

Isolation and Characterization of Two Verrucarins from *Myrothecium roridum*

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In the course of a screening for compounds inhibiting the growth of two human breast cancer cells lines, two highly cytotoxic compounds were isolated from fermentations of *Myrothecium roridum*. The elucidation of their structures revealed that they are macrocyclic trichothecenes of the verrucarins type, 16-hydroxyverrucarin A (**1**), reported here as a natural product for the first time, and verrucarins X (**2**), a new compound. Both **1** and **2** exhibit moderate antifungal activity and pronounced cytotoxic activity, with IC₅₀ values in the nanomolar (**1**) and micromolar (**2**) range. Both compounds preferentially inhibit *in vivo* protein biosynthesis.

Key words: 16-Hydroxyverrucarin A, Verrucarins X, *Myrothecium roridum*, Protein Synthesis Inhibitors