hz, H-14 α), 2.71 (1H, m, H-13), 3.86 (1H, dd, J = 11.5 and 4.5 Hz, H-1), 4.35 (1H, m, H-6), 4.68 (1H, t, t = 3 Hz, H-3), 4.95 (1H, t dd, t = 2 and 1 Hz, H-17), 5.05 (1H, t dd, t = 5 Hz, H-11), 5.18 (1H, t dd, t = 2.5 and 1 Hz, H-17), 5.33 (1H, t t = 2.5 Hz, H-15); ¹³C NMR: see Table 1; MS t t = 436.2474 [M]⁺. t C₂₄H₃₆O₇ requires 436.2462.

Inflexarabdonin E (6). Mp 234-237° (from MeOH), $[\alpha]_D^{25.5}$ -42.8° (MeOH; c 0.80); UV $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{MeOH}}$: 240 nm (ϵ 6290); IR $v_{\text{max}}^{CHCl_3}$ cm⁻¹: 3590, 3550–3250, 1720, 1640, 1250–1190, 1030 and 985; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.98, 1.13 and 1.33 (each 3H, s, 3 × tert. Me), 1.50 (1H, br dd, J = 12.5 and 4.5 Hz, H-14 β), 1.89 (1H, d, J = 13.5 Hz, H-7 α), 2.13 (3H, s, OAc), 2.32 (1H, d, J = 12.5 Hz, $H-14\alpha$), 2.80 (1H, br s, H-5), 3.09 (1H, m, H-13), 3.21 (1H, br d, J = 13.5 Hz, H-7 β), 4.08 (1H, dd, J = 10.5 and 6 Hz, H-1), 4.60 (1H, t, J = 3 Hz, H-3), 5.24 (1H, brd, J = 4.5 Hz, H-11), 5.37 (1H, brs, H-17), 5.96 (1H, br s, H-17); ¹H NMR (pyridine- d_5): δ 1.09, 1.43, and 1.48 (each 3H, s, 3 \times tert. Me), 1.88 (3H, s, OAc), 2.12 (1H, d, J = 13 Hz, H-7 α), 2.49 (1H, d, J = 12 Hz, H-14 α), 3.02 (1H, m, H-13), 3.11 (1H, s, H-5), 3.62 (1H, d, J = 13 Hz, H-7 β), 4.43 (1H, m, changed to dd, J = 10.5 and 6 Hz, H-1), 4.81 (1H, t, J = 3 Hz, H-3), 5.28 (1H, br s, H-17), 6.03 (1H, br s, H-17), 6.09 (1H, t, J = 3Hz, H-11), 6.21 and 6.55 (each 1H, m, 2 × OH); ¹³C NMR: see Table 1; MS m/z: 390.2052 [M]⁺. $C_{22}H_{30}O_6$ requires 390.2043.

Inflexarabdonin F (7). Mp 263-266° (from a mixture of MeOH and Et₂O), $[\alpha]_D^{27} + 13.4$ ° (MeOH; c1.10); IR $v_{\max}^{CHC_3}$ cm⁻¹: 3600, 3400, 1720, 1370, 1250-1190, and 1030; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.92, 1.29, and 1.41 (each 3H, s, 3 × tert. Me), 2.08 (3H, s, OAc), 2.36 (1H, d, d = 12.5 Hz, H-14 α), 2.64 (1H, d, H-13), 3.80 (1H, t, d = 2.5 Hz, H-15), 3.84 (1H, dd, d = 11.5 and 4.5 Hz, H-1), 4.08 (1H, d, OH), 4.39 (1H, d, H-6), 4.67 (1H, d, d = 3 Hz, H-3), 5.05 (1H, d d d = 3 Hz, H-17), 5.12 (1H, d d d d = 3 Hz, H-17), 5.26 (1H, d d d = 5 Hz, H-11); ¹H NMR (pyridine-d₅): δ 1.11 and 1.60 (each 3H, d d d > 2 × tert. Me), 1.94 (3H, d d > OAc), 1.99 (3H, d d + 16 (1H, d d + 13), 2.91 (1H, d d d = 12.5 Hz, H-14 α), 4.16 (1H, d d + changed to d d + 2 Hz on addition of D₂O, H-

15), 4.36 (1H, dd, J = 11.5 and 4.5 Hz, H-1), 4.70 (1H, m, H-6), 4.99 (1H, t, J = 3 Hz, H-3), 5.21 (1H, br s, H-17), 5.43 (1H, br s, H-17), 5.74 (1H, d, J = 3 Hz, OH), 6.06 (1H, br d, J = 10 Hz, OH), 6.21 (1H, br d, J = 4 Hz, H-11), 6.48 (1H, m, OH); 13 C NMR: see Table 1; MS m/z: 394.2352 [M] $^+$: $C_{22}H_{34}O_6$ requires 394.2356.

Acetylation of inflexarabdonin C (1). Usual acetylation of inflexarabdonin C (1)(8.0 mg) with a mixture of Ac_2O and pyridine gave a residue (9.4 mg) which was purified by prep. TLC (CHCl₃-Me₂CO, 19: 1; developed × 2) to give the monoacetate (2) (3.8 mg) as colourless needles, mp 197-199°, $IR \ \nu_{max}^{CHCl_3} \ cm^{-1}$: 1725, 1640, 1370, 1250-1190, 1055, 1030 and 980; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.93 and 1.10 and 1.32 (each 3H, s, 3 × tert. Me), 1.89 (1H, d, J = 13.5 Hz, H-7 α), 1.90 and 2.11 (each 3H, s, 2 × OAc), 2.37 (1H, d, J = 12 Hz, H-14 α), 2.76 (1H, br s, H-5), 3.09 (1H, m, H-13), 3.21 (1H, br d, J = 13.5 Hz, H-7 β), 4.55 (1H, t, J = 2.5 Hz, H-3), 5.21 (1H, br d, J = 4.5 Hz, H-11), 5.36 (1H, br s, H-17), 6.01 (1H, br s, H-17), MS m/z: 416.2174 [M]*. $C_{24}H_{32}O_6$ requires 416.2200.

Acetylation of inflexanin A (3). Acetylation of inflexanin A (3)(31.6 mg) in the usual manner gave a residue (33 mg) which was purified by prep. TLC (CHCl₃-Me₂CO, 19:1; developed \times 2) to give the monoacetate (4) (15.8 mg) as an amorphous powder. IR $v_{max}^{CHCl_3}$ cm⁻¹: 1720, 1640, 1370, 1250-1190, 1045, 1015; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.95, 1.28 and 1.46 (each 3H, s, 3 \times tert. Me), 1.86 and 2.06 (each 3H, s, 2 \times OAc), 2.27 (1H, dd, J = 15 and 3 Hz, H-7 β), 2.83 (1H, d, J = 12.5 Hz, H-14 α), 3.07 (1H, m, H-13), 4.48 (1H, m, H-6), 4.62 (1H, t, J = 3 Hz, H-3), 5.17 (1H, br d, J = 4.5 Hz, H-11), 5.27 (1H, br s, H-17); MS m/z: 358.2128 [M - AcOH] **. Calc. for C₂₂H₃₀O₄: 358.2145.

Jones oxidation of inflexanin A monoacetate (4). Inflexanin A monoacetate (4)(11.6 mg) was dissolved in $Me_2CO(5 ml)$. Jones reagent (1 drop) was added to the soln with stirring and ice cooling. The mixture was stirred for 5 min at 0° , and then, neutralized with a small amount of 5% aq. NaHCO₃ soln and concd in vacuo. H₂O (30 ml) was added to the residue and the mixture extracted with EtOAc (30 ml × 3). After being washed with satd NaCl aq. soln, the EtOAc extract was dried and evapd in vacuo to give a residue (10.5 mg) which was purified by prep. TLC (CHCl₃-Me₂CO, 19:1; developed × 2) to give the inflexarabdonin C monoacetate (2) (6.1 mg) as colourless needles, mp 201-203°; MS m/z: 416.2224 [M]⁺. Calc. for $C_{24}H_{32}O_6$: 416.2200. This compound was identical to the compound derived from inflexarabdonin C (1) (mmp, IR and ¹H NMR).

Acetylation of inflexarabdonin D (5). Inflexarabdonin D (5)(4.2 mg) gave the inflexarabdonin A diacetate (11)(3.9 mg) as an amorphous powder on acetylation. MS m/z: 520.2677 [M]⁺. Calc. for $C_{28}H_{40}O_9$: 520.2673. This compound was identical to the compound derived from inflexarabdonin A (8) (IR and ¹H NMR).

Acetylation of inflexarabdonin E (6). Inflexarabdonin E (6) (3 mg) gave the inflexin monoacetate (10) (3.6 mg) as an amorphous powder on acetylation. MS m/z: 474.2238 [M]⁺. Calc. for $C_{26}H_{34}O_8$: 474.2254. This compound was identical to the compound derived from inflexin (12) (IR and ¹H NMR).

Acetylation of inflexarabdonin F (7). Inflexarabdonin F (7)(4.7 mg) gave the inflexarabdonin A diacetate (11)(3.1 mg) as an amorphous powder on acetylation. MS m/z: 520.2639 [M]⁺. Calc. for $C_{28}H_{40}O_9$: 520.2673. This compound was identical to the compound derived from inflexarabdonin A (8) (IR and ¹H NMR).

Reduction of inflexanin B (14) by NaBH₄. To the soln of inflexanin B (14)(20.5 mg) in MeOH (5 ml), the soln of NaBH₄ (20 mg) in MeOH (1 ml) was added dropwise under ice-cooling and stirring. The reaction mixture was kept at 0° for 1 hr with stirring. After addition of H₂O (30 ml), the reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (30 ml × 3). After being washed with satd

NaCl aq. soln, the EtOAc extract was dried and evapd in vacuo to give a residue (20.6 mg) which was purified by prep. TLC (CHCl₃-Me₂CO, 7:3; developed × 3; silica gel impregnated with AgNO₃) to give the inflexarabdonin F (7) (12.0 mg) as colourless needles on addition of MeOH-Et₂O, mp 263-266°, MS m/z: 394.2386 [M]⁺. Calc. for C₂₂H₃₄O₆: 394.2356. This compound was identical to inflexarabdonin F of natural origin (mmp, IR and ¹H NMR).

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