

A New Bioactive Steroidal Saponin from *Agave brittoniana*

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A new bisdesmosidic furostanol saponin was isolated from leaves of *Agave brittoniana* Trel. 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 ,6 α ,22 α ,2*R*)-26-(β -D-glucopyranosyloxy)-6,22-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 antiinflammatory activity using *in vivo* models.

Key words: *Agave brittoniana*, Agavaceae, Steroidal Saponin, Antiinflammatory Activity