

ISOLATION AND STRUCTURE OF MAMMEA A/BA,  
A/AB AND A/BB: A GROUP OF 4-ARYL-COUMARIN  
EXTRACTIVES OF MAMMEA AMERICANA L.

L. Crombie and D. E. Games  
Department of Chemistry, University College,  
(University of Wales), Cathays Park, Cardiff, U.K.

A. McCormick  
Department of Chemistry, The University, Glasgow, U.K.

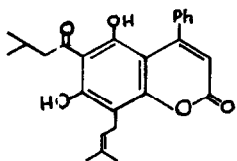
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THE 4-phenyl coumarins mammeisin (I)<sup>1</sup> and mammeigin (II)<sup>2</sup> have been reported in the rind and seed-oil respectively of Mammea americana L. Continuing our investigation of the fresh seeds we have isolated three new 4-phenyl coumarins, mammea A/BA, colourless needles m.p. 125-126° (III), mammea A/AB, yellow needles m.p. 107-108° (IV), mammea A/BB, colourless needles m.p. 124-125° (V), together with mammeisin (A/AA), yellow needles, and mammeigin (A/A cyclo D), yellow needles.\* The three new coumarins are isomeric with mammea A/AA, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (accurate mass measurement and analysis). Two unrelated natural products, 2-methoxy-xanthone<sup>†</sup> (m.p. and mixed with a synthetic specimen 131°), and the triterpene friedelin were also isolated during the chromatographic separation.

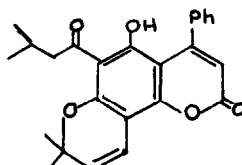
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\* The yellow 6-acyl compounds give an olive-green ferric chloride colour; the colourless 8-acyl a brown purple.

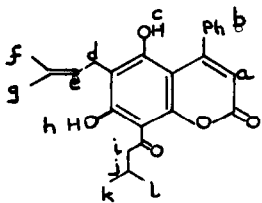
<sup>†</sup> This has lately been found in Kielmeyra coriacea Mart., another member of the Guttiferae.<sup>3</sup> Both xanthenes and coumarins are known to occur in this family but the two have not previously been found together.<sup>4</sup> Very recently 2-hydroxyxanthone has been reported in M. americana.



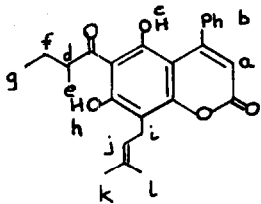
(I) (A/AA)



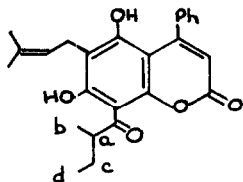
(II) (A/A cyclo D)



(III) (A/BA)



(IV) (A/AB)

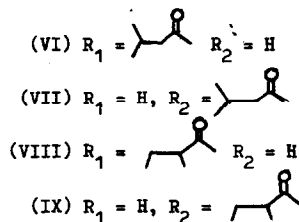
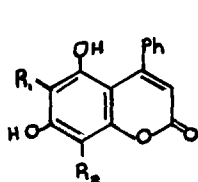


(V) (A/3B)

a	τ	4.21	(1) s.
b		2.57	(5) s.
c		4.10	(1) s.
d		6.81	(2) d. $\underline{J}$ 7 c/s.
e		4.97	(1) m.
f		8.32	(3) s.
g		8.37	(3) s.
h		-4.53	(1) s.
i		6.92	(2) d. $\underline{J}$ 7
j		7.8	(1) m.
k			
l		8.96	(6) d. $\underline{J}$ 7

a	τ	4.18	(1) s.
b		2.55	(5) s.
c		-0.93	(1) broad
h		0.10	(1) " "
d		6.37	(1) m.
e		8.93	(3) d. $\underline{J}$ 7 c/s.
f		8.2-8.6	(2) m.
g		9.18	(3) t. $\underline{J}$ 7
i		6.51	(2) d. $\underline{J}$ 7
j		4.78	(1) m.
k		8.12	(3) s.
l		8.28	(3) s.

a	τ	6.13	(1) m.
b		8.74	(3) d. $\underline{J}$ 7 c/s.
c		8.2-8.6	(2) m.
d		8.98	(3) t. $\underline{J}$ 7



The structures of the three new 4-phenyl-coumarins rest on a combination of spectroscopic data. Classification as acylated and alkylated 4-phenyl 5,7-dihydroxycoumarins follows from the ultraviolet data in neutral and acid medium which also allows mammea A/AB to be placed in the 6-acyl class like A/AA whilst A/BA and A/BB are 8-acyl compounds. Mass spectral data also support the structures (III)-(V). N.M.R. assignments for the protons are as shown by the formulae and it is noteworthy that 8-acyl compounds show one hydroxyl resonance due to the 7-chelated hydroxyl near  $\tau$ -4.5 and one due to the unchelated 5-hydroxyl near 4.1. On the other hand, 6-acyl compounds show two hydroxyls (deuteration) as broad bands near  $\tau$ -1.0 and 0.1. This is ascribed to a chelation exchange phenomenon involving the 5- and 7-hydroxyls and is being investigated further: it provides a useful orientation criterion in this type of system.\*

In agreement with the structures proposed, mammea A/BA (III) can be isomerised by 5% methanolic potassium hydroxide to give A/AA (I) whilst with the same reagent mammea A/BB gives A/AB.

\* What appears to be a related phenomenon in phloroacetophenones has been reported<sup>5</sup> but not ascribed to exchange.

Ultraviolet Data in Ethanol<sup>a</sup>Synthetic coumarin (VIII)<sup>b</sup>

N/100 HCl	237 (4.09)	283 (4.27)	335 (4.01)
N/100 KOH	239 (4.23)	287 (4.21)	376 (4.03) 404 (4.12)

Mammea A/AB (IV)<sup>c</sup>

N/100 HCl	233 (4.14)	283 (4.47)	333 (4.01)
N/100 KCl	238 (4.35)	293 (4.31)	394 (3.96) 428 (4.11)

Synthetic coumarin (IX)<sup>b</sup>

N/100 HCl	223 (4.41)	289 (4.37)	327 (4.19)
N/100 KOH	227 (4.35)	257 (4.15)	333 (4.56)

Mammea A/BA (III)

N/100 HCl	225 (4.46)	294 (4.36)	332 (4.25)
N/100 KOH	233 (4.40)	261 (4.19)	337 (4.60)

Mammea A/BB (V)

N/100 HCl	227 (4.45)	294 (4.38)	333 (4.24)
N/100 KOH	234 (4.39)	263 (4.19)	337 (4.58)

<sup>a</sup>  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ . ( $\log \epsilon_{\text{max}}$ ), <sup>b</sup> Synthetic coumarins (VI) and (VII) have similar spectra to (VIII) and (IX) respectively. <sup>c</sup> The spectra of mammea A/AA (I) and A/A cyclo D (II) are similar.

We thank Dr. R. A. Finnegan (University of New York, Buffalo) for samples of mammeisin and mammeigin, Dr. R. Stevenson (Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass.) for a specimen of friedelin, and Dr. H. Suschitzky (Royal College of Advanced Technology, Salford) for a specimen of synthetic 2-methoxyxanthone.

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