

1: Arch Pharm Res 2003 Feb;26(2):147-50 [Links](#)  
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## **A DNA strand-nicking principle of a higher plant, *Caesalpinia sappan*.**

**Mar W, Lee HT, Je KH, Choi HY, Seo EK.**

Natural Products Research Institute, College of Pharmacy, Seoul National University, Seoul 110-460, Korea.

To find anticancer agents from higher plants, DNA strand-scission assay method was employed for bioassay-guided fractionation as well as for screening the crude extracts. During the screening, an ethyl acetate extracts of the heartwood of *Caesalpinia sappan* L. (Leguminosae) exhibited potent DNA strand-scission activity. Therefore, the ethyl acetate extracts of the dried heartwood of *C. sappan* was subjected to the bioassay-guided fractionation, which led to the isolation of a known compound, brazilin (1) as the active constituent. In addition, caesalpine J (2) was also isolated as an inactive constituent.

PMID: 12643592 [PubMed - in process]

1: Z Naturforsch [C] 2003 Jan-Feb;58(1-2):70-5 [Links](#)  
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## **Constituents of antibacterial extract of *Caesalpinia paraguariensis* Burk.**

**Woldemichael GM, Singh MP, Maiese WM, Timmermann BN.**

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Division of Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry, College of Pharmacy, University of Arizona, 1703 E. Mabel St., Tucson, AZ 85721-0207, USA.

The Argentinean legume *Caesalpinia paraguariensis* Burk. (Fabaceae) was selected for further fractionation work based on the strong antimicrobial activity of its CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-MeOH (1:1 v/v) extract against a host of clinically significant microorganisms, including antibiotic resistant strains. 1D and 2D NMR enabled the identification of the novel benzoxecin derivative caesalpinol along with the known compounds bilobetin, stigma-5-en-3-O-beta-6'-stearoylglucopyranoside, stigma-5-en-3-beta-6'-palmitoylglucopyranoside, stigma-5-en-3-beta-glucopyranoside, oleanolic acid, 3-O-(E)-hydroxycinnamoyl oleanolic acid, betulinic acid, 3-O-(E)-hydroxycinnamoyl betulinic acid, and lupeol from the active fractions. Oleanolic acid was found active against *Bacillus subtilis* and both methicillin-sensitive and -resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* with MICs of 8 (17.5 microM), 8 and 64 (140 microM) microg/ml, respectively. The rest of the compounds, however, did not show activity.

PMID: 12622230 [PubMed - in process]

1: J Asian Nat Prod Res 2003 Mar;5(1):35-41 [Links](#)  
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## **Irritant potential of some constituents from the seeds of *Caesalpinia bonducella* (L.) fleming.**

**Saeed MA, Sabir AW.**

Department of Pharmacy, University of the Punjab (Allama Iqbal Campus), Lahore  
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The irritant potential of four triterpenoids, isolated for the first time from the seeds of *Caesalpinia bonducella*, identified as alpha-amyrin [12-ursen-3beta-ol], beta-amyrin [12-oleanex-3beta-ol], lupeol [lup-20(29)-en-3beta-ol] and lupeol acetate [lup-20(29)-en-3beta-yl acetate] was investigated by open mouse ear assay, evaluating their ID50 (irritant dose in 50% animals) after acute effects and by irritant units (IU) after chronic effects. Alpha-Amyrin, lupeol acetate and beta-amyrin were the most potent and persistent irritant compounds with red weals of 1.5-2.1 cm diameter areas of the animal skin and with lowest ID50 = 0.078, 0.186 and 0.190mg/10 microl after 1.5, 2.10 and 3.5h, respectively. Their reactions lasted for 24 h with IU = 2.5; 0.312 and 1.25 mg/10 microl, respectively. Lupeol was the least irritant and least persistent compound with ID50 = 0.603 mg/10 microl after 4.5 h. Its reaction subsided before 24 h.

PMID: 12608637 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

: J Ethnopharmacol 2003 Jan;84(1):41-6  
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## **Advanced studies on the hypoglycemic effect of *Caesalpinia bonducella* F. in type 1 and 2 diabetes in Long Evans rats.**

**Chakrabarti S, Biswas TK, Rokeya B, Ali L, Mosihuzzaman M, Nahar N, Khan AK, Mukherjee B.**

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*Caesalpinia bonducella*, widely distributed throughout the coastal region of India and used ethnically by the tribal people of India for controlling blood sugar was earlier reported by us to possess hypoglycemic activity in animal model. This prompted us to undertake a detail study with the aqueous and ethanolic extracts of the seeds of this plant in both type 1 and 2 diabetes mellitus in Long Evans rats. Significant blood sugar lowering effect ( $P < 0.05$ ) of *C. bonducella* was observed in type 2 diabetic model.



aureus, E. coli, P. aeruginosa, and B. subtilis) and fungi (C. albicans and T. mentagrophytes).

PMID: 12193012 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

: Bioorg Med Chem 2002 Jul;10(7):2161-70 [Related Articles.](#)  
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**Molecular structures and antiviral activities of naturally occurring and modified cassane furanoditerpenoids and friedelane triterpenoids from *Caesalpinia minax*.**

**Jiang RW, Ma SC, He ZD, Huang XS, But PP, Wang H, Chan SP, Ooi VE, Xu HX, Mak TC.**

Department of Chemistry & Institute of Chinese Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, PR, China.

Further investigation of the active components of the chloroform fraction of the seeds of *Caesalpinia minax* led to the isolation of a new cassane furanoditerpenoid, caesalmin H (1), together with two known furanoditerpenoid lactones, caesalmin B (2) and bonducellpin D (3). Reduction of the naturally abundant caesalmin D (9), E (10) and F (11) resulted in three new furanoditerpenoid derivatives 4-6. Phytochemical study of the stem of the same plant and subsequent reduction afforded two friedelane triterpenoids (7-8), which were identified by spectroscopic methods. Compounds 1-2 and 4-8 were corroborated by single crystal X-ray analysis. The factors governing the reduction of cassane furanoditerpenoids and friedelane triterpenoids were investigated by correlating the crystallographic results with density functional theory. The inhibitory activities of 2-8 on the Para3 virus were evaluated by cytopathogenic effects (CPE) reduction assay.

PMID: 11983512 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

: Cancer Lett 2002 Mar 28;177(2):119-24 [Related Articles.](#)  
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**Cancer chemopreventive effects of constituents of *Caesalpinia ferrea***



Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Division of Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry, College of Pharmacy, University of Arizona, 1703 E. Mabel St., Tucson, AZ 85721-0207, USA.

The Argentinean legume *Caesalpinia paraguariensis* Burk. (Fabaceae) was selected for further fractionation work based on the strong antimicrobial activity of its CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-MeOH (1:1 v/v) extract against a host of clinically significant microorganisms, including antibiotic resistant strains. 1D and 2D NMR enabled the identification of the novel benzoxecin derivative caesalpinol along with the known compounds bilobetin, stigma-5-en-3-O-beta-6'-stearoylglucopyranoside, stigma-5-en-3-beta-6'-palmitoylglucopyranoside, stigma-5-en-3-beta-glucopyranoside, oleanolic acid, 3-O-(E)-hydroxycinnamoyl oleanolic acid, betulinic acid, 3-O-(E)-hydroxycinnamoyl betulinic acid, and lupeol from the active fractions. Oleanolic acid was found active against *Bacillus subtilis* and both methicillin-sensitive and -resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* with MICs of 8 (17.5 microM), 8 and 64 (140 microM) microg/ml, respectively. The rest of the compounds, however, did not show activity.

PMID: 12622230 [PubMed - in process]