

Umbelliprenin from *Ferula persica* Roots Inhibits the Red Pigment Production in *Serratia marcescens*

Mehrdad Iranshahi^a, Ahmad R. Shahverdi^{b,*}, Roohollah Mirjani^b,
Gholamreza Amin^a, and Abbas Shafiee^c

^a Department of Pharmacognosy

^b Department of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran. Fax: ++98-21-6461178. E-mail: shahverd@sina.tums.ac.ir

^c Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Center, Faculty of Pharmacy, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

* Author for correspondence and reprint requests

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The chloroform extract of *Ferula persica* var. *persica* roots was found to inhibit red pigment production of *Serratia marcescens*. A bioguided fractionation study by preparative thin layer chromatography (PTLC) detected a fraction ($R_f = 0.71$, petroleum ether/EtOAc, 2:1 v/v), which was effective on depigmentation of *Serratia marcescens*. Using conventional spectroscopy methods, the active fraction was identified as umbelliprenin. Neither the chloroform extract nor the isolated umbelliprenin fraction showed any antibacterial activity against the test strain at a certain concentration. In contrast, they exhibited depigmentation zones on culture plates.

Key words: *Ferula persica*, *Serratia marcescens*, Umbelliprenin