

Publication

Unusual derivatives from *Hypericum scabrum*

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Three new compounds (1-3) with unusual skeletons were isolated from the n-hexane extract of the air-dried aerial parts of *Hypericum scabrum*. Compound 1 represents the first example of an esterified polycyclic polyprenylated acylphloroglucinol that features a unique tricyclo-[4.3.1.1(1,4)]-undecane skeleton. Compound 2 is a fairly simple MPAP, but with an unexpected cycloheptane ring decorated with prenyl substituents, and compound 3 has an unusual 5,5-spiroketal lactone core. Their structures were determined by extensive spectroscopic and spectrometric techniques (1D and 2D NMR, HRESI-TOFMS). Absolute configurations were established by ECD calculations, and the absolute structure of 2 was confirmed by a single crystal determination. Plausible biogenetic pathways of compounds 1-3 were also proposed. The in vitro antiprotozoal activity of the compounds against *Trypanosoma brucei* rhodesiense and *Plasmodium falciparum* and cytotoxicity against rat myoblast (L6) cells were determined. Compound 1 showed a moderate activity against *T. brucei* and *P. falciparum*, with IC₅₀ values of 3.07 and 2.25 µM, respectively.

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