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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Chemical Constituents from the Rhizomes of *Cyperus Rotundus* L.

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Abstract:

Background:

Cyperus rotundus L. (Cyperaceae), is a perennial sedge distributed throughout India and other parts of the world. Its tubers are used as an appetizer, febrifuge and to treat bleeding, blisters, boils, cough, diarrhea, inflammation, lacteal disorders, rheumatoid arthritis, stomach ailments, skin rashes, thirst, vomiting, worm infestation and wounds.

Objective:

Our study was planned to isolate chemical constituents from the rhizomes of *C. rotundus* and to characterized their structures.

Method:

The air-dried rhizome powder was exhaustively extracted with methanol in a Soxhlet apparatus. The concentrated methanol extract was adsorbed on silica gel (60-120 mesh) for the preparation of a slurry. The dried slurry was chromatographed over silica gel column packed in petroleum ether. The column was eluted with petroleum ether, chloroform and methanol, successively, in order of increasing polarity to isolate the compounds.

Results:

Phytochemical investigation of the tubers led to isolate a sesquiterpenone characterized as 12-methyl cyprot-3-en-2-one-13-oic acid (**1**), two aliphatic ketone viz. *n*-dotriacontan-15-one (**2**) and *n*-tetracontan-7-one (**8**), fatty esters *n*-pentadecanyl octadec-9, 12-dienoate (*n*-pentadecanyl linoleate, **3**), *n*-hexadecanyl linoleate (**4**), *n*-hexadecanyl oleate (**5**) and *n*-pentacos-13'-enyl octadec-9-enoate (*n*-pentacos-13'-enyl oleate, **9**), two steroidal esters stigmast-5,22-dien-3 β -olyl *n*-dodecanoate (stigmasterol laurate, **6**) and stigmast-5, 22-dien-3 β -olyl *n*-tetradecanoate (stigmasterol myristate, **7**), β -sitosterol-3 β -O-glucoside (**10**) and a triterpenic glycosidic ester lup-12, 20 (29)-dien-3 β -ol-3- α -L-arabinopyranosyl-2'-oleate (lupenyl 3 β -O-arabinopyranosyl 2'-oleate, **11**). The structures of these compounds were established by spectral data analysis and chemical reactions.

Conclusion:

A sesquiterpene identified as cyprot-3-en-2-one-14-oic acid, two aliphatic ketones, fatty esters, two steroidal esters, β -sitosterol-3 β -O-glucoside and lupenyl 3 β -O-arabinopyranosyl 2'-oleate were isolated for the first time from the rhizomes.

Keywords: *Cyperus rotundus*, Tubers, Acyl esters, Aliphatic ketones, Sterol esters, Lupenyl, Glycoside, Structure elucidation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Cyperus rotundus L. (Cyperaceae), syn. *C. maritimus* Bojer; *Pycneus rotundus* (L.) Hayek (Cyperaceae), known as nagarmotha, saad kufi and nut grass, is considered as one of the world's worst weeds. It is an indigenous to India, but now found in tropical, subtropical and temperate regions of the world [1]. It is a smooth, erect and perennial herb

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having wiry, slender, scaly, creeping, dark and persistent rhizomes [2]. Its tubers are used to treat loss of appetite, excess bleeding, blisters, boils, cough, diarrhea, fevers, inflammation, lacteal disorders, rheumatoid arthritis, stomach ailments, skin rashes, excessive thirst, vomiting, worm infestation and wounds [3 - 5]. In Ayurvedic medicine, the rhizomes are considered as an analgesic, antiseptic, antispasmodic, antitussive, aromatic, astringent, carminative, diaphoretic, diuretic, emmenagogue, litholytic, sedative, stimulant, stomachic, vermifuge and tonic; prescribed to treat amenorrhea, bronchitis, cervical cancer, colic, cough, diarrhea, dysentery, dysmenorrhea, dyspepsia, dysuria, fever, flatulence, food toxicity, indigestion, infertility, insect bites, intestinal parasites, deficient lactation, malaria, loss of memory, menstrual disorders, nausea, renal and vesical calculi, skin diseases, urinary tenesmus, vomiting and wounds [6, 7]. A decoction of the rhizomes with stem bits of *Tinospora cordifolia* and dried ginger is given to alleviate malarial fever. The rhizome decoction with the leaves of *Fumaria indica*, *Swertia chirayita*, black pepper and ginger is taken to relieve typhoid fever. The rhizome juice is given to allay constipation [2]. The rhizome mixed with ginger and honey is ingested against dysentery and gastric and intestinal troubles. A fresh tuber paste is applied to the breast as a galactagogue [8]. In the Egyptian folk medicine, the tubers are used as an anthelmintic, aphrodisiac, diuretic, sedative, carminative, stimulant, tonic, stomachic and as a remedy for renal colic and dysentery [9]. An essential oil from the tuber is used in perfumery and to make soap and insect repellent creams [7]. A decoction of the roots and tubers is an excellent antidote to all poisons. The tubers improve blood circulation and are effective in gynecological diseases caused by blood stagnation [10].

The rhizomes contained cyperene, cyperone, nor-rotundone, isorotundone, cypera-2,4(15)-diene, cyperadione and other essential oil components [11 - 19], sugetriol triacetate [20], caryophyllene, its oxide and caryophylla-6-one [21¹], patchoulone, 4,7-dimethyl-1-tetralone and 10,12-peroxycalamenene [22], 4,5-secoeudesmanolide, 10-epi-4,5-secoeudesmanolide, cyclic acetal cyperolone, musktakone, nootkatone, rotunols [23], β -sitosterol, oleonic acid-3-O-neohesperidoside [24], rhamnatin 3-O-rhamnosyl rhamnopyranoside [24], rotundines [25], flavonoids [26 - 28], phenylpropanoids [29 - 32] phenolic acids [30, 33], alkaloids [25], saponins [24, 33] and triterpenic glycosides [34]. The present paper describes the isolation and characterization of a sesquiterpenic keto acid, aliphatic ketones, fatty esters, steroids and a lupenyl glycosidic ester from the tubers of *C. rotundus* collected from Delhi.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

2.1. General Procedures

Melting points were determined on a Perfit melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. UV spectra were determined on Shimadzu-120 double beam spectrophotometer with methanol as a solvent. IR spectra were recorded in KBr pellet on Shimadzu FTIR-8400 spectrophotometer. The ¹H and ¹³C-NMR spectra were scanned on Bruker DRX (300 MHz) instrument using TMS as an internal standard and coupling constants (J values) are expressed in Hertz (Hz). Mass spectra were recorded by affecting electron impact ionization at 70 eV on a Jeol SX-102 mass spectrometer equipped with direct inlet prob system. The *m/z* values of the more intense peaks are mentioned and the figures in bracket attached to each *m/z* values indicated relative intensities with respect to the base peak. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (60-120 mesh; Qualigen, Mumbai, India). TLC was run on silica gel G 60 F₂₅₄ precoated TLC plates (Merck, Mumbai, India). Spots were visualised by exposing to iodine vapours, UV radiations (254 and 366 nm) and spraying with ceric sulphate solution.

2.2. Plant Material

The tubers of *C. rotundus* were obtained from a Delhi market and authenticated by Prof. M.P. Sharma, Taxonomist, Department of Botany, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi. A voucher specimen is preserved in the herbarium of the Department of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi.

2.3. Extraction and Isolation

The tubers (2.5 kg) were air dried, coarsely powdered and exhaustively extracted with methanol in a Soxhlet apparatus for 72 hours. The methanolic extract was evaporated under reduced pressure to get a brown viscous mass (186 g, 7.4% yield). The dried extract was dissolved in minimum quantity of methanol and added to silica gel (60-120 mesh) to prepare a slurry. It was air-dried, powdered and loaded on a silica gel column prepared in petroleum ether. The column was run with petroleum ether (b. p. 60 - 80°C), petroleum ether - chloroform (9:1, 3:1, 1:1, 1:3, v/v), chloroform and chloroform - methanol (99:1, 49:1, 19:5, 9:1, 17:3, 4:1, 7:3, 1:1, v/v). Various fractions were collected separately and matched by TLC to check homogeneity. Similar fractions having the same R_f values were combined and crystallized.

The isolated compounds were recrystallized to get pure compounds. The following compounds were isolated:

2.4. 12-Methyl Cyprot-3-en-2-one-13-oic Acid (1)

Elution of the column with petroleum ether gave colorless crystals of **1**, 78 mg, m. p. 55 - 56° C, UV λ_{\max} (MeOH): 213 nm (log ϵ 4.2); IR γ_{\max} (KBr): 3363, 2927, 2842, 1703, 1685, 1645, 1426, 1372, 1218, 1178, 1015, 982, 808 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 5.72 (1H, s, H-3), 2.59 (1H, m, $w_{1/2}$ = 8.7 Hz, H-1 β), 2.05 (1H, m, H-12), 1.80 (1H, m, H₂-5 β), 1.75 (1H, m, H₂-5 α), 1.62 (1H, m, H-6 α), 1.25 (3H, s, Me-9), 1.21 (3H, s, Me-10), 1.14 (3H, d, J = 6.2 Hz, Me-14), 0.83 (3H, s, Me-15), 0.65 (3H, d, J = 6.5 Hz, Me-11); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 58.68 (C-1), 210.98 (C-2), 133.16 (C-3), 145.66 (C-4), 31.98 (C-5), 32.76 (C-6), 45.29 (C-7), 41.21 (C-8), 24.83 (C-9), 26.98 (C-10), 19.57 (C-11), 29.76 (C-12), 181.93 (C-13), 16.88 (C-14), 8.41 (C-15); ESI MS m/z (rel.int.): 250 $[\text{M}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_3$) (2.6).

2.5. *n*-Dotriacontan-16-one (2)

Elution of the column with petroleum ether – chloroform (9:1) furnished colorless powder of **2**, 188 mg, m. p. 54 – 56 °C, UV λ_{\max} (MeOH): 213 nm; IR γ_{\max} (KBr): 2927, 2847, 1708, 1635, 1457, 1372, 1248, 1176, 1061, 723 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 2.34 (2H, m, H₂-14), 2.16 (2 H, m, H₂-16), 1.73 (2 H, m, CH₂), 1.65 (2 H, m, CH₂), 1.33 (2 H, m, CH₂), 1.28 (6 H, br s, 3 x CH₂), 1.23 (42 H, br s, 21 x CH₂), 0.86 (3 H, t, J = 6.6 Hz, Me-32), 0.83 (3 H, t, J = 6.1 Hz, Me-1); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 193.76 (C-15), 31.98 (CH₂), 29.78 (26 x CH₂), 29.37 (CH₂), 22.79 (CH₂), 14.89 (Me-1), 14.09 (Me-32); ESI MS m/z (rel. int.): 464 $[\text{M}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{64}\text{O}$) (1.2), 225 (9.3), 177 (6.8).

2.6. *n*-Pentadecanyl Linoleate (3)

Elution of the column with petroleum ether - chloroform (3: 1) yielded colorless crystals of **3**, recrystallized from acetone – methanol (1:1); 132 mg; R_f: 0.70 (petroleum ether – chloroform - methanol, 2:7:1); m. p. 80-81 C; IR γ_{\max} (KBr): 2917, 2849, 1737, 1641, 1462, 1261, 1098, 1022, 802, 719 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 5.82 (1H, m, H-10), 5.34 (1H, m, H-12), 5.01 (1H, m, H-9), 4.95 (1H, m, H-13), 4.07 (2H, t, J = 6.6 Hz, H₂-1'), 2.48 (2H, m, H₂-11), 2.31 (2H, t, J = 7.2 Hz, H₂-2), 2.04 (2H, m, H₂-8), 2.02 (2H, m, H₂-14), 1.61 (4H, m, 2 x CH₂), 1.25 (38H, brs, 19 x CH₂), 0.89 (3H, t, J = 5.7 Hz, Me-18), 0.85 (3H, t, J = 6.3 Hz, Me-15'). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 169.83 (C-1), 139.17 (C-10), 135.76 (C-12), 119.81 (C-9), 116.89 (C-10), 64.13 (C-1'), 56.03 (CH₂), 42.83 (CH₂), 31.09 (CH₂), 29.70 (21 x CH₂), 22.68 (CH₂), 15.03 (Me-18), 14.16 (Me-15'). ESI MS m/z (rel.int.): 490 $[\text{M}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{62}\text{O}_2$) (1.3), 279 (5.8), 263 (12.3), 227 (31.0).

2.7. *n*-Hexadecanyl Linoleate (4)

Further elution of the column with petroleum ether – chloroform (3:1) produced pale yellow semisolid mass of **4**, 182 mg, UV λ_{\max} (MeOH): 215 nm; IR γ_{\max} (KBr): 2931, 2841, 1733, 1645, 1459, 1369, 1257, 1170, 891, 725 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 5.36 (1H, m, H-9), 5.33 (2H, m, H-10, H-12), 5.29 (1H, m, H-13), 4.12 (2H, t, J = 6.8 Hz, H₂-1'), 2.57 (2H, m, H-11), 2.35 (2H, t, J = 7.2 Hz, H₂-2), 2.06 (2 H, m, H₂-8), 1.73 (2 H, m, CH₂-14), 1.62 (2 H, m, CH₂), 1.55 (2H, m, CH₂), 1.34 (6 H, brs, 3 x CH₂), 1.28 (34 H, br s, 17 x CH₂), 0.87 (3 H, t, J = 6.2 Hz, Me-18), 0.84 (3 H, t, J = 6.5 Hz, Me-16'); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 172.96 (C-1), 133.28 (C-9), 128.27 (C-10), 125.91 (C-12), 118.08 (C-13), 64.47 (C-1'), 33.45 (CH₂), 32.21 (CH₂), 31.89 (CH₂), 29.75 (20 x CH₂), 29.64 (CH₂), 29.37 (CH₂), 22.67 (CH₂), 14.27 (Me-18), 14.13 (Me-16'); ESI-MS m/z (rel. int.): 504 $[\text{M}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{64}\text{O}_2$) (1.2), 279 (11.3), 263 (10.6).

2.8. *n*-Hexadecanyl Oleate (5)

Elution of the column with petroleum ether – chloroform (1:1) afforded a semisolid mass of **5**, 163 mg, UV λ_{\max} (MeOH): 212 nm; IR γ_{\max} (KBr): 2925, 2845, 1731, 1643, 1455, 1372, 1248, 1173, 1121, 723 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 5.33 (2H, m, H-9, H-10), 4.19 (2H, t, J = 7.2 Hz, H₂-1'), 2.37 (2H, t, J = 7.5 Hz, H₂-2'), 2.15 (2H, m, H₂-8), 2.06 (2H, m, H₂-11), 1.63 (4H, m, 2 x CH₂), 1.34 (8H, br s, 4 x CH₂), 1.28 (12H, br s 6 x CH₂), 1.25 (26H, br s 13 x CH₂), 0.89 (3H, t, J = 6.6 Hz, Me-18), 0.83 (3H, t, J = 6.3 Hz, Me-16'); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 171.53 (C-1), 126.17 (C-9), 123.51 (C-10), 63.16 (C-1'), 32.81 (CH₂), 32.08 (CH₂), 29.83 (19 x CH₂), 29.79 (CH₂), 29.56 (CH₂), 29.35 (CH₂), 29.18 (CH₂), 27.43 (CH₂), 25.21 (CH₂), 22.69 (CH₂), 14.22 (Me-18), 14.08 (Me-16'); ESI MS m/z (rel. int.): 506 $[\text{M}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{66}\text{O}_2$) (2.7), 281 (9.8), 265 (17.3).

2.9. Stigmasteryl Laurate (6)

Elution of the column with petroleum ether-chloroform (1:3) mixture offered colorless crystals of **6**, recrystallized from chloroform-methanol (1:1), 268 mg; R_f : 0.73 (petroleum ether - chloroform - methanol, 6:3.5:0.5); m. p., 90 – 91 °C; UV λ_{max} (MeOH): 211 nm (log ϵ 5.8); IR γ_{max} (KBr): 2920, 2852, 1743, 1641, 1463, 1373, 1225, 1173, 801, 734 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$): δ 5.35 (1H, m, H-6), 5.13 (1H, m, H-22), 5.01 (1H, m, H-23), 3.51 (1H, brm, $w_{1/2}$ = 16.5 Hz, H-3 α), 2.25 (2H, t, J = 5.2 Hz, H₂-2'), 1.04 (3H, brs, Me-19), 0.93 (3H, d, J = 6.3 Hz, Me-21), 0.87 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz, Me-26), 0.85 (3H, d, J = 6.0 Hz, Me-27), 0.83 (3H, t, J = 6.1 Hz, Me-12'), 0.80 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz, Me-29), 0.67 (3H, brs, Me-18), 2.39–1.17 (41 H, m, 17 x CH_2 , 7 x CH); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$): δ 36.68 (C-1), 31.08 (C-2), 71.83 (C-3), 41.90 (C-4), 141.07 (C-5), 121.72 (C-6), 31.13 (C-7), 31.08 (C-8), 49.35 (C-9), 38.02 (C-10), 21.07 (C-11), 39.76 (C-12), 41.88 (C-13), 55.96 (C-14), 24.17 (C-15), 28.67 (C-16), 55.36 (C-17), 11.29 (C-18), 19.20 (C-19), 36.68 (C-20), 18.27 (C-21), 138.31 (C-22), 130.81 (C-23), 45.10 (C-24), 27.28 (C-25), 20.31 (C-26), 18.67 (C-27), 23.11 (C-28), 11.25 (C-29), 173.12 (C-1'), 40.04 (C-2'), 31.42 (CH_2), 30.24 (CH_2), 28.52 (2 x CH_2), 28.37 (4 x CH_2), 25.18 (CH_2), 22.63 (CH_2), 13.67 (C-12'); ESI MS m/z (rel. int.): 594 [M]⁺ ($C_{41}H_{70}O_2$) (6.2), 578 (19.3), 411 (37.8), 395 (100), 394 (41.3), 381 (15.2), 271 (10.2), 255 (23.6), 240 (13.2), 213 (26.5), 198 (21.3), 183 (16.2).

2.10. Stigmasteryl Myristate (7)

Further elution of the column with petroleum ether - chloroform (1: 3) mixture gave colorless crystals of **7**, recrystallized from chloroform - methanol (1:1), 151 mg (0.15% yield), R_f : 0.63 (petroleum ether: chloroform: 7:3), m. p. 75 - 76 °C, UV λ_{max} (MeOH): 209, 229 nm (log ϵ 5.2, 3.1); IR γ_{max} (KBr): 2927, 2857, 1737, 1640, 1464, 1375, 1244, 1181, 1106, 1049, 960, 801, 727 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$): δ 5.35 (1H, m, H-6), 5.16 (1H, m, H-22), 5.03 (1H, m, H-23), 3.50 (1H, brm, $w_{1/2}$ = 16.5 Hz, H-3 α), 2.28 (2H, t, J = 7.2 Hz, H-2'), 1.04 (3H, brs, Me-19), 0.93 (3H, d, J = 6.2 Hz, Me-21), 0.87 (3H, d, J = 6.4 Hz, Me-26), 0.85 (3H, d, J = 6.1 Hz, Me-27), 0.83 (3H, t, J = 6.3 Hz, Me-14'), 0.80 (3H, d, J = 5.6 Hz, Me-29), 2.35 -1.25 (47 H, m, 20 x CH_2 , 7 x CH), 0.67 (3H, brs, Me-18); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$): δ 36.72 (C-1), 31.10 (C-2), 71.81 (C-3), 41.95 (C-4), 140.71 (C-5), 121.69 (C-6), 31.23 (C-7), 31.05 (C-8), 49.53 (C-9), 38.95 (C-10), 23.56 (C-11), 39.19 (C-12), 41.87 (C-13), 55.99 (C-14), 24.09 (C-15), 28.87 (C-16), 55.35 (C-17), 11.37 (C-18), 19.25 (C-19), 36.72 (C-20), 18.37 (C-21), 139.83 (C-22), 125.62 (C-23), 45.08 (C-24), 27.83 (C-25), 20.36 (C-26), 18.87 (C-27), 22.51 (C-28), 11.58 (C-29), 173.12 (C-1'), 40.04 (C-2'), 31.44 (CH_2), 30.18 (CH_2), 28.59 (7 x CH_2), 27.11 (CH_2), 22.68 (CH_2), 14.26 (C-14'); ESI MS m/z (rel.int.): 622 [M]⁺ ($C_{43}H_{74}O_2$) (5.3), 607 (8.3), 411 (37.2), 394 (12.6), 271 (11.3), 255 (21.6), (6.2), 228 (13.2), 213 (38.1) 211 (15.6), 198 (43.2), 173 (65.8), 159 (90.3), 145 (87.6), 133 (73.2), 192 (7.1), 178 (9.2), 164 (12.5), 122 (3.1), 108 (12.6), 95 (100).

2.11. *n*-Tetracontan-7-One (8)

Elution of the column with chloroform produced colorless crystals of **8**, 134 mg, m. p. 89 – 91 °C, UV λ_{max} (MeOH): 212 nm; IR γ_{max} (KBr): 2925, 2841, 1709, 1637, 1461, 1376, 1255, 1172, 1066, 725 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$): δ 2.33 (2H, m, H₂-6), 2.12 (2 H, m, H₂-8), 1.63 (2 H, m, CH_2), 1.55 (2 H, m, CH_2), 1.32 (8 H, m, 4 x CH_2), 1.29 (14 H, br s, 7 x CH_2), 1.24 (44 H, br s, 22 x CH_2), 0.87 (3 H, t, J = 6.3 Hz, Me-1), 0.82 (3 H, t, J = 6.6 Hz, Me-40); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$): δ 195.73 (C-7), 31.92 (CH_2), 31.81 (CH_2), 29.70 (33 x CH_2), 29.35 (CH_2), 22.67 (CH_2), 13.22 (Me-1), 12.91 (Me-40); ESI MS m/z (rel. int.): 576 [M]⁺ ($C_{40}H_{80}O$) (5.8), 491 (11.3), 463 (6.2).

2.12. *n*-Pentacos-13'-enyl Oleate (9)

Further elution of the column with chloroform offered light yellow crystals of **9**, recrystallized from acetone - methanol (1:1), 210 mg (0.21% yield); R_f : 0.63 (petroleum ether - chloroform - methanol, 5:4:1); m. p. 63-64 °C; IR γ_{max} (KBr): 2917, 2849, 1733, 1644, 1463, 1265, 1097, 912, 804, 721 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$): δ 5.67 (1H, m, H-13'), 5.37 (1H, m, H-14'), 5.21 (1H, m, H-9), 5.16 (1H, m, H-10), 3.98 (2H, t, J = 6.8 Hz, H₂-1'), 2.24 (2H, t, J = 7.2 Hz, H₂-2), 2.06 (2H, m, H₂-11) 1.98 (2H, m, H₂-8), 1.96 (4H, m, H₂-12', H₂-15'), 1.53 (4H, m, 2 x CH_2), 1.18 (56H, brs, 28 x CH_2), 0.83 (3H, t, J = 6.3 Hz, Me-18), 0.78 (3H, t, J = 6.1 Hz, Me-25'). ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$): δ 173.16 (C-1), 136.06 (C-9), 125.87 (C-10), 120.08 (C-13'), 114.06 (C-14'), 62.81 (C-1'), 51.25 (CH_2), 33.82 (CH_2), 31.93 (CH_2), 29.70 (31 x CH_2), 22.69 (CH_2), 14.11 (Me-18), 14.09 (C-25'); ESI MS m/z (rel int): 630 [M]⁺ ($C_{43}H_{82}O_2$) (1.3), 365 (100), 265 (12.2), 181 (16.5), 155 (25.1).

2.13. β -Sitosterol-3 β -O-glucoside (10)

Elution of the column with chloroform: methanol (19: 1) produced colorless amorphous powder of **10**, recrystallized from methanol; 275 mg, R_f : 0.72 (chloroform: methanol, 9.3:0.7); m. p. 275-277 °C; UV λ_{max} (MeOH): 241 nm (log ϵ 2.9); IR γ_{max} (KBr): 3401, 3321, 2918, 2849, 1654, 1377, 1261, 1172, 1082 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ 5.32 (1H, m, H-6), 5.14 (1H, d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-1'), 4.81 (1H, m, H-5'), 3.76 (1H, m, H-2'), 3.54 (1H, m, H-3'), 3.43 (1H, m, H-4'), 3.57 (1H, brs, $w_{1/2} = 18.5$ Hz, H-3), 3.17 (2H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, H₂-6'), 1.04 (3H, brs, Me-19), 0.95 (3H, d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, Me-21), 0.85 (3H, d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, Me-26), 0.82 (3H, d, $J = 6.3$ Hz, Me-27), 0.77 (3H, t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, Me-29), 0.66 (3H, brs, Me-18), 2.65 - 1.05 (29H, m, 11 \times CH₂, 7 \times CH); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 38.63 (C-1), 33.85 (C-2), 73.46 (C-3), 42.27 (C-4), 140.18 (C-5), 122.21 (C-6), 36.18 (C-7), 31.89 (C-8), 50.17 (C-9), 37.19 (C-10), 25.26 (C-11), 39.71 (C-12), 42.27 (C-13), 56.69 (C-14), 24.29 (C-15), 29.34 (C-16), 55.98 (C-17), 11.76 (C-18), 19.74 (C-19), 36.69 (C-20), 21.19 (C-21), 29.14 (C-22), 28.25 (C-23), 45.81 (C-24), 29.67 (C-25), 18.94 (C-26), 19.36 (C-27), 22.94 (C-28), 11.86 (C-29), 101.95 (C-1'), 76.26 (C-2'), 75.63 (C-3'), 69.97 (C-4'), 79.24 (C-5'), 61.78 (C-6'); ESI MS m/z (rel. int.): 576 [M]⁺ (C₃₅H₆₀O₆) (44.4), 413 (31.5), 179 (10.3).

2.14. Lupenyl 3 β -O-Arabinopyranosyl 2'-Oleate (11)

Elution of the column with chloroform – methanol (9: 3) furnished colorless crystals of **11**, recrystallized from chloroform – methanol (1: 1), 251 mg, m. p. 221 – 224 °C, UV λ_{max} (MeOH): 213 nm; IR γ_{max} (KBr): 3421, 3328, 2928, 2843, 1732, 1645, 1465, 1378, 1182, 725 cm^{-1} ; 1H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.35 (1H, d, $J = 5.6$ Hz, H-12), 5.32 (1H, m, H-9''), 5.29 (1H, m, H-10''), 5.17 (1H, d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-1'), 4.71 (1H, br s, H₂ - 29a), 4.66 (1H, br s, H₂ - 29b), 4.53 (1H, m, H-2'), 4.54 (1H, dd, $J = 5.4, 7.5$ Hz, H-2'), 4.09 (1 H, m, H-3'), 4.03 (1 H, dd, $J = 5.3, 8.7$ Hz, H-3 α), 3.84 (2H, d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, H₂-5'), 3.46 (1H, m, H-4'), 2.33 (2H, t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, H₂-2''), 2.25 (2 H, m, H₂-8), 2.15 (2H, m, H₂-11), 1.66 (3H, br s, Me-30), 1.03 (3H, br s, Me-23), 0.97 (3H, br s, Me-25), 0.88 (3H, br s, Me-27), 0.86 (3H, br s, Me-28), 0.83 (3H, br s, Me-26), 0.81 (3H, br s, Me-24), 0.78 (3H, t, $J = 6.3$ Hz, Me-18''); ^{13}C -NMR (CDCl₃): δ 36.15 (C-1), 26.51 (C-2), 79.06 (C-3), 36.51 (C-4), 48.77 (C-5), 18.23 (C-6), 32.06 (C-7), 39.45 (C-8), 47.95 (C-9), 37.32 (C-10), 22.68 (C-11), 124.11 (C-12), 139.76 (C-13), 45.31 (C-14), 28.61 (C-15), 35.08 (C-16), 56.73 (C-17), 52.31 (C-18), 45.35 (C-19), 156.99 (C-20), 31.37 (C-21), 42.17 (C-22), 29.26 (C-23), 15.27 (C-24), 18.46 (C-25), 21.11 (C-26), 25.24 (C-27), 21.05 (C-28), 109.15 (C-29), 19.34 (C-30), 105.89 (C-1'), 80.33 (C-2'), 64.43 (C-3'), 68.31 (C-4'), 60.26 (C-5'), 173.85 (C-1''), 34.82 (C-2''), 29.78 (C-3''), 29.76 (C-4''), 29.69 (C-5''), 29.61 (C-6''), 29.58 (C-7''), 34.46 (C-8''), 130.09 (C-9''), 129.82 (C-10''), 32.81 (C-11''), 29.43 (C-12''), 29.32 (C-13''), 29.22 (C-14''), 28.65 (C-15''), 27.70 (C-16''), 22.67 (C-17''), 14.18 (C-18''); ESI MS m/z (rel. int.): 820 [M]⁺ (C₅₃H₈₈O₆) (2.3), 423 (21.2), 281 (35.2), 265 (8.3), 216 (11.2), 207 (18.5), 132 (6.1).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The compounds **3**, **4** and **5** were the common fatty esters characterized as *n*-pentadecanyl octadec-9, 12- dienoate (*n*-pentadecanyl linoleate, **3**), *n*-hexadecanyl linoleate (**4**) and *n*-hexadecanyl oleate (**5**) (Fig. 1).

Compound **1** yielded effervescences with sodium bicarbonate solution and exhibited IR absorption bands for carbonyl group (1703 cm^{-1}), unsaturation (1645 cm^{-1}) and carboxylic function (3363, 1685 cm^{-1}). On the basis of mass and ^{13}C NMR spectra, the molecular ion peak of **1** was established at m/z 250 consistent with a molecular formula of a sesquiterpene, C₁₅H₂₂O₃. The 1H NMR spectrum of **1** showed a one-proton singlet at δ 5.72 assigned to vinylic H-3 proton. Three singlets at δ 1.25, 1.21 and 0.83 and two doublets at δ 1.14 ($J = 6.2$ Hz) and 0.65 ($J = 6.5$ Hz), all integrated for three protons each, were attributed to tertiary C-9, C-10 and C-15 and secondary C-14 and C-11 methyl protons located on saturated carbons. The remaining methine and methylene protons resonated from δ 2.59 to 1.62. The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **1** exhibited signals for the carboxylic carbon at δ 181.93 (C-13), carbonyl carbon at δ 210.98 (C-2), vinylic carbons at δ 145.66 (C-2) and 133.16 (C-3) and methyl carbons at δ 24.83 (C-9), 26.98 (C-10), 19.57 (C-11), 16.88 (C-14) and 8.41 (C-15). On the basis of these evidences the structure of **1** has been established as 12-methyl cyprot-3-en-2-one-13-oic acid, a new cyprotene-type sesquiterpene (Fig. 1).

Compound **2** showed its IR absorption bands for carbonyl group (1708 cm^{-1}) and long aliphatic chain (723 cm^{-1}). Its mass spectrum displayed a molecular ion peak at m/z 464 corresponding to a molecular formula of an aliphatic ketone, C₃₂H₆₄O. The ion peaks generating at m/z 225 [C₁₅ – C₁₆ fission, CH₃ (CH₂)₁₃CO]⁺ and 177 [C₁₄ – C₁₅ fission, CH₃ (CH₂)₁₃]⁺ suggested the presence of the carbonyl function at C₁₅ carbon. The 1H NMR spectrum of **2** exhibited five two-proton multiplets from δ 2.34 to 1.33 and two broad singlets at δ 1.28 (6H) and 1.23 (42 H) assigned to methylene

protons. Two three-proton triplets at δ 0.86 ($J = 6.6$ Hz), 0.83 ($J = 6.1$ Hz) were accounted to terminal C-32 and C-1 primary methyl protons, respectively. The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **2** displayed signals for the carbonyl carbon at δ 191.75 (C-15), methylene carbons between δ 31.98 - 22.79 and methyl carbons at δ 14.89 (C-1) and 14.09 (C-32). The absence of any signal beyond δ 2.34 in the ^1H NMR spectrum and between δ 191.75 - 32.16 in the ^{13}C NMR spectrum ruled out the unsaturated nature of the molecule. On the basis of foregoing spectral data analysis, the structure of **2** has been elucidated as *n*-dotriacontan-15-one, a new aliphatic ketone (Fig. 1).

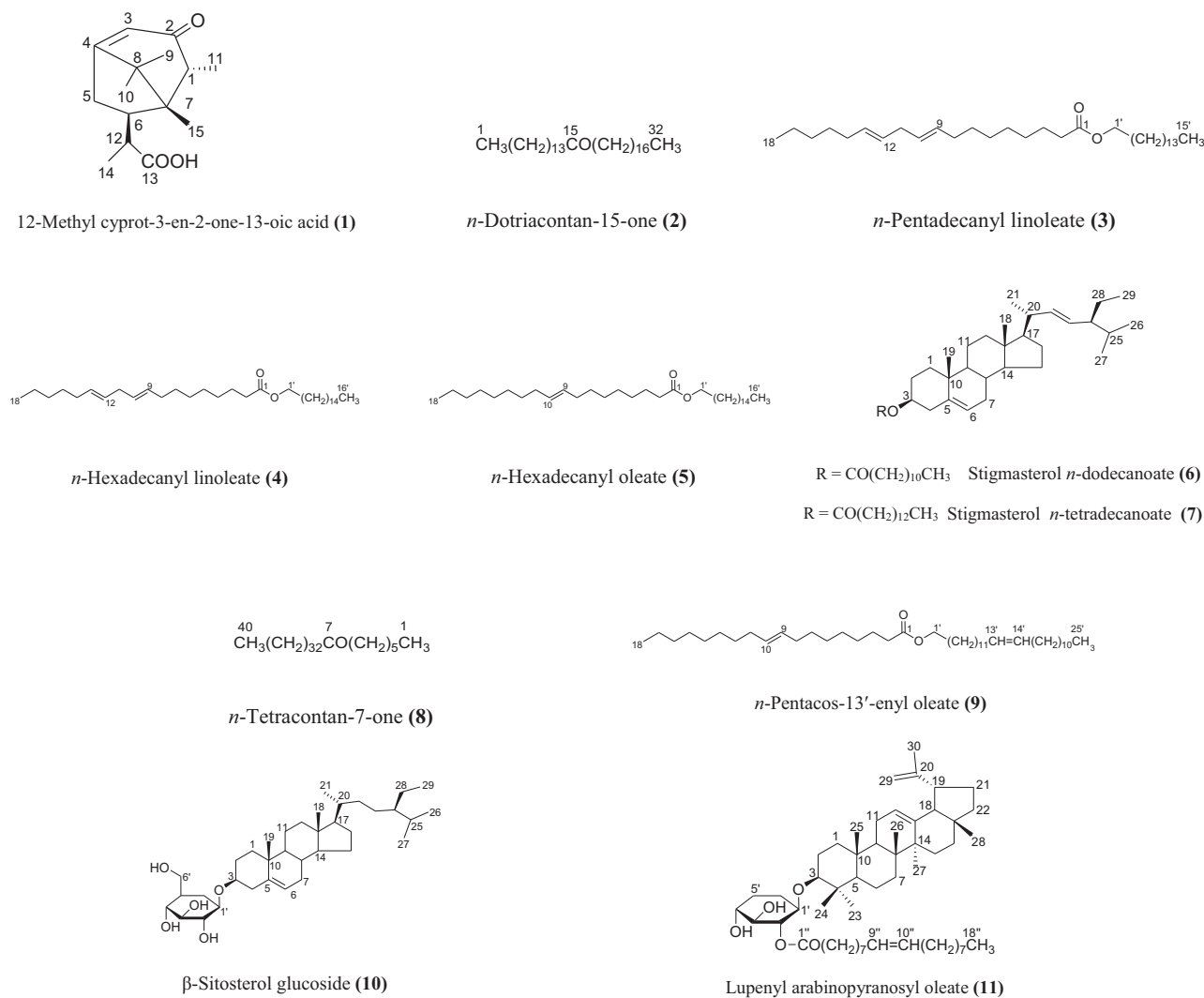


Fig. (1). Structural formulae of the chemical constituents 1 – 11.

Compound **6** gave positive tests of steroids and demonstrated IR absorption bands for ester group (1743 cm^{-1}), unsaturation (1641 cm^{-1}) and long aliphatic chain (734 cm^{-1}). On the basis of mass and ^{13}C NMR spectra, its molecular weight was established at m/z 594 consistent with the molecular formula of a steroid esterified with C_{12} fatty acid, $\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{70}\text{O}_2$. The prominent ion peaks generated at m/z 578 [$\text{M} - \text{Me}$] $^+$, 183 [$\text{CO}(\text{CH}_2)_{10}\text{CH}_3$] $^+$, 411 [$\text{M} - 183$] $^+$, 395 [411-Me] $^+$, 394 [411-OH] $^+$, 271 [411 - $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{19}$, side chain] $^+$, 255 [271 - Me] $^+$, 240 [255 - Me] $^+$, 213 [255 - ring D fission] $^+$ and 198 [213 - Me] $^+$ suggested that a C_{12} acyl moiety was esterified with a sterol containing a C_{10} unsaturated side chain. The ^1H NMR spectrum of **6** displayed three one-proton multiplets at δ 5.35, 5.13 and 5.01 assigned to vinylic H-6, H-22 and H-23 protons, respectively. A one-proton broad multiplet at δ 3.51 with half width of 16.5 Hz was attributed to α -oriented oxymethine H-3 proton. Two broad singlets at δ 0.67 and 1.04, four doublets at δ 0.93 ($J = 6.3$ Hz), 0.87 ($J = 6.6$ Hz), 0.85 ($J = 6.0$ Hz) and 0.80 ($J = 6.6$ Hz) and a triplet at δ 0.83 ($J = 6.1$ Hz), all integrating for three protons each, were accounted to tertiary C-18 and C-19, secondary C-21, C-26 and C-27 and primary C-29 and C-12' methyl

protons, respectively, all attached to the saturated carbons. A two-proton triplet at δ 2.25 ($J = 5.2$ Hz) was due to C-2' methylene protons adjacent to the ester group. The remaining methylene and methine protons resonated between δ 2.39 - 1.17. The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **6** showed important signals for the ester carbon at δ 173.12 (C-1'), vinylic carbons at δ 141.07 (C-5), 121.72 (C-6), 138.31 (C-22) and 130.81 (C-23), oxymethine carbon at δ 71.83 (C-3) and the other methyl, methylene and methine carbons between δ 55.36 - 11.25. Alkaline hydrolysis of **6** yielded stigmaterol, m. p. 162 - 164 °C, and lauric acid, m. p. 43 °C, R_f 0.24 (glacial acetic acid, 85%). The ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectral data of the steroidal nucleus were compared with other stigmastene-type molecules [35, 36]. On the basis of spectral data analysis and chemical reactions, the structure of **6** has been established stigmast-5,22-dien-3 β -olyl *n*-dodecanoate (stigmaterol laurate), a rare sterol ester present in tobacco smoke [37] (Fig. 1).

Compound **7** had IR absorption bands for ester group (1737 cm^{-1}), unsaturation (1640 cm^{-1}) and long aliphatic chain (727 cm^{-1}). On the basis of mass and ^{13}C NMR spectra, its molecular weight was determined at m/z 622 consistent with the molecular formula of a sterol ester $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{74}\text{O}_2$. The prominent ion fragments generating at m/z 607 $[\text{M} - \text{Me}]^+$, 211 $[\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{12}\text{CO}]^+$, 228 $[\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{12}\text{COOH}]^+$, 411 $[\text{M} - \text{CO}(\text{CH}_2)_{12}\text{CH}_3]^+$, 394 $[\text{M} - \text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{12}\text{COOH}]^+$, 271 $[\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{19}$, side chain] $^+$, 255 $[\text{271} - \text{Me}]^+$, 240 $[\text{255} - \text{Me}]^+$, 213 $[\text{255} - \text{ring D fission}]^+$ and 198 $[\text{213} - \text{Me}]^+$ suggested that the sterol was esterified with a C_{14} fatty acid. The ion peaks produced at m/z 108 $[\text{C}_{6,7} - \text{C}_{9,10}$ fission] $^+$, 122 $[\text{C}_{7,8} - \text{C}_{9,10}$ fission] $^+$, 164 $[\text{C}_{8,14} - \text{C}_{9,11}$ fission] $^+$, 178 $[\text{C}_{8,14} - \text{C}_{11,12}$ fission] $^+$ and 192 $[\text{C}_{8,14} - \text{C}_{12,13}$ fission] $^+$ supported the existence of one of the vinylic linkage in ring B at C₅ and saturated nature of the ring C. The ^1H NMR spectrum of **7** displayed three one - proton multiplets at δ 5.35, 5.16 and 5.03 ascribed to vinylic H-6, H-22 and H-23 protons, respectively. A one-proton broad multiplet at δ 3.50 with half-width of 16.5 Hz was attributed to α -oriented oxymethine H-3 proton. The methyl protons appeared as three - proton singlets at δ 1.04 (Me-19) and 0.67 (Me-18), as doublets at δ 0.93 ($J = 6.2$ Hz, Me-21), 0.87 ($J = 6.4$ Hz, Me-26), 0.85 ($J = 6.1$ Hz, Me-27) and 0.80 ($J = 5.6$ Hz, Me-29) and as a triplet at δ 0.83 ($J = 6.3$ Hz, Me-14'). The remaining methine and methylene protons resonated in the range δ 2.35 - 1.17. The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **7** showed important signals for ester carbon at δ 173.12 (C-1'), vinylic carbons at δ 140.71 (C-5), 121.69 (C-6), 139.83 (C-22) and 125.62 (C-23), oxymethine carbon at δ 71.81 (C-3) and methyl carbons between δ 22.50 - 11.37. The ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectral data of the steroidal nucleus of **7** were compared with reported data of related steroids [35, 36]. Alkaline hydrolysis of **7** afforded stigmaterol, m. p. 162 - 164 °C and myristic acid, m. p. 54 °C, R_f 0.58 (*n*-hexane). On the basis of the foregoing discussion the structure of **7** has been elucidated as stigmast-5, 22-dien-3 β -olyl *n*-tetradecanoate (stigmaterol myristate), a unique sterol ester present in tobacco smoke [37] (Fig. 1).

Compound **8** showed IR absorption bands for carbonyl group (1709 cm^{-1}) and long aliphatic chain (725 cm^{-1}). Its mass spectrum had a molecular ion peak at m/z 576 corresponding to a molecular formula of an aliphatic ketone, $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{80}\text{O}$. The ion peaks produced at m/z 491 $[\text{C}_7 - \text{C}_6$ fission, $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_5\text{CO}]^+$ and 463 $[\text{C}_7 - \text{C}_8$ fission, $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{32}]^+$ suggested the presence of the carbonyl function at C₇ carbon. The ^1H NMR spectrum of **8** exhibited three two-proton multiplets at δ 2.33, 2.09 and 1.55 and four broad singlets at δ 1.63 (4H), 1.32 (8H), 1.29 (12H) and 1.23 (44 H) assigned to methylene protons. Two three-proton triplets at δ 0.87 ($J = 6.3$ Hz) and 0.82 ($J = 6.6$ Hz) were accounted to terminal C-1 and C-40 primary methyl protons, respectively. The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **8** displayed signals for the carbonyl carbon at δ 195.73 (C - 7), methylene carbons between δ 31.92 - 22.67 and methyl carbons at δ 13.22 (C-1) and 12.91 (C-40). The absence of any signal beyond δ 2.33 in the ^1H NMR spectrum and between δ 195.73 - 31.92 in the ^{13}C NMR spectrum supported saturated nature of the molecule. On the basis of foregoing spectral data analysis, the structure of **8** has been elucidated as *n*-tetracontan-7-one, a new aliphatic ketone (Fig. 1).

Compound **9** showed IR absorption bands for ester group (1733 cm^{-1}), unsaturation (1644 cm^{-1}) and long aliphatic chain (721 cm^{-1}). On the basis of mass spectrum the molecular ion peak of **9** was determined at m/z 630 consistent with the molecular formula of a fatty acid ester, $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{82}\text{O}_2$. The generation of the ion peaks at m/z 365 $[\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{10}\text{CH}=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_{12}\text{O}]^+$ and 265 $[\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{CH}=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{CO}]^+$ indicated that a C_{25} alcohol was esterified with a C_{18} -fatty acid. The formation of the ion peaks at m/z 155 $[\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{10}]^+$ and 181 $[\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{10}\text{CH}=\text{CH}]^+$ supported the location of one of the vinylic linkage at C-14'. The ^1H NMR spectrum of **9** showed four one-proton multiplets at δ 5.67, 5.37, 5.21 and 5.16 assigned to vinylic H-13', H-14', H-9 and H-10 protons, respectively. Two two-proton triplets at δ 3.98 ($J = 6.8$ Hz) and 2.24 ($J = 7.2$ Hz) were ascribed to oxymethylene H₂-1' protons and methylene H₂-2 protons adjacent to the ester group, respectively. The remaining methylene protons appeared between δ 2.06 - 1.18. Two three-proton triplets at δ 0.83 ($J = 6.3$ Hz) and 0.78 ($J = 6.1$ Hz) were due to C-18 and C-25' primary methyl protons, respectively. The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **9** showed signals for ester carbon at δ 173.16 (C-1), vinylic carbons at δ 136.06 (C-9), 125.87 (C-10), 120.08 (C-13') and 114.06 (C - 14'), oxymethylene carbon at 62.81 (C-1'), other methylene carbons between δ 51.25 - 22.69 and methyl

carbons at δ 14.11 (C-18) and 14.09 (C-25'). On the basis of the foregoing account, the structure of **9** has been formulated as *n*-pentacos-13'-enyl *n*-octadec-9-enoate (*n*-pentacos-13'-enyl oleate), a new fatty ester (Fig. 1).

The compound **10** was a known steroidal glycoside characterized as β -sitosterol-3 β -O-glucoside [38, 39].

Compound **11** gave positive tests for triterpenic glycoside and showed characteristic IR absorption bands for hydroxyl groups (3421, 3328 cm^{-1}), ester function (1732 cm^{-1}), unsaturation (1645 cm^{-1}) and long aliphatic chain (725 cm^{-1}). Its molecular ion peak was determined on the basis of mass and ^{13}C NMR spectra at m/z 820 consistent to a molecular formula of a triterpenic glycosidic ester, $\text{C}_{53}\text{H}_{88}\text{O}_6$. The ion peaks arising at m/z 265 [C_{17} - O fission, $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{-CH=CH-(CH}_2)_7\text{CO}]^+$, 281 [C_{17} - O fission, $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{-CH=CH-(CH}_2)_7\text{COO}]^+$ and 423 [$\text{M} - \text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{-CH=CH-(CH}_2)_7\text{CO-C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}_4]^+$ indicated that oleic acid was linked to a pentose unit which are attached to a lupene-type triterpene. The ion peaks produced at m/z 207 and 216 due to Retro-Diels Alder fragmentation of ring C of the triterpenic unit suggested that one of the vinylic linkage was present at C_{12} carbon. The ^1H NMR spectrum of **11** exhibited two one - proton doublets at δ 5.35 ($J = 5.6$ Hz) and 5.17 ($J = 7.5$ Hz) and two one - proton multiplets at δ 5.32 and 5.29 assigned to vinylic H-12, anomeric H-1' and vinylic H-9'' and H-10'' protons, respectively. Two one - proton singlets at δ 4.71 and 4.66 were due to vinylic H_2 -29 methylene protons of the lupene-type triterpenic unit. A one - proton double doublet at δ 4.03 ($J = 5.3, 8.7$ Hz) was ascribed to oxymethine H-3 α proton. Another one - proton double doublet at δ 4.54 ($J = 5.4, 7.5$ Hz) was accounted to oxymethine H-2' proton and its deshielding nature suggested the location of ester formation at C-2'. The other sugar proton appeared as one-proton multiplets at δ 4.09 (H-4') and 3.46 (H-4') and as a two - proton doublet at δ 3.84 ($J = 7.0$ Hz, H_2 -5'). A two-proton triplet at δ 2.33 ($J = 7.2$ Hz) was due to methylene H_2 -2'' protons adjacent to the ester group. A three - proton singlet in the deshielded region at δ 1.66 was attributed to C-30 methyl protons located on C-20 vinylic carbon. The other methyl signals appeared as three - proton singlets from δ 1.02 to 0.83. A three - proton triplet at δ 0.78 ($J = 6.3$ Hz) was assigned to C-18'' primary methyl protons. The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **11** displayed signals for ester carbon at δ 173.85 (C-1''), vinylic carbons at δ 124.11 (C-12), 139.76 (C-13), 156.99 (C-20), 109.15 (C-29), 130.09 (C-9'') and 129.82 (C-10''), anomeric carbon at δ 105.89 (C-1'), oxymethine carbon at δ 79.06 (C-3), and other sugar carbons at δ 80.33 (C-2'), 64.43 (C-3'), 68.31 (C-4'), 60.26 (C-5'). The carbon signals of the triterpenic unit were compared with related lupene-type molecules [40]. Acid hydrolysis of **11** yielded lup-12, 20 (29)-dien-3 β -ol, α -L-arabinose and oleic acid, co-TLC comparable. On the basis of spectral data analysis and chemical reactions, the structure of **11** had been formulated as lup-12, 20 (29)-dien-3 β -ol-3- α -L-arabinopyranosyl-2'-oleate (lupenyl 3 β -O-arabinopyranosyl 2'-oleate). This is a new lupene-type triterpenic glycosidic ester (Fig. 1).

CONCLUSION

Phytochemical investigation of a methanolic extract of the tubers of *Cyperus rotundus* resulted in the isolation of cyprot-3-en-2-one-14-oic acid, aliphatic ketones, fatty esters, steroidal esters, β -sitosterol-3 β -O-glucoside and lupenyl 3 β -O-arabinopyranosyl oleate. This work has enhanced understanding about the phytoconstituents of the plant. These compounds may be used as chromatographic markers for standardization of the tubers of the plant.

ETHICS APPROVAL AND CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE

Not applicable.

HUMAN AND ANIMAL RIGHTS

No Animals/Humans were used for studies that are base of this research.

CONSENT FOR PUBLICATION

Not applicable.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest, financial or otherwise.

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