Dammarane and Ceanothane Triterpenes from Zizyphus glabrata

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From the leaves of *Zizyphus glabrata*, a new dammarane-type triterpene, pseudojujubogenin -3-O- β -D-glucopyranoside, along with the known ceanothane triterpenes, granulosic acid, ceanothic acid and daucosterol were isolated. The structures of the compounds were fully characterized by detailed NMR investigations including ¹H and ¹³C NMR, HSQC, COSY, HMBC and NOESY experiments. In addition, the dammarane glycoside was tested for its potential to inhibit various bacteria and was found to possess significant bactericidal activity. The ¹H, ¹³C and full 2D-NMR data on granulosic acid has also been presented. This is the first report on the chemical constituents of the leaves of *Z. glabrata*.

Key words: Zizyphus glabrata Heyne (syn: *Z. trinervia* Roxb), Rhamnaceae, Dammarane, Ceanothane Triterpenes, Antimicrobial Activity

Introduction

Zizyphus glabrata Heyne (syn: Z. trinervia Roxb) is a small tree that grows up to 30 ft in height, having olive-brown wood and commonly found in the forests of Peninsular India and Bhutan [1,2]. The leaves and aerial parts of the plant are traditionally used to treat inflammation, to relieve pain, convulsions and viral infections [3]. Plants belonging to the genus Zizyphus (Rhamnaceae) have been noted to produce a variety of characteristic secondary metabolites ranging from cyclopeptide alkaloids that possess antibacterial and antifungal activities [4], and the dammarane class of triterpenes that are reported as sweetness inhibitors [5-7]. The present work describes the isolation and characterization of a new dammarane-type triterpene, pseudojujubogenin-3-O- β -D-glucopyranoside along with the ceanothane triterpenes, granulosic acid, ceanothic acid and daucosterol.

Results and Discussion

The leaves of *Z. glabrata* were extracted successively with hexane, chloroform and methanol that on concentration afforded three dark viscous semisolids. The methanolic residue was separated by silica gel

column chromatography to furnish a new dammaranetype triterpene glycoside, together with the known ceanothane triterpenes, granulosic acid, ceanothic acid and daucosterol (1–4). Ceanothic acid and daucosterol were characterized by direct comparison of their physical and spectroscopic characteristics with those published in the literature (see experimental), while the two other isolated compounds were characterized by detailed NMR investigations including ¹H and ¹³C NMR, HSQC, COSY, HMBC and NOESY experiments.

Compound 1 was the major isolate obtained in this investigation as pale green amorphous powder, m. p. 241–243 °C. It gave a positive for Liebermann-Burchard test for triterpenes and Molisch test for sugars. The IR spectrum indicated the presence of a tertiary hydroxyl at 3460 cm⁻¹ and the absence of a conjugated system in the molecule. The high resolution mass spectrum showed a molecular ion peak at m/z 650.85 [M]⁺, supporting the molecular formula of C₃₆H₅₈O₁₀ for 1, deduced from the mass spectrum in conjunction with the ¹³C NMR spectrum. The NMR spectrum (Table 1) exhibited signals for 36 carbons: nine methylene [two of them bearing oxygen atoms ($\delta = 66.2$ and 68.9)], seven methines [one oxymethine

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Position	δH	δC	COSY^{\dagger}	Position	δ H	δC	COSY*
1	a) 0.81 (m, 1H) b) 1.49 (m, 1H)	39.0	H-1b, H-11a H-1a, H-2b	16		110.6	
2	a) 1.77 – 1.90 (m, 1H) b) 2.29 (m, 1H)	26.9	H-3α H-1b	17α	1.72 (m, 1H)	53.9	H-13β
3α	3.38 (dd, 1H, 4.7, 11.5)	89.0	H-2a, H-2b	18β	1.02 (s, 3H)	19.0	H-7
4 5α	0.70 (m,1H)	37.6 ^a 56.3	Η-28α	19β 20	1.02 (s, 3H)	17.1 69.1	H-7
6 7	1.37 (m, 2H) 1.54 (m,2H)	18.5 36.2	H-15b H-18, H-19	21 22	1.44 (s, 3H) 2.16 (m, 1H)	29.8 46.9	H-13β
8 9	0.81 (m, 1H)	37.4 53.2		23 24	5.03 (m, 2H) 5.42 (d, 1H, 8.0)	68.9 127.2	H-15a, H-24 H-26, H-27
10 11	a) 1.37 (m, 1H) b) 1.49 (m, 1H)	37.4 ^a 21.8	H-17α H-11a H-17α	25 26	1.64 (s, 3H)	135.4 25.9	
12	a) 1.77 – 1.90 (m, 1H) b) 1.97 (m, 1H)	28.7	H-11a	27	1.72 (m, 3H)	18.7	H-23
13β 14	2.72 (m, 1H)	38.6 53.5		28α 29β	1.34 (m, 3H) 0.74 (s, 3H)	28.4 16.6	H-5α H-1b
15	a) 1.77 – 1.90 (m, 1H) b) 2.20 (d, 1H, 8.3)	39.9	H-13β	30	4.28 (d, 2H, 8.6)	66.2	
β -D-Gluce	ose						
G-1 G-2	4.97 (d, 1H, 7.7) 4.07 (t, 1H, 8.7)	107.2 76.0	G-2 G-5, G-6b	G-4 G-5	4.20 (dd, 1H, 8.6, 9.1) 4.25 (t, 1H, 8.6)	72.2 79.0	
G-3	4.02 (m, 1H)	78.6	G-4	G-6	a) 4.63 (dd, 1H, 2.4, 11.7) b) 4.42 (dd, 1H, 5.5, 11.7)	63.4	G-6b

Table 1. ¹H, ¹³C NMR and COSY spectral data for the dammarane triterpene glycoside 1.

* Assignments were confirmed by 2D NMR experiments (HSQC, HMBC and 2D-NOESY); ^a signals are interchangeable. Coupling constants "J" in Hertz.



Fig. 1. Important NOESY interactions of 1.

 $(\delta = 89.0)$], seven methyl carbons, an anomeric carbon $\delta = 107.2$ bound to $\delta = 4.97$ (1H, d, 7.7) according to the HSQC spectrum. Comparison of the NMR data for 1 (Table 1) with the COSY 45° spectrum, revealed the sugar (pyranose form) to be glucose. The coupling constant of the anomeric proton *i. e.* $\delta = 4.97$ (1H, d, 7.7) indicated β -configuration of glucopyranosyl moiety. A 1H double doublet at $\delta = 3.38$ (J = 4.7, 11.5 Hz) characteristic for H-3 α having a sugar linked at C-3 was supported by ²J HMBC correlations with the anomeric

carbon 107.2 (G-1), and the geminal methyls [28.4 (C-28), 16.6 (C-29)] located at C-4. NOE correlation between H-3 of the genin and G-1 of the glucose confirmed the attachment of the sugar at position C-3 of the aglycone. These signals resembled a dammaranetype triterpene having a single sugar unit in the A ring at 3-O- β -position and a free tertiary hydroxyl group [8–11].

The spectrum also revealed an olefinic methine, $\delta =$ 5.42 ($\delta = 127.2$) along with signals typical to that of an isobutenyl side chain. The COSY 45° spectrum revealed that the methyls $\delta = 1.64$ and 1.72 and resonances at $\delta = 25.9$ and 18.7 ascribed to C-26 and C-27 were coupled to the unsaturated methine at $\delta =$ 5.42 and were assignable to H-24. The placement of the side chain at C-22 was accomplished through the HMBC experiment. The olefinic methine resonating at $\delta = 5.42$ (H-24) showed a ²J correlation with the carbon $\delta = 46.9$ (C-22) and ³J long-range couplings with the carbons $\delta = 68.9$ (C-23), 25.9 (C-26), 18.9 (C-27) supporting that the side chain was located at C-22. Of the three oxygen functions in 1, one was assigned to a tertiary hydroxyl group $\delta = 69.1$ (C-20) while the two other oxygen's were directly involved in ethers of Table 2. Key HMBC correlations observed for the dammarane triterpene glycoside **1**.

Protons	^{2}J	^{3}J
H-1	26.9 (C-2)	
H-2	89.0 (C-3)	
H-3	107.2 (G-1), 28.4 (C-28),	
	16.6 (C-29)	
H-5		89.0 (C-3)
H-12	38.6 (C-13)	53.9 (C-17)
H-13	53.5 (C-14)	69.1(C-20)
H-18	36.2 (C-7), 53.5 (C-14)	37.6 (C-10)
H-19	56.3 (C-5)	38.6 (C-4), 21.8 (C-11)
H-21	46.9 (C-22)	
H-22	53.9 (C-17), 69.1 (C-20)	
H-23	110.6 (C-16)	127.2 (C-24)
H-24	46.9 (C-22)	68.9 (C-23), 25.9 (C-26),
		18.9 (C-27)
H-26/27	127.2 (C-24)	
H-28	89.0 (C-3), 56.3 (C-5)	16.6 (C-29)
H-30	53.5 (C-14)	38.6 (C-13)
G-1	89.0 (C-3)	78.6 (G-3)
G-3	78.6 (G-4)	107.2 (G-1), 79.0 (G-5)
G-4	79.0 (G-5)	63.4 (G-6)



Fig. 2. Important NOESY interactions of 3.

a ketal group $\delta = 5.03$ and 4.28 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, H-30) with resonances $\delta = 68.9$ and 66.2 assignable to sp^3 carbons C-23 and C-30 respectively. The relative stereochemistry at C-3/5/28 and C-18/19 were confirmed by means of the NOESY spectrum. The H-3 α proton showed strong NOE interactions with H₃-28 resonance and H-5 methine suggesting that they were α -oriented and the H-24 olefinic methine showed two interactions with the angular methyls H₃-18 and H₃-19 establishing β -orientation of the methyls.

Some key HMBC correlations (Table 2) observed were between the methyls ($\delta = 1.34$ and 0.74) that exhibited ³*J* couplings between themselves indicating their geminal nature and ²*J* couplings with the oxymethine C-3 and the methine C-5, while the methyl at $\delta =$ 1.44 showed ²*J* correlation with the methine at C-22. The angular methyl, H₃-18 ($\delta = 1.02$) showed ²*J* correlation to the methylene at C-7 and the quaternary carbon at C-14 and ³*J* couplings with the quaternary carbon C-10. On the basis of the above spectral data, compound **1** was identified as pseudojujubogenin-3-O- β -D-glucopyranoside, a new natural product. ¹H and ¹³C NMR resonances were assigned using COSY, HMBC and NOESY spectra and are presented in Tables 1 and 2 and on structure **1**.

Compound **3** was obtained as colourless flakes, m. p. 237-239 °C. The HR-EI mass spectrum showed a molecular ion peak at m/z 503.69 [M]⁺ that corresponded to the molecular formula C₃₀H₄₆O₆. The ¹³C NMR (Table 3) displayed 30 carbon resonances, while the HSQC experiment confirmed that 22 out of the 30 carbons were directly attached to protons. The J modulated ${}^{13}C$ experiment revealed the presence of five methyls, ten methylenes, seven methines and eight quaternary carbons that included resonances for two carboxylic functions $\delta = 178.0$ and 179.2. The ¹H NMR (Table 3) showed five tertiary methyl singlets, a hydroxymethyl group $\delta = 3.70, 4.64$ (d, J =9.0 Hz), an oxymethine $\delta = 4.96$ and a saturated methine $\delta = 3.26$ and a series of multiplets from $\delta = 1.49$ to 1.59. These features revealed the backbone of 3 as a ceanothic acid derivative. This presumption was further confirmed when the ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts of the ceanothane triterpenes 2 and 3 were found to be almost superimposable [12, 13]. However, there were minor changes for signals in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR of the A and B rings of the ceanothane skeleton which were also observed in the COSY and the HMBC experiments. The remaining assignments of the ¹H resonances in 3 were made by comparison with those published for 3a in the literature. The ¹³C assignments were based on the HMBC experiments using ^{2}J and ${}^{3}J$ correlations while the ${}^{1}J$ C–H interactions observed in the HSQC spectrum allowed unambiguous assignments of the hydroxymethyl and methylene protons in 3. The relative stereochemistry at H-1/3/9/13 and H₃-23/25/26/27 and the carboxylic groups at H-2/28 were finally determined by 2D NOESY experiments as shown on 3. Accordingly, the structure of 3 was deter-

H/C	δH	δC	HMBC	COSY	NOESY	Table 3. ¹ H, ¹³ C NMR,
1β	3.26 (s, 1H)	66.8	C-2, C-3, C-5,		Η-25β	HMBC, COSY and NOESY
			C-10, C-25			spectral data for the ceanothane
2-COOH		178.0				triterpene 3 .
3α	4.96 (s, 1H)	86.2	C-2, C-10, C-23			
4		48.9				
5	2.31 (m, 1H)	57.6	C-4, C-6			
6a/b	1.49 (m, 2H)	18.8	C-5, C-10			
7	a) 1.49 (m, 1H)					
	b) 1.41 (m, 1H)	35.5	C-4, C-5, C-24			
8		42.4				
9	2.18 (m, 1H)	45.7	C-6, C-8, C-10,		H-1 β , H-27 α	
			C-11, C-25			
10		50.4	~			
11	a) 1.59 (m, 1H)	24.7	C-13			
	b) 2.10 (m, 1H)		~	Η-25β		
12	a) 1.98 (m, 1H)	26.6	C-14	Η-26β		
	b) 1.33 (m, 1H)					
13β	2.78 (m, 1H)	39.5	C-8, C-18			
14		43.9				
15	a) 1.22 (m, 1H)	30.9				
	b) 1.90 (m, 1H)					
16	a) 1.49 (m, 1H)	33.3	C-8, C-17, C-18, C-20,	H-21, H-29	H-16b	
	b) 2.60 (m, 1H)		C-28			
17		57.0				
18	1.69 (m, 1H)	50.1			H-30	
19α	3.51 (m, 1H)	48.0	C-30	H-21, H-22, H-29		
20		151.6				
21	a) 2.23 (m, 1H)	31.7	C-18, C-28	H-21b, H-22	H-19, H-21b	
	b) 1.49 (m, 1H)				H-21a	
22	a) 2.23 (m, 1H)	37.9	C-28			
	b) 1.55 (m, 1H)					
23α	1.81 (s, 3H)	26.1	C-3, C-17, C-24		H-3 α , 24-OH	
24β	4.64 (d, 2H, 9.0)	67.0	C-23		24-OH	
24-OH	3.70 (d, 1H, 9.0)		C-4, C-23	H-24		
25β	1.47 (s, 3H)	19.4	C-9		Η-24β	
26β	1.13 (s, 3H)	17.4	C-7, C-8		H-13β	
27α	1.06 (s, 3H)	15.4	C-13, C-14, C-15		H-6, H-7	
28-COOH		179.2				
29	1.67 (s, 3H)	20.1	C-19, C-20, C-20, C-30		H-18, H-30a	
30	a) 4.68 (d, 1H, 13.6)	110.1	C-12, C-19, C-20, C-27	H-29, H-30b	H-19	
	b) 4.87 (s, 1H)		C-19, C-29			

mined as 24-Hydroxyceanothic acid, known as granulosic acid. Although dimethyl granulosate **3a**, has been previously reported from the heartwood of *Colubrina granulosa* [12] and also from *Paliurus ramosissimus* [13], the present study constitutes the first isolation of **3** as a pure natural product and is reported as a rare ceanothane triterpene. In addition to its ¹H NMR data, ¹³C and full 2D-NMR spectral data has been presented for the first time (see Table 3 and structure **3**).

Ceanothic acid **2** and daucosterol **4** were characterized by analysis of NMR spectra and comparison with the published data [12, 14]. The dammaranetype triterpene glycoside is the major compound in *Z. glabrata*. Jujubogenin glycosides, jujuboside A, C and lotoside I, II have been reported from Z. lotus [15] however, this is the first report of a pseudojujubogenin glycoside isolated from the genus, Zizyphus. The ceanothane triterpene, 3-O-protocatechuoylceanothic acid has been reported from Z. jujuba [16]. The isolation of the dammarane-type glycoside from a plant of the Zizyphus genus is not surprising, but it is remarkable to note that Z. glabrata produces both dammarane and the ceanothane class of terpenoids. Compound 1 was tested for its potential to inhibit various bacteria by established methods [17]. It inhibited the growth of Bacillus pumilus, Staphylococcus aureus, Escherichia coli and Proteus vulgaris with MICs being 51.2, 102.2, 12.8, 25.6 µg/ml, respectively. The dammarane and ceanothane terpenoids have been reported to possess potent anti-inflammatory activity [18], the biological activities of the three compounds are of interest and are presently taken up for investigation.

Experimental Section

General experimental procedures

Melting points were measured on a Cipla I-28 digital melting point apparatus and are reported uncorrected. The IR spectra were recorded on a Buck Scientific 500 infrared spectrophotometer. Silica gel (Acme, 60-120 mesh) for column chromatography and silica gel (Acme) was used for preparative thin layer chromatography. Spots on chromatogram were detected under UV light and by spraying with 5% H₂SO₄ in methanol. The NMR experiments were performed on a Bruker AVANCE DRX-500 spectrometer operating at 500.13 MHz and 125.77 MHz, respectively. Mass spectra were obtained using an Agilent 1100 series LC/MSD in APCI or API-ES mode.

Plant material

The leaves of *Z. glabrata* (1.2 kg) were collected at the Khailasa hills, India, in April 2002. The sample was authenticated by Dr. M. Venkaiah, Taxonomist, Botany Department, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam. A voucher specimen (SG/ZGL/03/345) has been deposited at the Herbarium, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam India (Herbarium Code = SKU).

Extraction and isolation

Powdered plant material (900 g) was extracted in a Soxhlet apparatus, successively with hexane, CHC1₃ and MeOH and the extracts were concentrated using a rotary evaporator at a maximum temperature of 45 °C. The dark viscous green residue 11 g from the methanol extract was separated over silica gel eluting with different mixtures of petroleum ether-chloroform and chloroform-methanol to give 25 fractions. Fraction 12–18 were combined, purified by repeated preparative TLC that recrystallized from methanol to give 2 (43.0 mg) and 3 (38.0 mg). Fraction 20 was further purified by repeated small column chromatography and recrystallized with chloroform-methanol to give 1 (64.0 mg). Fraction 23 from the original column was crystallized using methanol to give 4 (14.0 mg).

Pseudojujubogenin-3-O-β-D-glucopyranoside (1): Pale green amorphous powder, m. p. 241-243 °C. –

 The Wealth of India, Raw materials, p. 124, Vol. II, Publications and Information Directorate CSIR, New Delhi (1976). IR (KBr): v = 3200, 3640 (OH), 1465, 1285, 1078, 1012 cm⁻¹. – ¹H NMR (500.13 MHz, d₅-pyridine, ¹³C NMR (125.77 MHz, d₅-pyridine), COSY, HMBC and NOESY see Tables 1 and 2 and structure **1**. -HR-EIMS: m/z (%) = 650 (18) (M⁺). -C₃₆H₅₈O₁₀ (650.85): calcd. C 66.43, H 8.98, O 24.58; found C 66.32, H 8.94, O 24.54.

Ceanothic acid (2): Colourless needles from Me₂COmethanol, m.p. 356-357 °C. Lit. m.p. 333-335 °C dec. $-[\alpha]_{D}^{24} = -51.5^{\circ}$ (c, 1.01 in CHCl₃). IR and MS in agreement with the published data [12]. ¹H NMR (500.13 MHz, d₅-pyridine) $\delta = 1.09, 1.17, 1.29, 1.41, 1.44, 1.68 (6 \times s, 1.41)$ 18H, CHMe) 1.71, (m, 1H, 18-H), 3.22 (s, IH, 1-H), 4.84 (s, 1H, 3-H), 2.23 (d, 1H, J = 2.8 Hz, 5/9-H), 1.45, 1.54 (m, 2H, 6/7-H), 1.60, (m, 1H, 11-H), 2.11 (d, 1H, J = 11.4 Hz, 11-H), 1.34, (m, 1H, 12-H), 1.98 (d, 1H, J = 10.5 Hz, 12-H), 2.79 (dd, 1H, J = 2.8, 8.5 Hz, 13-H), 1.25, (m, 1H, 15-H), 1.92 (dd, 1H, J = 2.8, 10.5Hz, 15-H), 1.50, 2.61 (d, 2H, J = 11.4 Hz, 16=H), 3.51 (d, 1H, J = 2.3 Hz, 19-H), 1.50, 2.23 (m, 1H, 21-H), 1.50, 2.23 (m, 1H, 22-H), 4.68, (s, 1H, 30-H (CH₂=C), 4.87 (d, 1H, J = 10.0 Hz, 30-H (CH₂=C). ¹³C NMR (d₅-pyridine) $\delta = 20.7$ (24-CH₂), 15.5, 17.4, 19.2, 20.0, 31.9 (all CHMe), 67.4 (C-1), 85.1 (C-3), 44.2 (C-4), 57.4 (C-5), 19.5 (C-6), 35.1 (C-7), 42.5 (C-8), 45.5 (C-9), 50.0 (C-10), 24.6 (C-11), 26.6 (C-12), 39.5 (C-13), 43.9 (C-14), 30.9 (C-15), 33.3 (C-16), 57.0 (C-17), 50.1 (C-18), 48.0 (C-19), 31.7 (C-21), 38.0 (C-22), 110.1 (30-CH₂), 178.4 (2-COOH), 179.3 (28-COOH). NOESY correlations: H-1 \leftrightarrow H-3, H-19 \leftrightarrow H₂-30, H-5 \leftrightarrow H-3, $H_3-29 \leftrightarrow H_2-30a/b, H_3-23 \leftrightarrow H-3, H_3-24 \leftrightarrow H-3, H-13 \leftrightarrow H_3-a/b$ 26, H-13 \leftrightarrow H₂-12 and H₃-29 \leftrightarrow H-19.

Granulosic acid (**3**): Colourless flakes from methanol, m. p. 237–239 °C. $-[\alpha]_D^{24} = -51.5^{\circ}$ (*c*, 1.01 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (500.13 MHz, d₅-pyridine), ¹³C NMR (125.77 MHz, d₅-pyridine), COSY, HMBC and NOESY, see Table 3 and structure **3**. – HR-EIMS: *m/z* (%) = 502 (20) (M⁺). – C₃₀H₄₆O₆ (502.32): calcd. C 71.68, H 9.22, O 19.10; found C 71.64, H 9.16, O 19.06.

Daucosterol (4): White powder, m. p. 279–281 °C. Lit. m. p. 287–289 °C. IR (KBr): $v \text{ cm}^{-1}$, – ¹H NMR (500.13 MHz, d₅-pyridine), ¹³C NMR (125.77 MHz, d₅-pyridine) data was in agreement with the literature [14].

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