Atibaia - SP - Brazil



Oct. 26-29th 2015

CALANOLIDES E1 and E2, TWO PRENYLATED DIHYDROCOUMARINS WITH ANTIPARASITIC ACTIVITY FROM BARKS OF Calophyllum brasiliense (CLUSIACEAE)

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Infusion of stem bark of Calophyllum brasiliense (Clusiaceae) has been used, in folk medicine, to the treatment of rheumatism, varicose and ulcer while inflammatory processes could be reduced by treatment of infusion from leaves [1]. Chemically, this plant produces several metabolites such as xanthones, coumarins, alkaloids, and terpenoids [2]. Previously, our research group reported the isolation of one trypanocidal chromene, characterized as soulamarin [3]. In continuation to our studies, this work reports the isolation, characterization and antiparasitic potential of two diasteroisomeric coumarins, calanolides E1 and E2. Dried stem barks of C. brasiliense (72 g) were extracted with MeOH and the crude extract was partitioned with EtOAc/H₂O. The EtOAc phase displayed leishmanicidal activity against amastigote forms of L. (L). infantum (50% of death at 300 µg/mL) and trypanocidal activity against trypomastigote forms of T. cruzi (100% of death at 300 µg/mL). Aiming identification of bioactive compounds, EtOAc phase (3 g) was purified using column chromatography over Sephadex LH-20 (MeOH as eluent) to afford 9 groups (A - I). Group D (1228 mg) was purified using silica gel column (hexane:EtOAc:MeOH as eluent) providing a yellow amorphous solid (68 mg). Analysis of ¹H and ¹³C NMR as well as HRESIMS allowed the identification of a mixture of diasteroisomeric coumarins: calanolides E1 (I) and E2 (II) [3]. The mixture of I and II (1:2) displayed weak activity against L. (L.) infantum amastigotes (IC₅₀ = 75.3 μ g/mL) in comparison to positive control pentamidine (IC₅₀ = 7.3 μ g/mL). Otherwise, this mixture displayed activity against trypomastigote forms of T. cruzi with $IC_{50} = 13.0 \ \mu g/mL$, higher than the positive control benznidazole (IC₅₀ = 114.6 μ g/mL) and reduced toxicity against NCTC cells (CC₅₀ > 200 μ g/mL). To our knowledge, this is the first anti-trypanosomal activity attributed to compounds I and II suggesting that coumarins from C. brasiliense may be an interesting source to discovery of new prototypes to the treatment of Chagas disease (FAPESP, CNPq, CAPES).



References:

[1] Noldin, V.F. et al., 2006. Gênero Calophyllum: importância química e farmacológica. Quim. Nova, 29, 549-554.

[2] Rea, A. *et al.*, 2013. Soulamarin isolated from *Calophyllum brasiliense* (Clusiaceae) induces plasma permeabilization of *Trypanosoma cruzi* and mytochondrial dysfunction. *Plos Negl. Trop. Dis.*, 7, 12, 2556-2569.

[3] Karshman, Y. *et al.*, 1992. The calanolides, a novel HIV - inhibitory class of coumarin derivatives from the tropical rainforest tree, *Calophyllum lanigerum. J. Med. Chem.*, 35, 2735-2743.