

A New Bioactive Steroidal Saponin from Leaves of *Furcraea gigantea*

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A new bidesmosidic furostanol saponin was isolated from leaves of *Furcraea gigantea* Vent. Its structure was established as 3-[(*O*-6-deoxy- α -L-mannopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 4)-*O*- β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)-*O*-[*O*- β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)- β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 2)-*O*- β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 4)- β -D-galactopyranosyl)oxy]-(3 β ,5 α ,15 α ,22 α ,25*R*)-26-(β -D-glucopyranosyloxy)-15,22-dihydroxy-furost-12-one. Its structural identification was performed using detailed analyses of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra including 2D NMR spectroscopic techniques (DEPT, COSY, HETCOR and COLOC) and chemical conversions. The steroidal saponin showed no haemolytic effects in the *in vitro* assays and demonstrated inhibition of the capillary permeability activity.

Key words: *Furcraea gigantea*, Agavaceae, Steroidal Saponin, *anti*-Inflammatory Activity