

A NOVEL METABOLITE FROM THE CHILEAN MOLLUSK *Siphonaria lessoni*

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A new and two previously known metabolites possessing a polypropionate carbon skeleton have been isolated from the marine gastropod mollusk *Siphonaria lessoni*, collected at Chilean coasts. Their structures have been determined by spectroscopical methods.

Keywords: mollusk; *Siphonaria*; polypropionates.

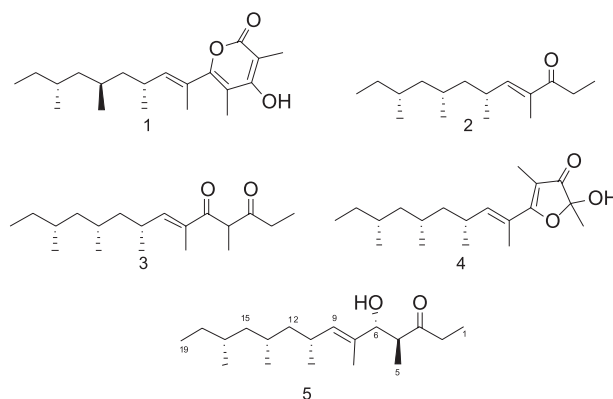
INTRODUCTION

Mollusks of the marine pulmonate genus *Siphonaria* are air breathing intertidal herbivores, often referred to as false limpets. During the high tides, siphonariids remain firmly fixed to depressions or “home scars” in the rock surface. As the tide recedes these mollusks leave their home scars to feed on algae and microorganisms thus exposing themselves to predation by terrestrial predators, in addition to the aquatic predators e.g. tidepool fish encountered when they are submerged. Shortly after being disturbed by a potential predator, siphonariids produce a white mucus, containing polypropionate metabolites, from lateral pedal glands¹. A feature of *Siphonaria* polypropionate compounds is their frequent cyclization to yield furanone, pyrone and hemi-acetal functionalities². Surprisingly, the role of these compounds in the chemical ecology of *Siphonaria* species is poorly understood².

Siphonariid limpets have been shown to contain branched chain polypropionate metabolites of considerable biosynthetic interest³. For example, the air – breathing gastropod *S. diemenensis* contains the diemenensins A and B, compounds that display antimicrobial properties⁴. On the other hand, the pulmonate *S. denticulata* Quay and Gaimard biosynthesizes the denticulatins A and B, polypropionate compounds that have attracted considerable attention from both synthetic and bioorganic chemists⁵⁻⁷. Chilean specimens of *S. lessoni* yielded norpectinatone **1**, norsiphonarianone **2**, norsiphonarienolone⁸ **3** and a mixture of furanone **4** and other isomer⁹. The nature of this isomer is no clear because originally was suggested that is the Z- isomer but further it was assigned to the epimer of carbon 2. In addition, norsiphonarianone and norsiphonarienolone were found as a mixture. The isolation of mixture of polypropionates in these mollusks is not an unusual situation¹⁰.

Over the last thirty years, many structurally novel polypropionate metabolites have been isolated from marine organisms as phylogenetically diverse as marine bacteria and sponges. The most important source of marine polypropionate compounds are the Mollusca.

In continuation of our search for new bioactive compounds from Chilean marine mollusks, we have reexamined specimens of *S. lessoni* from the central coast of Chile.



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The acetone extract of *S. lessoni* was subjected to open column chromatography on silica gel, using increasing proportions of ethyl acetate in petrol ether to afford a new polypropionate **5** and the mixtures of the known compounds **3** and **4**. The IR spectrum of compound **5** presented bands at 3460 and 1700 cm⁻¹ indicating the presence of an hydroxyl and carbonyl groups. The ¹³C-NMR spectral data (see table 1) of **5** indicated 19 carbons and, together with an accurate mass spectra measurement (LREIMS: 296.2571), indicated the molecular formula C₁₉H₃₆O₂ with two sites of unsaturation for **5**. The ¹³C NMR decoupled spectrum of **4** showed well resolved resonances for all 19 carbons. ¹³C DEPT analysis using a rotation angle of 90° indicated one sp² methine carbon at δ 137.0 and five saturated methines at δ 81.2; 48.8; 30.1; 29.7; and δ 28.6. The DEPT 135° spectrum showed four methylene (δ 45.8; 45.4; 36.8 and 29.7) and seven methyl carbons (δ 22.1; 20.5; 20.0; 14.6; 11.6; 11.1; 7.9) indicating, after comparison with the decoupled spectrum, that the carbons at δ 216.3 and 133.2 were non-hydrogenated.

The ¹H NMR spectrum (see table 1) of **5** showed signals corresponding to an olefinic proton at δ 5.06 (1H, d, J = 9.6 Hz), and a singlet at δ 1.56 (3H, s) complete the double bond system. A doublet at δ 4.03 (d, 1H, J = 9.3 Hz) was attributed to geminal proton on carbon bearing a hydroxyl group. The ¹³C NMR spectra data also confirmed the existence of one trisubstituted double bond in a linear system: δ 137.0 (CH), 133.2 (C) and 11.1 (CH₃) and the existence of a secondary alcohol (C-6) at δ 81.2 (CH). The ¹H COSY spectrum showed a correlation between the doublet at δ 4.03 and the signal at δ_H 2.70 (dq, 1H, J = 9.3; 6.4 Hz; δ_C 48.8) and this one

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Table 1. ¹H and ¹³C-NMR Data for Siphonarienolone¹¹ and compound 5

Position	¹³ C		¹ H	
	Siphonarienolone	5	Siphonarienolone	5
1	7.7	7.9	1.03 t (7.3)	0.99 t (7.2)
2	36.5	36.8	2.54 m	2.48 q (7.2)
3	216.0	216.3	—	—
4	48.6	48.9	2.77 dq (10.1 7.2)	2.70 dq (9.3 6.4)
5	14.3	14.6	0.90 t (7.2)	0.86 d (6.4)
6	80.9	81.2	4.1 d (10.1)	4.03 d (9.3)
7	133.7	133.2	—	—
8	10.8	11.1	1.63 s	1.56 s
9	136.7	137.0	5.13 d (9.8)	5.06 d (9.6)
10	29.8	29.7	2.52 m	2.48 t (9.3)
11	20.4	20.5	0.92 d (6.3)	0.84 d (7.4)
12	46.0	45.8	1.10 m	1.10 m
13	29.8	30.1	1.54 m	1.50 m
14	20.3	20.0	0.79 d (6.5)	0.73 d (6.5)
15	45.1	45.4	1.38 m	1.36 m
16	28.3	28.6	1.53 m	1.50 m
17	21.8	22.1	0.85 d (6.3)	0.74 d (6.5)
18	39.4	29.7	1.28 m	1.25 m
19	20.0	11.6	1.30 m	0.76 t (5.0)
20	14.3	—	0.90 t (7.2)	—

was connected to a methyl group δ_{H} 0.86 (q, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz; δ_{C} 14.6). An ethyl group vicinal to a carbonyl group was deduced by the following signals: a methylene at δ_{H} 2.48 (q, 2H, J = 7.2 Hz; δ_{C} 36.8) coupled to the methyl group at δ_{H} 0.99 (q, 3H, J = 7.2 Hz; δ_{C} 7.9) was observed in the ¹H COSY spectrum. Four additional methyl groups were observed at δ_{H} 0.84 (d, 3H, J = 7.4 Hz; δ_{C} 20.5); δ_{H} 0.73 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz; δ_{C} 20.0); δ_{H} 0.74 (d, 3H, J = 6.5 Hz; δ_{C} 22.1) and δ_{H} 0.76 (t, 3H, J = 5.0 Hz; δ_{C} 14.6). Finally, the ketone group was defined by ¹³C-NMR signal at δ 216.3 (C-3). Other overlapped signals were not assigned. The data shown above together with analysis of ¹H COSY, HMQC and HMBC experiments are in agreement with a polypropionate alcohol with 19 carbon atoms instead of 20 which are presents in siphonarienolone¹¹. The NMR data of compound 5 are in agreement with those of siphonarienolone (see Table 1) however, there is a difference between the values the optical rotations even its has the same sign (compound 5 $[\alpha]_{24}^{\text{D}} = 52.6^{\circ}$ and siphonarienolone $[\alpha]_{24}^{\text{D}} = 19.6^{\circ}$) The stereochemistry shown in 5 was proposed by analogy with other polypropionates isolated previously from the same mollusk^{8,9} and by the ROESY NMR spectroscopy cross-peak that was found between H-4 and Me-5. No other valuable information from this method was obtained. The same stereochemistry relationship were found in two analogous compounds isolated previously^{11,12} Once again, a norpolypropionate was isolated from *S. lessoni* but in this opportunity 5 was a pure compound instead of a mixture.

EXPERIMENTAL PART

The ¹H (300 MHz) and ¹³C (75.5 MHz) spectra were recorded on a Bruker AMX-300 spectrometer, chemical shifts are reported relative to Me₄Si and coupling constants are given in Hertz. Mass spectra were recorded on a V. G. Micromass, ZAB-2R. Infrared spectra were measured on a Bruker IFS-25 spectrometer. Optical rotation was determined for solution in CHCl₃ with a Perkin-Elmer Mod. 241 polarimeter. Silica gel chromatography was performed on silica gel Merck N° 7734 and 7741. The tlc plates were developed by spraying with H₂SO₄-H₂O-AcOH (1:4:20) and heating. Sephadex LH-20 obtained from Pharmacia was used for gel filtration chromatography.

Collection and extraction of *Siphonaria lessoni*

650 specimens of *S. lessoni* were collected from the intertidal zone at Las Cruces, V Región and stored in acetone until work up. The extract was decanted and the specimens were re-extracted with acetone. The acetone extracts were pooled, concentrated and partitioned between EtOAc and water. The polypropionate compounds obtained from the concentrated EtOAc partition layer by silica chromatography EtOAc/n-hexane (1:2), normal HPLC EtOAc/n-hexane (1:4) phase were compound 3 and 4. Polar fractions of the chromatography were rechromatographed on SiO₂, obtaining a oil. The oil was filtered through a silica gel using EtOAc/n-hexane (3:1) as eluant to obtain the compound 5.

Compound 5.- oil $[\alpha]_{24}^{\text{D}} = 52.6^{\circ}$ (c 0,076g/100 mL CHCl₃) IR KBr $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CD4}}$ cm⁻¹: 3460, 2980, 2900, 1700, 1450, 1370, 1000, 970, 860. MS: m/z (%) 296 (C₁₉H₃₆O₂), 279 (2), 221 (1), 211 (3), 155 (12), 141 (1), 137 (4), 115 (4), 97 (12), 57 (100). NMR spectral data: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 1.

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