

Triterpenes from the leaves of *Eriobotrya japonica*

Naoko NOZATO, Kazuhiro MATSUMOTO, and Nobuo UEMITSU

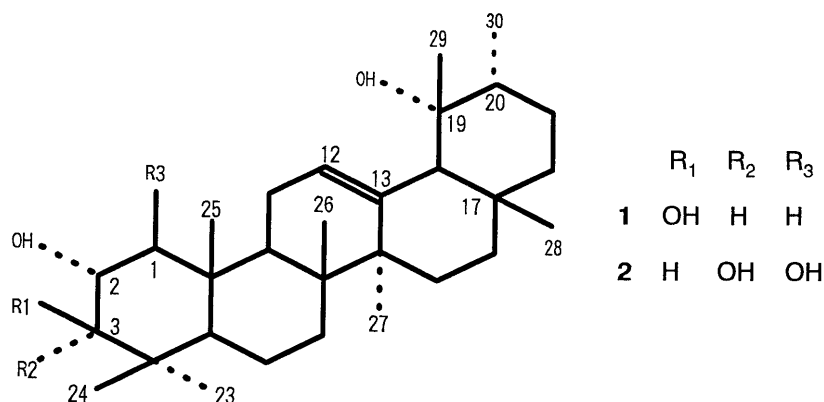
Central Research Laboratory, Asahi Breweries, LTD.

13-1, Ohmori-kita 2-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo 143, Japan

Keywords—*Eriobotrya japonica* LINDLE(Rosaceae); tormentic acid; 1 β -hydroxyeuscaphic acid.

This paper reports that two known triterpenes, **1** and **2** were isolated for the first time from the leaves of *Eriobotrya japonica* LINDLE(Rosaceae), an ethanol extract of which shows a hypoglycemic effect.

Dried leaves of the plant were extracted first with ethanol and then with chloroform. The chloroform extract was chromatographed on a silica gel column by stepwise elution with petroleum benzin/AcOEt(10:3 \rightarrow 1:1). Each fraction was rechromatographed on a reverse-phase column and then further separated by HPLC on Shim-pack PREP-ODS using CH₃CN-H₂O containing 0.05% TFA to give seven known triterpenes. Of them, triterpene **1**(dec. 270–273°C) and **2**(dec. 282–284°C) were isolated from this plant for the first time. Their structures were determined to be tormentic acid¹⁾ (**1**) and 1 β -hydroxyeuscaphic acid²⁾ (**2**), on the basis of IR, UV, ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR, optical rotation and MS spectral evidences. Villar *et al.*¹⁾ reported that **1** had hypoglycemic effects. The isolation of **1**, accordingly, seems to be significant.



References and Notes

- 1) A.Villar, M.Paya, M.D.Hortiguera, and D.Cortes, *Planta Med.*, **52**, 43(1986).
- 2) L.Guang-Yi, A.I.Gray, and P.G.Waterman, *J.Nat.Prod.*, **52**, 162(1992)

(Received March 3, 1994)