

A review of the occurrence of non-alkaloid constituents in *Uncaria* species and their structure-activity relationships

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Abstract: A good understanding of a medicinal plant is based on fundamental knowledge of its chemical constituents and their pharmacological effects. The non-alkaloids constituents isolated from *Uncaria* species have been increasingly investigated recently. The anti-inflammatory, anti-oxidant and anti-cancer properties have been studied in many non-alkaloids constituents isolated from *Uncaria* species. This paper emphasizes the phytochemical and chemotaxonomic analyses of non-alkaloid constituents isolated from fifteen *Uncaria* species. Their structural activity-relationships have also been discussed.

Keywords: *Uncaria* Species, Flavonoids, Pentacyclic Terpenoids, Structure-Activity Relationships

1. Introduction

About fifteen *Uncaria* species are widely used in various folk medicines and have thereby been extensively studied for their chemical components and pharmacological effects by different authors. In Peru, *U. tomentosa* is believed to have magical healing power and has been widely investigated. The plant is mainly used for the treatment of asthma, cancer, cirrhosis, fevers, gastritis, diabetes, rheumatism, dysentery and inflammation of urinary tract [1,2]. In Asia, *U. rhynchophylla*, *U. guianensis*, *U. sinensis*, *U. macrophylla* and *U. hirsuta* are popularly used as an antidiabetic, immune system stimulant and a hypo-cholesterol agent to reduce the risk of stroke, heart attack and hypertension [1]. In Malaysia, the more common representatives of *Uncaria* genera include *U. gambir*, *U. acida*, *U. cordata*, *U. longiflora*, *U. lucida* and *U. callophylla*.

Indole alkaloids constituents were reported to be the major active components of *Uncaria* species [3] and were extensively studied for their pharmacological activities [4]. However, many other chemical studies have also led to the isolation of non-alkaloids constituents such as flavonoids,

phenols and pentacyclic triterpenes. Their pharmacological activities have been also demonstrated. This paper opens a possibility to discuss the phytochemical analysis and structure-activity relationships of the major non-alkaloid constituents isolated from *Uncaria* species.

2. Main Classes of Non-Alkaloids Isolated from *Uncaria* Species

Non-alkaloids phytochemicals constitute a vast group of plant compounds, ranging from simple structures with one aromatic ring to highly complex polymeric natural products such as tannins. One interesting group of structures in *Uncaria* genus is the pentacyclic terpenoids, mainly based on ursolic, oleanolic or quinovic acid structures [5,6]. Monoterpene compounds such as C-8-(S) isomers of deoxyloganic acid (7-deoxyloganic acid) have also reported from *Uncaria* plants species [7]. The phenolic compounds are characterized at least by one aromatic ring substituted by at least one hydroxyl group; free or engaged in another function such as ether, ester or glycoside [8].

Various structural types of flavonoids have also been identified in the *Uncaria* species. Flavonoids are

polyphenolic compounds, ubiquitous in plants, most significantly in vegetables, fruits, seeds, nuts and beverages such as tea and wine. They are characterized by a chromane type skeleton with a phenyl substituent in the C-2 or C-3 position (C₆-C₃-C₆), occurring mainly as *O*- and C-glycosides (hexoses, deoxyhexoses and pentoses), less frequently as aglycons and can be hydroxylated in 3, 5, 7, 3', 4' and/or 5' position. It hydroxyl substituents might also be methylated, acetylated, prenylated or sulphated [9,10]. Included in this class of compounds are isoflavonoids (1, 2-diarypropanes) and neoflavonoides (1,1-diarylpropanes). All these classes are derived from the most common group of compounds; flavones, which possess an oxygen bridge between the *ortho* position of the first ring of benzene and the benzylic carbon atom adjacent to the second ring (Scheme2).

Terpenoids are compounds typically derived from the isoprene unit. This group includes different aromatic compounds, vitamins and steroids. Terpenoids could be classified according to the number of isoprene units that make up the molecular structure. They include hemiterpenes (1 unit), monoterpenes (2 units), sesquiterpenes (3 units), diterpenes (4 units), sesterpenes (5 units), triterpenes (6 units), carotenes (8 units), and polyisoprenes (n units) [11].

The flavonoids identified in the *Uncaria* genus could be divided into five main classes namely: flavones derivatives (I), flavanones (II), simple phenolic compounds (IIIa and IIIb), (Figure 1, Table 1), and flavane derivatives (IV) particularly flavan-3-ols and their dimmers (Figure 2, Table 2). The sugar moieties of these flavonoid glycosides are made up of glucose, galactose and rhamnose [6]. Terpenes constituents classified as pentacyclic triterpenoids (V) and triterpenes saponin (VI) have been also reported in various *Uncaria* genus [12] (Figure 3, Table 3). Pentacyclic triterpene esters, such as uncarinic acids A-E [13], triterpenoids, including 6 β -hydroxyursolic acid, 3 β , 6 β , 19 α -trihydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid, and 3 β , 6 β , 23-trihydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid as well as phytosterols such as β -sitosterol and daucosterol have been isolated from the hooks and leaves of *U. rhynchophylla* [6]. Steroids (VII), coumarins (VIII) and lignans (IX) [5] have also been identified from various *Uncaria* species (Figure 4, Table 4).

2.1. Biosynthesis

The biosynthetic pathway of phenolics constituents have been proposed (Scheme 1). The shikimic acid pathway leading from monosaccharides to aromatic amino acids (tyrosine and phenylalanine), then by deamination of the first, to cinnamic acids and their derivatives such as benzoic acids, lignanes and coumarins [14]. Another biosynthesis pathway starting with acetate and leading to poly-ketoesters, which by cyclization forms polycyclic products, including xanthenes and quinines (Scheme 2) have also been suggested [14-16].

2.2. Relative Abundance

The *Uncaria* species contain phenolic compounds at different proportions. According to Valente et al 2009 [17], the presence of kaempferitrin in the leaves and stems of *U. guianensis* were at a ratio of almost thirty six times in the leaves than in the stems and was completely absent in the bark of this plant. However, kaempferitrin was not found in the leaves and bark of *U. tomentosa*. These results reveal the selectivity of *U. guianensis* to produce kaempferitrin as a bioactive flavonoid glycoside. Kaempferitrin has therefore been suggested as a potential chemical marker for the species. The elucidation of the individual chemical markers for various *Uncaria* species is therefore a possibility for their specific identification.

Sun G.L et al. 2012 [5] reported the isolation and identification of stereo-structure of lignans from *U. sinensis*. About ca. 12% and up 48% procyanidines has been isolated from the bark and dry extracts of *U. tomentosa*, respectively. β -Sitosterol (ca. 60%) was identified as a major sterol in the plant. Sterols include stigmasterol and campesterol [18] and quinovic acid glycosides with various glycosylation sites have also been reported in various *Uncaria* species [19,20].

Trifolin [6,21], kaempferol- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 6)- β -D-glucopyranoside [6,22], rutin [6], quercetin-3-O- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 6)- β -D-galactopyranoside [6,22], hyperin [6,22], quercetin [23] and hyperoside [6] have been identified as the major flavonoids in *U. rhynchophylla*.

Li et al 2011[24] described a method for the isolation of non-alkaloids components including flavonoids, terpenes, anthraquinone and aromatic compounds. The dried and powdered bark and branch with curved hooks of *U. sinensis* were exhaustively extracted with 70% ethanol. Then, the aqueous fraction was sequentially partitioned with petroleum ether, CHCl₃, EtOAc and n-BuOH. These fractions were repeatedly subjected to column chromatography on silica gel, Sephadex LH-20 gel and reversed phase C18 gel to yield pure pentacyclic terpenoids and flavonoids compounds. Many other extraction procedures involving a succession of solvents of increasing polarity and chromatographic technical methods have been reported in various other phytochemistry studies of *Uncaria* species [19,20,25,26].

3. Pharmacological Activities

Pharmacological application and use of phenolic containing herbs are closely related to their biosynthetic origin and the chemical structure of the active components [1,27]. The antioxidant properties of *Uncaria* species are attributed to the presence of polyphenols such as tannins, catechin, gambiriins [28]. The pharmacological effects of polyphenolics have also been reported in many other plant species. Pine bark extract notably rich in polyphenols such as catechin, quercetin, dihydroquercetin, taxifolin and phenolic acids, has been reported to be effective in

suppressing postprandial hyperglycemia in diabetics [29]. The ethyl acetate extract of *Hypericum japonicum* has been proven to have antihypoxic activity. Quercetin derivatives have been the most notable flavonoids type associated with these activity [30].

Various pharmacological studies have reported the antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties of the phenol fractions of *Uncaria* species prepared from polar solvents such as methanol or water/ethanol mixture [31]. Their cytotoxic effect and potential to inhibit the proliferation of human cancer cells have also been demonstrated [13,32]. Further pharmacological studies have established the chemical structure-activity relationships for a number of pure flavonoids and pentacyclic terpenoids isolated from *Uncaria* species.

3.1. Flavonoids Constituents

The natural flavonoids of *Uncaria* species have exhibited large varieties of biological activities. They have showed significant anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant activities, and anti-glycation inhibitory activity [33-35]. Many flavonoids have also showed remarkable role on carcinogen activation *in vivo* and on carcinogenesis [36,37].

Rosmarinic acid, protocatechuic acid, trans-caffeic acid and quercetin-3-O- β -D-glucopyranoside (9) were found to have high antioxidant activities, with IC_{50} = 13.5, 14.1, 16.3 and 19.1 μ M, respectively [33]. The antioxidant potential of kaempferol-3-O- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl (1 \rightarrow 6)- β -D-glucopyranoside (6) (IC_{50} = 39.5 μ M) and kaempferide-3-O- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl(1 \rightarrow 6)- β -D-glucopyranoside (13) (IC_{50} = 42.4 μ M) have also been studied in comparison to that of butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) (IC_{50} = 44.3 μ M) [38]. Gallic acid (27) and (-)-epi-gallocatechin-3-O-gallate (59) showed a strong anti-oxidative activities with concentrations of 28.16 and 22.97 μ M, respectively, in comparison with reference antioxidants such as ascorbic acid (IC_{50} 56.25 μ M), BHA (IC_{50} 91.15 μ M) and butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) (IC_{50} 66.83 μ M). Kaempferol, kaempferol 7-O- α -L-rhamnopyranoside and herbacetin 7-O- α -L-rhamnopyranoside (20) showed moderate antioxidative activities with IC_{50} values of 50.51, 87.42 and 48.34 μ M, respectively [39]. Cytotoxicity studies using the brine shrimp demonstrated an LC_{50} values of 3.19 and 5.86 μ g/mL for acute and lethal doses respectively indicating extreme toxicity compared to the reference drug, cyclophosphamide (LC_{50} value of 25.06 μ g/mL) [40].

The antioxidant activity of flavonoids depends upon the arrangement of functional groups about the nuclear structure [41,42]. The ortho-dihydroxy (catechol) structure in rosmarinic acid, protocatechuic acid, trans-caffeic acid plays an important role in their antioxidative function as in quercetin-3-O- β -D-glucopyranoside, and this can further explain the weak scavenging activity (IC_{50} = 53.4 μ M) of kaempferol-3-O- β -D-glucopyranoside which lacks the B-ring catechol system [43]. Furthermore, the reduced antioxidant activity of kaempferide-3-O- β -D-

glucopyranoside (IC_{50} = 55.5 μ M) [33] could be attributed to 4'-O-methylation that perturbs ring planarity through steric effects. On the contrary, kaempferide-3-O- β -D-glucopyranoside and kaempferol-3-O- β -D-glucopyranoside showed remarkable anti-inflammatory activities showing 62.4 and 59 percent inhibition, respectively. The effect of protocatechuic acid (55.0%) was comparable to that of the reference compound (57.6%). Other compounds have been displayed lower percentages of inhibition activity in the 38.4–51.2% range [33].

The inhibitory effect of caffeic methyl ester on 5-lipoxygenase (ID_{50} = 4.8 10^{-7} M) was stronger than that of caffeic acid itself (ID_{50} = 3.7 10^{-6} M). Caffeic acid and its methyl ester did not inhibit prostaglandin synthase activity at all, at least up to 5 10^{-4} M, but rather stimulated it at higher doses. The biosynthesis of leukotriene C_4 and D_4 in mouse mast tumor cells was also inhibited completely with 10^{-4} M caffeic acid. Platelet aggregation induced by arachidonic acid was also inhibited by caffeic acid at high dose, while platelet aggregation induced by ADP was not influenced by caffeic acid at all [44].

Studies have demonstrated the protective effect of some polyphenols (epicatechin, catechin and caffeic acid) from the aqueous extracts of *U. sinensis* against erythrocyte membrane hemolysis inflicted by 2,2-azo-bis-(2-amidinopropane)-dihydrochloride [45]. Rutin, another flavonoid found in the leaves of *U. hirsuta* has been used for treatment of blood capillary ailments [46]. Curcumin, rutin, garcinol and arbutin have also been found to have strong anti-glycation activity and antioxidative properties [47,48].

Zhao and Zhang, 2009 [49] reported the cytoprotective effects of kaempferol, quercetin and myricetin, against human hepatocytes (HL-7702 cell line) oxidative injury induced by H_2O_2 or CCl_4 . The potency of cytoprotective effect of these three flavonoids evaluated qualitatively was reported in the order of quercetin>myricetin>kaempferol. The structure-activity relationship between the numbers of hydroxyl group in the ring B of the compounds and their cytoprotective effect could not be clearly established [49].

Myricetin and quercetin constitute an important group of phytochemicals that have gained increased research attention after their reported anticarcinogenic, antimutagenic, anti-inflammatory, and antiviral actions [50]. It has been shown that, quercetin and myricetin structures differ only by a hydroxyl group at the myricetin 5' position, giving rise to an easy release of an additional reducing agent from the B-ring hydroxyls to form a more stable O-quinone [51]. A better protective effect of myricetin than quercetin against heterocyclic amines-induced oxidative DNA damage in human hematoma cells has been reported [52]. This indicates that the only an additional hydroxyl group at position 5' in the chemical structure of myricetin could have significantly affect the biological activity against heterocyclic amines. This evidence proves the close relationship between the numbers of hydroxyl groups in their structure to their protective effect of flavonols.

Quercetin, quercetin-3-O- α -L-rhamnopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 6)- β -D-galactopyranoside and quercetin-3-O- β -D-galactopyranoside, isolated from *U. sinensis* have been shown to have a dose dependent inhibitory effect on α -glycosidase. Several other pharmacological properties such as free radical scavenging, anti-oxidation, immunomodulation, insulin sensitization and protection of various organs have also been reported [53]. These potentials are important in describing *U. sinensis* as antidiabetic agent. In another experiment, quercetin together with other major phenolic compounds isolated from *Saussurea medusa* were tested for their protective activity against hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂)-induced damage in rat pheochromocytoma line PC12 cells. The results showed that quercetin possesses moderate protective activities against H₂O₂-induced cell damage [54].

The *in vitro* antioxidant activity of flavonoids could also be increased by polymerization of their monomers. Typical examples include proanthocyanidins (also known as condensed tannins), the polymers of catechins proven to be excellent *in vitro* antioxidants due to the high number of hydroxyl groups in their molecules. The antioxidant capacity of proanthocyanidins depends on their oligomer chain length and the type of reactive oxygen species with which they are react [55].

The neolignan group has exhibited extensive activities, such as anti-tumor, antiviral and protection of the liver and inhibition of platelet activation factor. A related lignin compound, (+)-Lyoniresinol-3 α -O- β -D-glucopyranoside isolated from the root bark of *Lycium chinense* Miller, exhibited potent antimicrobial activity against antibiotic-resistant bacterial strains, methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* isolated from patients, and human pathogenic fungi without having any hemolytic effect on human erythrocytes. In addition, this compound induced the accumulation of intracellular trehalose on *C. albicans* as stress response to the drug, and disrupted the dimorphic transition that forms pseudo-hyphae as a result of the pathogenesis [56].

3.2. Pentacyclic Terpenoids

The structure elucidation of terpenoid compounds and their pharmacological effects have been extensively studied [13,57]. In a bioactivity-guided fractionation studies, the CHCl₃ extract of the hooks of *U. rhynchophylla*, which showed potent inhibitory activity against phospholipase C γ 1 (PLC γ 1) led to the isolation of eight terpenoids compounds namely uncarinic acid C (70), uncarinic acid D (71), Uncarinic acid E (72), 3 β -hydroxy-27-p-(Z)-coumaroyloxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid (73), 3 β -hydroxy-27-p-(E)-coumaroyloxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid (75), 3 β -hydroxy-27-p-(Z)-coumaroyloxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid (74), uncarinic A (68) and uncarinic B (69) [13,58]. All these compounds exhibited dose dependent inhibition of PLC γ 1, with IC₅₀ of 9.5-44.6 μ M. From these results, some preliminary structure-PLC γ 1 inhibitory activity relationships have been

deduced. The compounds having an ursane moiety were shown to be more active than those having an oleanane moiety (70>68, 71>69, 75>72 and 74>73). Furthermore, the compounds possessing a trans configuration were more effective than those possessing a cis configuration (70>71, 72>73, 75>74 and 68>69), and the compounds containing a p-coumaroyloxy group were more potent than those containing a feruloyloxy group (75>70, 74>71, 72>68 and 63>69). Compound 75, which contains an ursane moiety, a trans configuration, and a p-coumaroyloxy moiety, showed the most powerful inhibitory activity, with an IC₅₀ value of 9.5 μ M, in comparison to amentoflavone (IC₅₀ of 29.0 μ M).

In another study, the systematic structure-activity relationship of (75) and their derivatives (Scheme 3) with PLC γ 1 were investigated [59]. An acetate of 7 (75-1) was entirely ineffective (IC₅₀: >250 μ M), while the methyl ester (75-2) and the reduced form at the 2' double bond (75-3) exhibited lower inhibitory activities than 75, with IC₅₀ values of 121.3 and 83.6 μ M, respectively. Compound 75-4 and p-E-coumaric acid (75-5) did not show inhibitory activity (IC₅₀:>250 μ M). These results observed concluded that 3-OH, 7'-OH, 28-COOH, 2' double bond and esterification of triterpene and p-E-coumaric acid may be important for PLC γ 1 inhibitory activity. Furthermore, the compounds possessing a p-coumaroyloxy at position 27 rather than at the 3 and 28 positions showed the greatest inhibitory activity against PLC γ 1. The facts that the pentacyclic terpenes isolated from *U. rhynchophylla* showed dose-dependent inhibitory activities against PLC γ 1 *in vitro* and inhibited the proliferation of human cancer cells suggest that these compounds could be chemical lead for further development into cancer chemopreventive or chemotherapeutic agents with lower toxicity against normal tissues.

Uneyama A et al, 2010 [60], explained how uncarinic acids C and D influenced the initiation of specific immune responses at a dendritic cells (DC) level, allowing the DC to function as highly professional antigen-presenting cells (APC) for T cells. Those compounds isolated from the hooks of *U. rhynchophylla* have shown active phenotypic and cytokine production modulatory effects in DC. They have also been shown to regulate human DC function in a fashion that favors Th1 cell polarization. The effect of those compounds on the maturation and function of human monocyte-derived DC *in vitro* and their anti-proliferative activities have been examined in HL-60 (human promyelocytic leukemia) cells in a 4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay. The effect of uncarinic C (E configuration at 2' position) was approximately 20 times more potent than that of uncarinic D (Z configuration at 2'). These results indicated that the configuration of the 2' double bond greatly effects activity. The results showed that uncarinic acids C and D also exhibited antiproliferative activity in HL-60 cells, with IC₅₀ values of 9.8 and 16.8 μ g/ml respectively (in comparison with etoposide: 25.0 μ g/ml). It was concluded that, those compounds may prove useful as DC-based vaccines for

cancer immunotherapy.

Uncariursanic acid (90), ursolic acid (63), 3 β ,6 β ,19 α -trihydroxy-23-oxo-urs-12-en-28-oic acid (84) and 3 β ,6 β ,19 α -trihydroxy-urs-12-en-28-oic acid (78) isolated from *U. macrophylla* were evaluated for their *in vitro* inhibitory potentials against cancer cell lines. Only ursolic acid inhibited the growth of HepG2 and MCF-7 at IC₅₀ values 12.1 μ g/mL and 15.1 μ g/mL, respectively. At an increased inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀ > 100 μ g/mL) notwithstanding, the other compounds did not show significant cytotoxicity activities against the tested cancer cell lines [61]. 3 β ,6 β ,19 α -trihydroxy-12-oleanen-28-oic acid (81) also isolated from this plant exhibited a weak antitumor activity, with IC₅₀ values of 78.2 μ g/mL and 73.9 μ g/mL against the two cells line in comparison with those of cisplatin 7.5 μ g/mL and 8.2 μ g/mL, respectively [62].

Oleanolic acid (62) and its acetate have been reported as having gastroprotective, anti-inflammatory, antitumor, antioxidant, antidiabetic and HIV effects [63]. Ursolic acid stearyl glucoside has been evaluated for its anticonvulsant and depressant activity on Wistar albinos' rats and Swiss mice. The obtained findings provided evidence of its anticonvulsant and depressant like effect [64].

The ability to act as a scavenger of DPPH radical and the cytotoxicity potential based on brine shrimp assay were confirmed for β -amyrin acetate (111). Studies conducted by Higuchi et al.[65] reported the growth inhibitory activity against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* with MIC of 62.5 μ g/mL for a mixture of an oleanolic (62) and ursolic (63) acids. The high lipophilicity of terpenes is probably the main factor that allows their penetration through the mycobacterial cell wall. Other studies showed that oleanolic acid (MIC of 28.7 μ g/mL) is more active than that ursolic acid (MIC of 41.9 μ g/mL) [66]. The same findings were reported by Cantrel CL et al, 2001 [67] with a MIC of 16 μ g/mL for oleanolic acid and 50 μ g/mL for ursolic acid.

According to Aquino R et al 1989 [26], five quinovic acid glycosides, 99-104 (Table 3, Figure 3) isolated from *U. tomentosa* and compounds 105-107 isolated from *Guettarda platypoda* showed an inhibitory effect against vesicular stomatitis viral infection. There was no relationship noted between the number of sugar residues and the antiviral activity. The presence of the free C-27 carboxyl group as well as the nature of the sugar moiety seems to be important in inducing activity. Quinovose in 102 (MIC₅₀=22.4 μ g/ml) was more potential than fucose in 103 (MIC₅₀=31.4 μ g/ml) when all the other characters in the structure are the same. The compound 101 containing

two free carboxyl groups was notably the most active compound (MIC₅₀=20.0 μ g/ml). Almost all these quinovic acid glycosides were inactive against rhinovirus type 1B infection in HeLa cells; only 104 and 107, both containing two glucose units and the free C-27 carboxyl group, reduced the viral cytopathic effect by 50% at a concentration of 30 and 20 μ g/ml respectively. The maximum nontoxic concentration for HeLa cells of compound 104 was 60 μ g/ml and of compound 107 was 100 μ g/ml.

4. Conclusion

Phenolic compounds isolated from *Uncaria* species might contribute to their strong antioxidative activity like many other plant phenols. The selective production of some compounds in *Uncaria* species or in various parts of plant has been assigned. However, much related studies still need to be done in areas of chemotaxonomy of the *Uncaria* species and subsequent identification of chemical markers for differentiation of *Uncaria* medicinal preparations. In the search for new compounds, and also in quality control, there is a need to have reliable methodology for the analysis of non-alkaloids. As a group of naturally-occurring non-enzymatic antioxidants, most phenolic components isolated from *Uncaria* species have potential therapeutic values in the treatment of a wide range of oxidative-stress-mediated pathological conditions such as neurodegenerative, cardiovascular and inflammatory diseases. Full exploitation of the therapeutic potentials of *Uncaria* species as well as many other plants phenolics awaits the identification of more novel compounds in structural class, elucidation of their structure-activity relationship trends as well as degradation and pharmacokinetics in humans. As active indole alkaloids and phenolic components contribute together to the wide range of pharmacological activities of *Uncaria* species, it looks more important to study their additive and synergic actions.

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Table 1. Flavonoids isolated from *Uncaria* species

name	type	Substitutions							Formula	MW	Species [Ref]
		3	5	6	7	3'	4'	5'			
I											
	R2				R1						

name	type	Substitutions							Formula	MW	Species [Ref]
		3	5	6	7	3'	4'	5'			
Rutin (1)	II	βGlc ⁶ -αRha	OH	H	H	OH	OH	H	C ₂₇ H ₃₀ O ₁₆	610.1534	UR[6],UH[68]
Kaempferol (2)		H	OH	H	H	H	OH	H	C ₁₅ H ₁₀ O ₆	286.0477	U.Sin[8],UH[68]
Quercetin (3)		H	OH	H	H	OH	OH	H	C ₁₅ H ₁₀ O ₇	302.0427	U.Sin[69],UG[70]
Myricetin (4)		H	OH	H	H	OH	OH	OH	C ₁₅ H ₁₀ O ₈	318.0316	UR[6]
Quercetin-3- <i>O</i> -α- <i>L</i> -rhamnopyranosyl-(1→6)-β- <i>D</i> -galactopyranoside (5)		βGal ⁶ -αRha	OH	H	H	OH	OH	H	C ₂₇ H ₃₀ O ₁₆	610.1534	UR[6],U.sin[69]
Kaempferol-3- <i>O</i> -α- <i>L</i> -rhamnopyranosyl-(1→6)-β- <i>D</i> -galactopyranoside (6)		βGal ⁶ -αRha	OH	H	H	OH	OH	H	C ₂₇ H ₃₀ O ₁₅	594.1585	UR[6]
Hyperoside (7)		-βGal	OH	H	OH	H	OH	H	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₂	464.0955	UR[6]
Kaempferol-3- <i>O</i> -β- <i>D</i> -galactopyranoside (8)		-βGal	OH	H	H	H	OH	H	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₁	448.1006	UR[6]
Kaempferide-3- <i>O</i> -β- <i>D</i> -glucopyranoside (9)		-βGlc	OH	H	H	H	OMe	H	C ₂₂ H ₂₂ O ₁₁	462.1162	UM [71]
Kaempferol-3- <i>O</i> -β- <i>D</i> -glucopyranoside (10)		-βGlc	OH	H	H	H	OH	H	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₁	448.1006	UM[71]
Quercetin-3- <i>O</i> -β- <i>D</i> -glucopyranoside (11)		-βGlc	OH	H	H	OH	OH	H	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₂	464.0955	U. sin [8]
Kaempferol-3- <i>O</i> -α- <i>L</i> -rhamnopyranosyl-(1→6)-β- <i>D</i> -glucopyranoside (12)		-βGlc ⁶ -αRha	OH	H	H	H	OH	H	C ₂₇ H ₃₀ O ₁₅	594.1584	UR[6,22]
Kaempferide-3- <i>O</i> -α- <i>L</i> -rhamnopyranosyl-(1→6)-β- <i>D</i> -glucopyranoside (13)		-βGlc ⁶ -αRha	OH	H	H	OH	OMe	H	C ₂₈ H ₃₂ O ₁₅	608.1741	UR[6]
Kaempferitrin (14)		-α Gal	OH	H	-α Gal	H	OH	H	C ₂₇ H ₃₀ O ₁₄	578.1636	U.gui[17]
Quercetin-3- <i>O</i> -β- <i>D</i> -galactopyranside (15)		-βGal	OH	H	H	OH	OH	H	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₂	464.3763	U.Sin[8]
Linarin (16)		H	OH	H	Glu-Rha	H	OMe	H	C ₂₈ H ₃₂ O ₁₅	608.1784	U.sin[8]
Afzelin (17)		-α Rha	OH	H	H	H	OH	H	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₀	432.1056	UH[68]
Trifolin (18)		-β Gal	OH	H	H	H	OH	H	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₁	448.1006	UR[6,22]
Hyperin (19)		-α Rha	OH	H	H	OH	OH	H	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₂	464.0955	UR [6]
8											
Herbacetin 7- <i>O</i> -α- <i>L</i> -rhamnopyranosyde (20)	II	H	OH	H	Rha	OH	OH	H	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₁	448.100	
Taxifolin (21)		OH	OH	H	H	OH	OH	H	C ₁₅ H ₁₂ O ₇	304.0583	UT[34]
Neohesperdin (22)	IIIa	H	OH	H	βGlc ² -α Rha	OMe	H	OH	C ₂₈ H ₃₄ O ₁₅	610.1898	UH[68]
		R1	2		3	4		5			
Vanillic acid (23)		OH	H		OMe	OH		H	C ₈ H ₈ O ₄	1168.0423	UT[72,73],UM[71]
Protocatechuic acid (24)		OH	H		OH	OH		H	C ₇ H ₆ O ₄	154.0266	UT [73]
Benzoic acid (25)		OH	H		H	H		H	C ₇ H ₆ O ₂	122.0368	UT[72]

name	typ e	Substitutions							Formula	MW	Species [Ref]
		3	5	6	7	3'	4'	5'			
IIIb											
	R1	2			3	4		5			
<i>p</i> -Hydroxybenzoic acid (26)	OH	H			H	OH		H	C ₇ H ₆ O ₃	138.0317	UT[72,73]
Gallic acid (27)	OH	H			OH	OH		OH	C ₇ H ₆ O ₅	170.0215	UG[70],UT[72]
Syringic acid (28)	OH	H			OMe	OH		OMe	C ₉ H ₁₀ O ₅	180.0423	UR [6],UT[73]
Protocatechualdehyde (29)	H	H			OH	OH		H	C ₇ H ₆ O ₃	138.0317	UT[73]
Syringaldehyde (30)	H	H			OMe	OH		OMe	C ₉ H ₁₀ O ₄	182.0579	UT [73]
<i>p</i> -Hydroxybenzaldehyde (31)	H	H			H	OH		H	C ₇ H ₆ O ₂	122.0368	UT [73]
Vanillin	H	H			OMe	OH		H	C ₈ H ₈ O ₃	152.0473	UT[73]
IV											
<i>p</i> -Coumaric acid (32)	*	H			H	OH		H	C ₉ H ₈ O ₃	164.0473	UT[73]
<i>O</i> -Coumaric acid (33)	*	OH			H	H		H	C ₉ H ₈ O ₃	164.0473	UT[73]
<i>m</i> -Coumaric acid (34)	*	H			OH	H		H	C ₉ H ₈ O ₃	164.0473	UT[73]
Cinnamic acid (35)	*	H			H	H		H	C ₉ H ₈ O ₂	148.0524	UT[73]
Ferulic acid (36)	*	H			OMe	OH		H	C ₁₀ H ₁₀ O ₄	194.0579	UT[73]
Sinapic acid (37)	*	H			OMe	OH		OMe	C ₁₁ H ₁₂ O ₅	224.0685	UT[73]
Caffeic acid (38)	*	H			OH	OH		H	C ₉ H ₈ O ₄	180.0423	UR [6]
Chlogenic acid (39)	*	-	-	-	-	-		-	C ₁₆ H ₁₈ O ₉	354.0951	UH[68],UT[74]
Rosmarinic acid (40)	*	-	-	-	-	-		-	C ₁₈ H ₁₆ O ₈	360.0845	UT[72],UR[75]
Rosimarinic acid (41)	*	-	-	-	-	-		-	C ₁₉ H ₁₈ O ₈	374.1002	UT[72],UR[75]

Table 2. Flavan-3-ols and their dimmers

name	type	formula	MW	Species [Ref]
Gambiridin A1 (42)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₈ O ₁₂	580.1581	UG[76]
Gambiridin A2 (43)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₈ O ₁₂	580.1581	UG[76]
Gambiridin A3 (44)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₈ O ₁₂	580.1581	UG [28]
Gambiridin B1 (45)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₆ O ₁₁	562.1475	UG[76]
Gambiridin B2 (46)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₆ O ₁₁	562.1475	UG [76]
Gambiridin B3 (47)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₆ O ₁₁	562.1475	UG [76]
Gambiridin C (48)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₆ O ₁₁	562.1475	UG[76]
Procyanidin B1(49)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₆ O ₁₂	578.1424	UG [76]
Procyanidin B2 (50)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₆ O ₁₂	578.1424	UR [6]
Procyanidin B3 (51)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₆ O ₁₂	578.1424	UG [76]
Cinchonain Ia (52)	IV	C ₂₄ H ₂₀ O ₉	452.1107	UG[76], UT[77]
Cinchonain Ib (53)	IV	C ₃₉ H ₃₂ O ₁₅	740.1741	UG [28], UT[77]
(+)-Catechin (54)	IV	C ₁₅ H ₁₄ O ₆	290.0790	UG [76]
(-)-Catechin (55)	IV	C ₁₅ H ₁₄ O ₆	290.0790	UG [28]
(+)-Epicatechin (56)	IV	C ₁₅ H ₁₄ O ₆	290.0790	UG [76], UR [6], UE[78]
(-)-Epicatechin (57)	IV	C ₁₅ H ₁₄ O ₆	290.0790	UG[70], UE [78]
Epigallocatechin (58)	IV	C ₁₅ H ₁₄ O ₇	306.0740	UG[70]
Epigallocatechin gallate (59)	IV	C ₂₂ H ₁₈ O ₁₁	458.0849	UG[70]
Gambiridin D4 (60)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₈ O ₁₂	580.1581	UG[79]
Gambiridin D5 (61)	IV	C ₃₀ H ₂₈ O ₁₂	580.1581	UG[79]

Table 3. Pentacyclic triterpenoids and triterpenes saponins

name	type	formula	MW	Species [Ref]
Oleanolic acid (62)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ O ₃	456.36	UT[19]
Ursolic acid (63)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ O ₃	456.36	UH[68] ,UM [80]
Uncaric acid (64)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ O ₃	456.36	U.th [81]
Diketouncaric acid (65)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₄ O ₅	484.31	U.th [81]
Diacetyluncaric acid (66)	V	C ₃₄ H ₅₂ O ₇	572.37	U.th[81]
3-O-β-D-glucuronopyranosyl-ursolic acid (67)	V	C ₃₆ H ₅₆ O ₉	632.39	UM[80]
Uncarinic acid A (68)	V	C ₄₀ H ₅₆ O ₇	648.40	UR [13]
Uncarinic acid B (69)	V	C ₄₀ H ₅₆ O ₇	648.40	UR [13]
Uncarinic acid C (70)	V	C ₄₀ H ₅₆ O ₇	648.40	UR [13]
Uncarinic acid D (71)	V	C ₄₀ H ₅₆ O ₇	648.40	UR [13]
Uncarinic acid E (72)	V	C ₄₀ H ₅₆ O ₇	648.40	UR [13]
3β-Hydroxy-27- <i>p</i> -(<i>Z</i>)-coumaroyloxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid (73)	V	C ₃₉ H ₅₄ O ₆	618.39	UR [6,13,59]
3β-Hydroxy-27- <i>p</i> -(<i>E</i>)-coumaroyloxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid (74)	V	C ₃₉ H ₅₄ O ₆	618.39	UR [13]
3β-Hydroxy-27- <i>p</i> -(<i>Z</i>)-coumaroyloxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid (75)	V	C ₃₉ H ₅₄ O ₆	618.39	UR [13]
Ursonic acid (6β-hydroxyursolic acid) (76)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ O ₄	472.35	UM [62]
3β,6β,19α-Trihydroxy-urs-12-en-28-oic acid (77)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ O ₅	488.35	UR [6], UM[61]
3β,6β,23-Trihydroxyursa-12-en-28-oic acid(78)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ O ₅	488.35	UR [6]
3β,6β-Dihydroxyurs-12,18(19)-dien-28-oic acid (79)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₆ O ₄	470.33	UM [61]
3β-Hydroxyurs-5(6),12,18(19)-trien-28-oic acid (80)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₄ O ₃	452.32	UM[62]
3β,23-Dihydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid (81)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ O ₄	472.35	UM[62]
3β,6β,23-Trihydroxyolean-12-en-28-oic acid (82)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ O ₅	488.35	UM[62]
Uncargenin D (83)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₆ O ₄	470.33	UR[82]
3β,6β,19α-Trihydroxy-23-oxo-urs-12-en-28-oic acid (84)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₆ O ₆	502.32	UM [61]
23-nor-24-esomethylene-3β,6β,19α-trihydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid (85)	V	C ₂₉ H ₄₄ O ₅	472.31	UT[20]
3-oxo-6β,19α-Dihydroxyurs-12-en-28-oic-acid (86)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₆ O ₅	486.33	UT[20]
3β-Hydroxyurs-12-en-27,28-dioic acid (87)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₆ O ₅	486.33	UM[80]
7-oxo-3β-hydroxyurs-12-en-27,28-dioic acid (88)	V	C ₃₀ H ₄₄ O ₆	500.67	UT[20]
3β-methoxy-16α-hydroxyursa-12,19(29)-dien-27,28-dioic acid (89)	V	C ₃₁ H ₄₆ O ₆	514.71	UT[20]
Uncariursanic acid (90)	V	C ₃₁ H ₄₈ O ₇	532.34	UM [61]
3β,6β,19α-Trihydroxy-12-oleanen-28-oic acid (91)	V	C ₃₁ H ₄₈ O ₅	488.35	UM[62]
(3β)-3-Hydroxy-27-noroleano-13(28)-lactone (92)	V	C ₂₉ H ₄₆ O ₃	442.34	UH[83]
(22α)-22-Hydroxy-3-oxours-12-ene-27,28-dioic acid (93)	V	C ₃₀ H ₅₂ O ₆	532.37	UH[83]
Quinovic acid (94)	V	C ₃₂ H ₅₄ O ₆	534.39	UH[83]
(3β)-3-(β-D-Glucopyranosyloxy)-12-oxopyroqu-inovic acid β-D glucopyranosyl ester (95)	V	C ₄₁ H ₆₄ O ₁₄	780.42	UH[83]
Pyrocincholic acid (96)	V	C ₂₉ H ₄₆ O ₃	442.34	UH[83]
Pyrocincholic acid ethyl ester (97)	V	C ₃₁ H ₅₀ O ₃	470.37	UH [83]
(3β)-3-(β-D-Quinovopyranosyloxy)pyro-cincholic acid β-D- glucopyranosyl ester (98)	V	C ₄₁ H ₆₆ O ₁₂	750.45	UH[83]
Quinovic acid-3β-O-[β-D-glucopyranosyl- (1→3)-β-D- fucopyranosyl]- (27→1)-β-D-glucopyranosyl ester (99)	V	C ₄₉ H ₇₆ O ₁₉	956.49	UT[25],UG[84]
Quinovic acid-3β-O-[β-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→3)-β-D- fucopyranosyl]- (28→1)-β-D-glucopyranosyl ester (100)	V	C ₄₈ H ₇₉ O ₁₉	956.49	UT[25],UG[84]
Quinovic acid-3β-O-[β-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→3)- β-D- fucopyranoside] (101)	V	C ₄₂ H ₆₆ O ₁₄	794.44	UT[25],UG[84]
Quinovic acid-3β-O-(β-D-quinovopyranosyl)- (28→1)- β-D- glucopyranosyl ester (102)	V	C ₄₂ H ₆₆ O ₁₄	794.44	UT[26]
Quinovic acid-3β-O-(β-D-fucopyranosyl)- (28→1)- β-D- glucopyranosyl ester (103)	V	C ₄₂ H ₆₆ O ₁₄	794.44	UT[26]
Quinovic acid-3β-O-((28→1)-β-D-glucopyra- nosyl)-ester (104)	V	C ₄₂ H ₆₆ O ₁₅	810.44	UT[26]
Quinovic acid-3β-O-(β-D-quinovopyranosyl)- (27→1)- β-D- glucopyranosyl ester (108)	V	C ₄₃ H ₆₈ O ₁₃	792.46	UT[19], UG[84]
3β,6β,19α-Trihydroxyurs-12-ene-23,28-dimethyloate (109)	V	C ₃₂ H ₅₀ O ₇	546.73	UT[19]
Quinovic acid-3-β-O-(β-D-fucopyranosyl)- (27→1)- β-D- glucopyranosyl ester (110)	V	C ₄₂ H ₆₆ O ₁₄	794.44	UT[19], UG[84]
β-Amyrin acetate (111)	V	C ₃₂ H ₅₂ O ₂	468.39	UM[80]
Tomentosides A (112)	VI	C ₄₇ H ₇₆ O ₁₇	913.12	UT[85]
Tomentosides B (113)	VI	C ₄₇ H ₇₆ O ₁₇	913.12	UT[85]

Table 4. Steroids, coumarins and lignans

name	type	formula	MW	Species [Ref]
β -Sitosterol (114)	VII	C ₂₉ H ₅₀ O	414.38	UT[18], UR [6]
β -Daucosterol (115)	VII	C ₃₅ H ₆₀ O ₆	576.43	UT[7], UR[6], UH[68], UM[80]
Campesterol (116)	VII	C ₂₉ H ₄₈ O	412.37	UT [7,18]
Stigmasterol (117)	VII	C ₂₉ H ₄₈ O	412.37	UT [18]
Scopoletin (118)	VIII	C ₁₀ H ₈ O ₄	192.04	
Umbelliferone (119)	VIII	C ₉ H ₆ O ₃	162.03	UH[68]
(2R,3R,4S)-Lyoniresinol-3 α -O- β -D-glucopyranoside (120)	VIII	C ₂₈ H ₃₈ O ₁₃	582.23	U.sin [5]
(2S,3S,4R)-Lyoniresinol-3 α -O- β -D-glucopyranoside (121)	IX	C ₂₈ H ₃₈ O ₁₃	582.23	U.sin [5]
(2S,3R,4S)-Lyoniresinol-3 α -O- β -D-glucopyranoside(122)	IX	C ₂₈ H ₃₈ O ₁₃	582.23	U.sin [5]
(2R,3S,4R)-Lyoniresinol-3 α -O- β -D-glucopyranoside (123)	IX	C ₂₈ H ₃₈ O ₁₃	582.23	U.sin [5]

Key to name of Uncaria species; UT: *U. tomentosa*; UR: *U. rhynchophylla*; UM: *U. macrophylla*; UH: *U. hirsuta*; Usin: *U. sinensis*; UG: *U. gambir*; U.th; *U. thwaitesii*; UE: *U. elliptica*; Ugui: *U. guianensis*

MW: molecular weight; *: Unconsidered; -: Absence

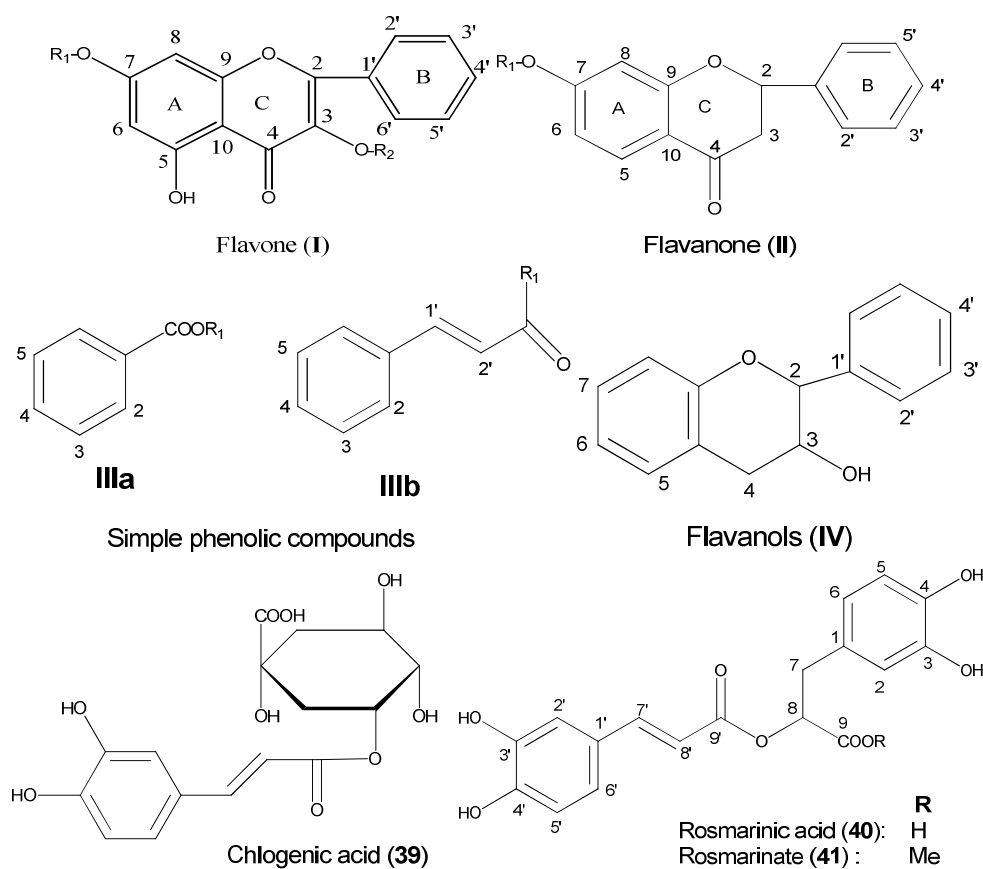
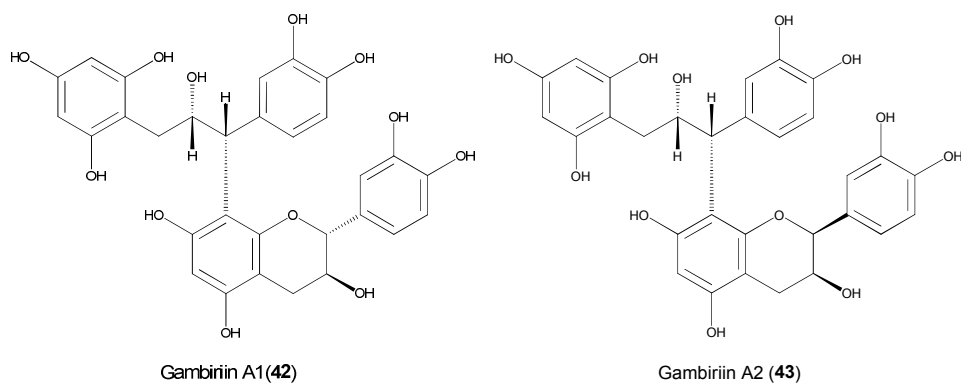
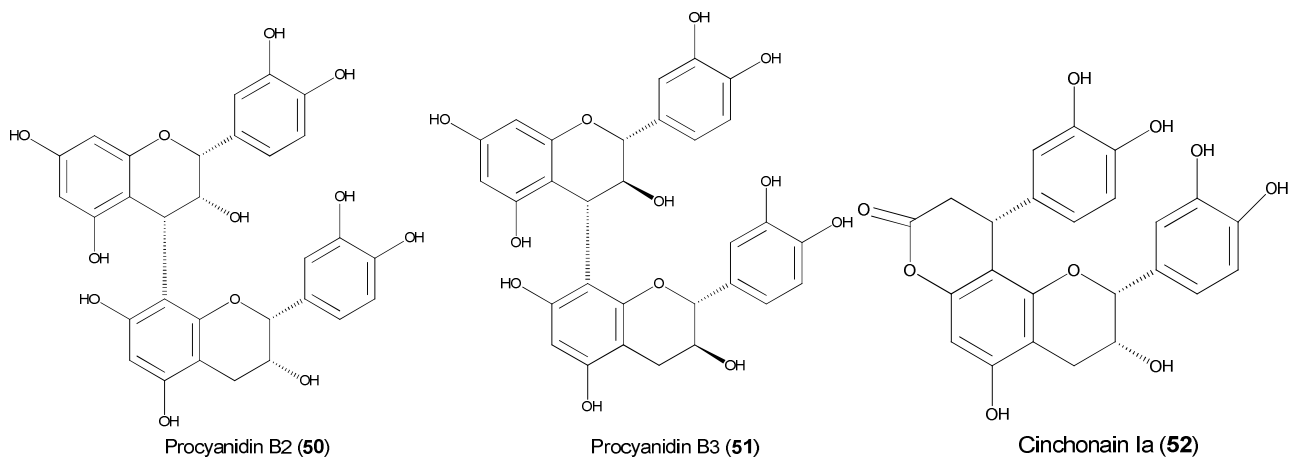
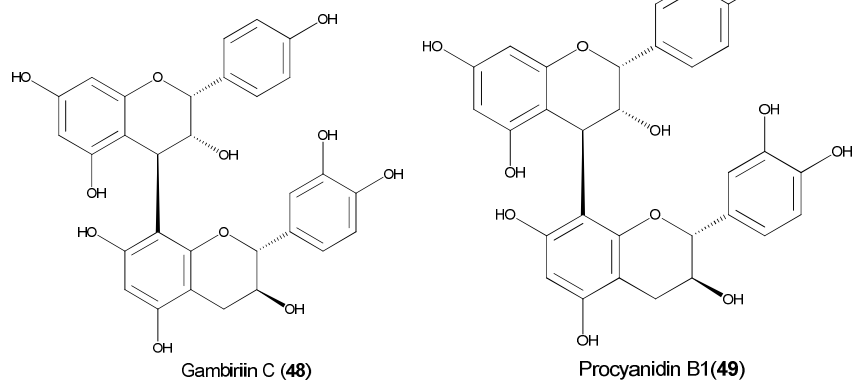
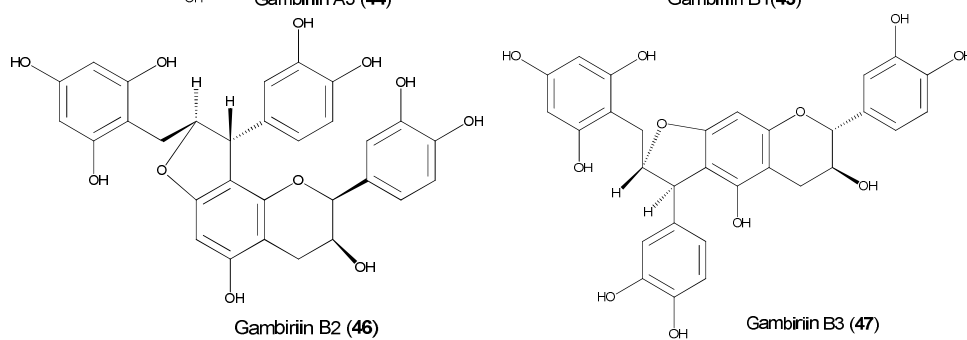
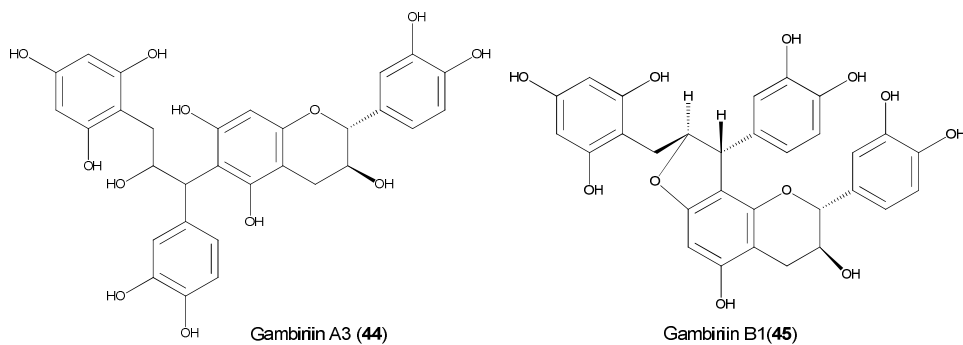


Figure 1. Main structures skeletons of flavonoids constituents





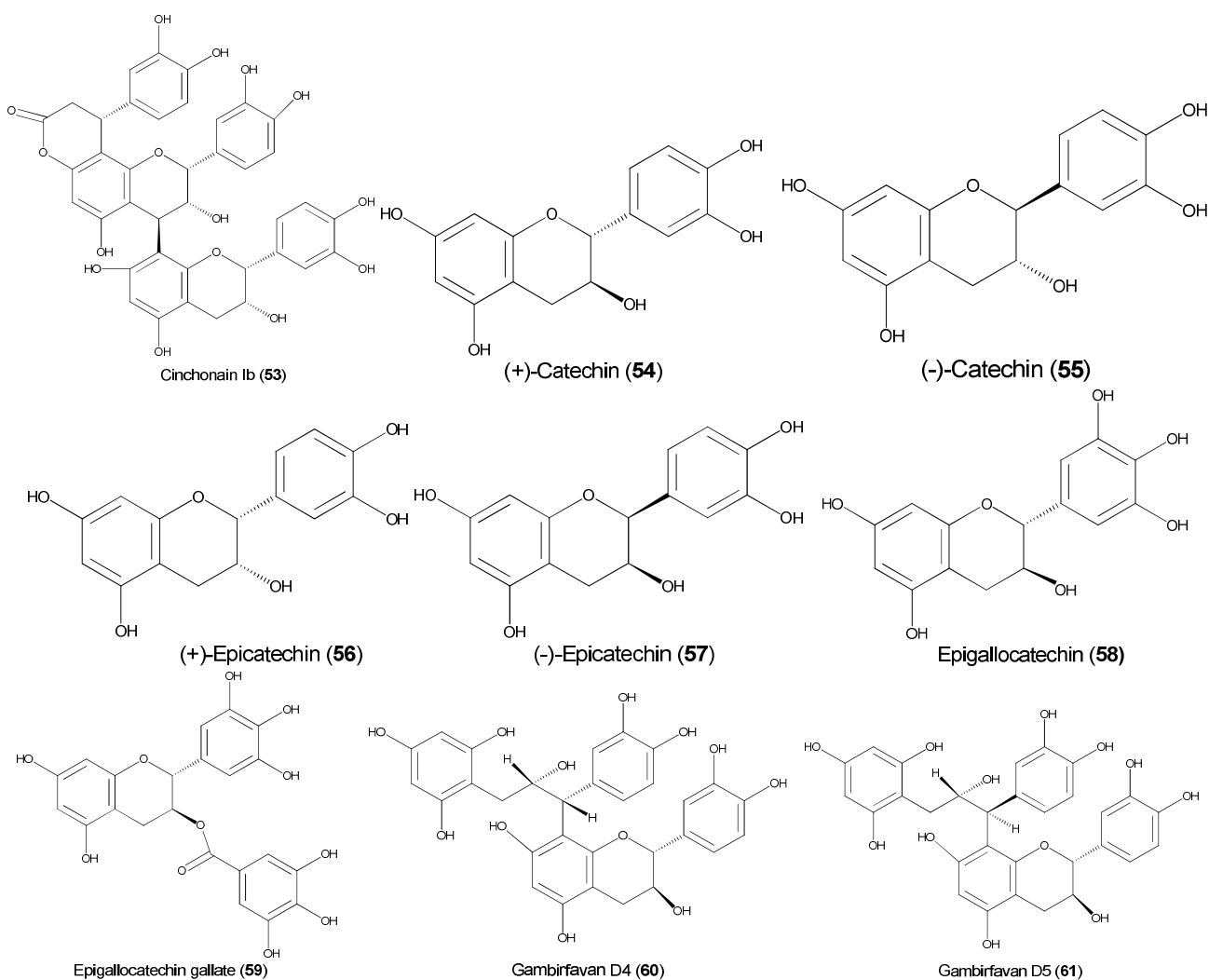
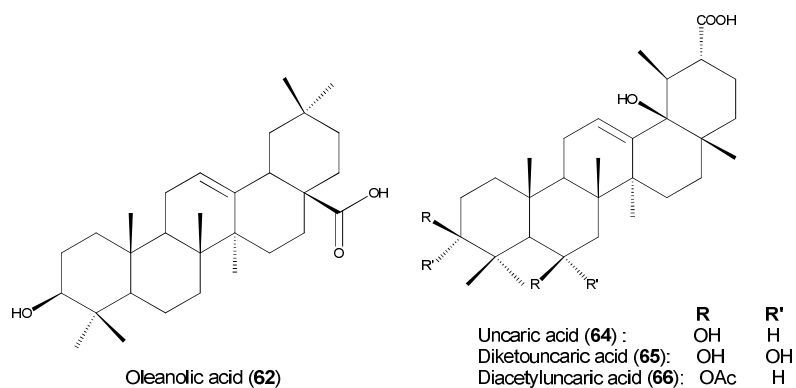
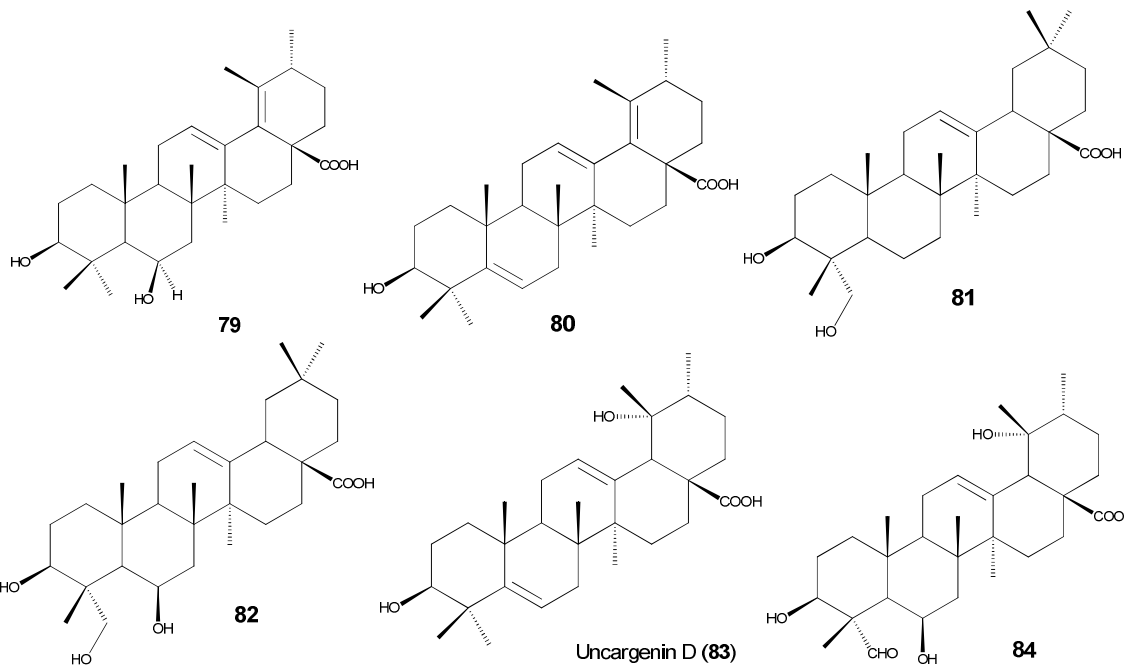
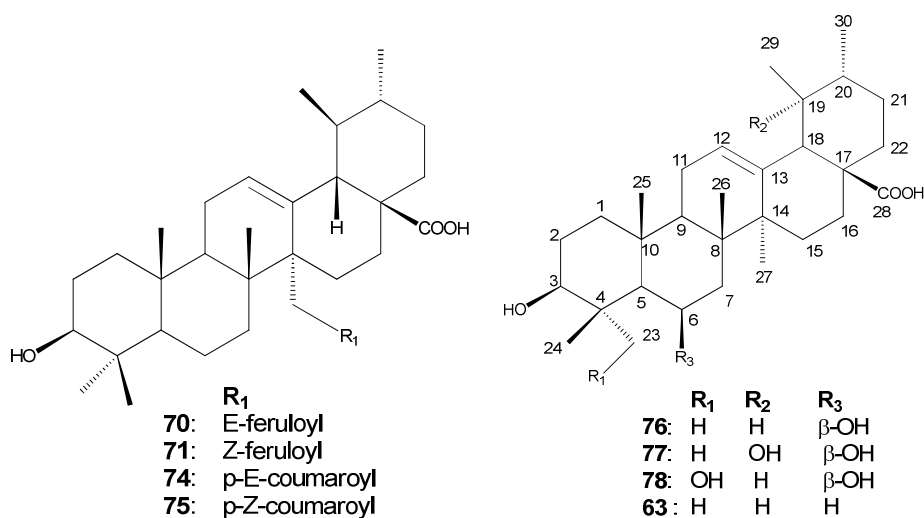
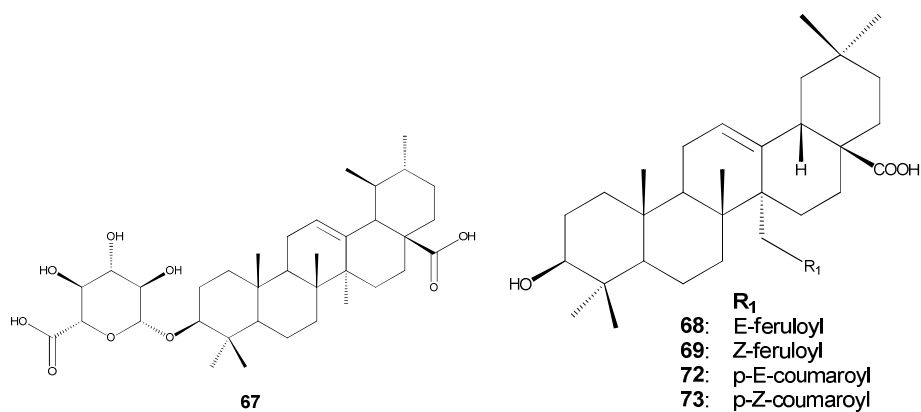
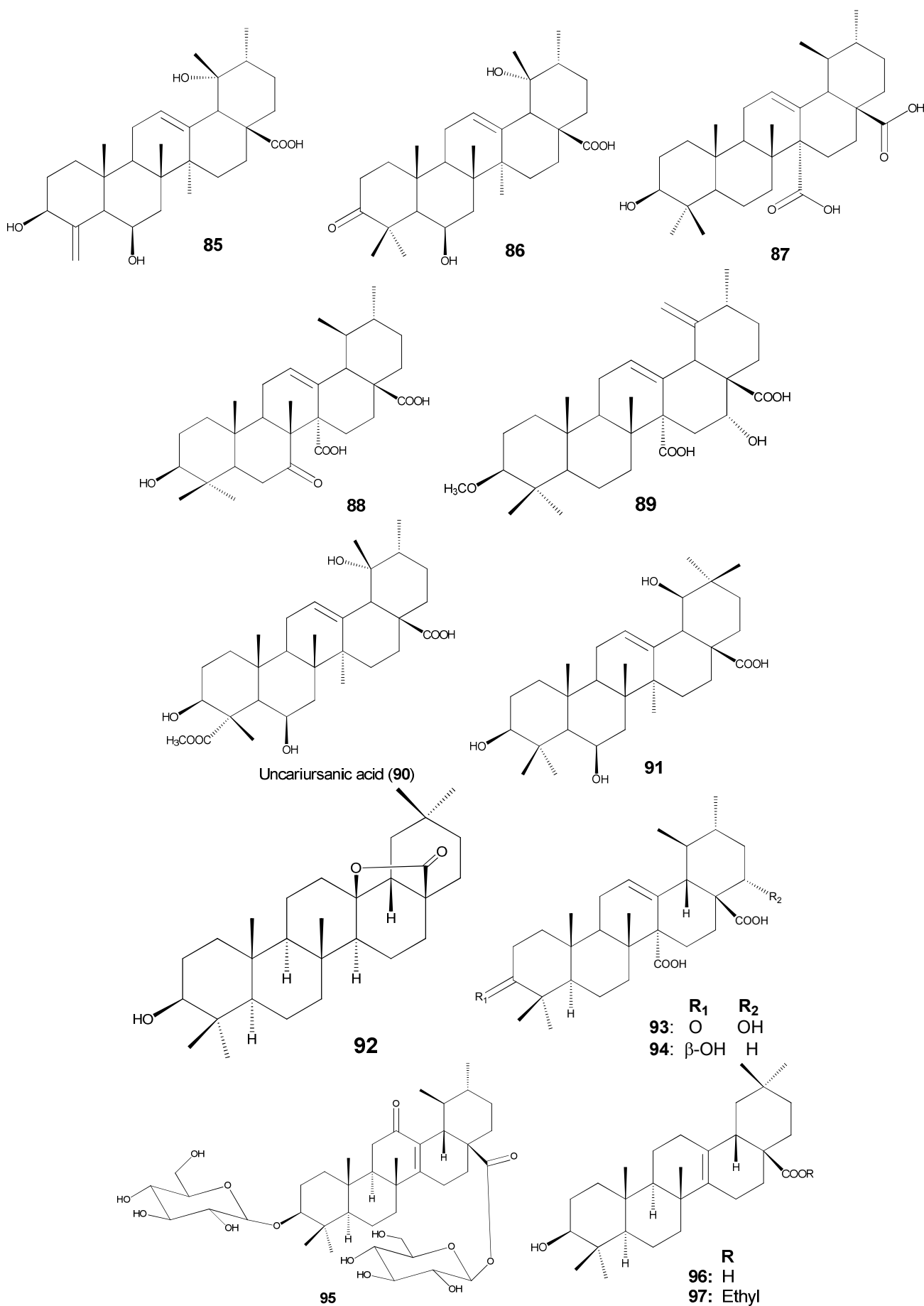
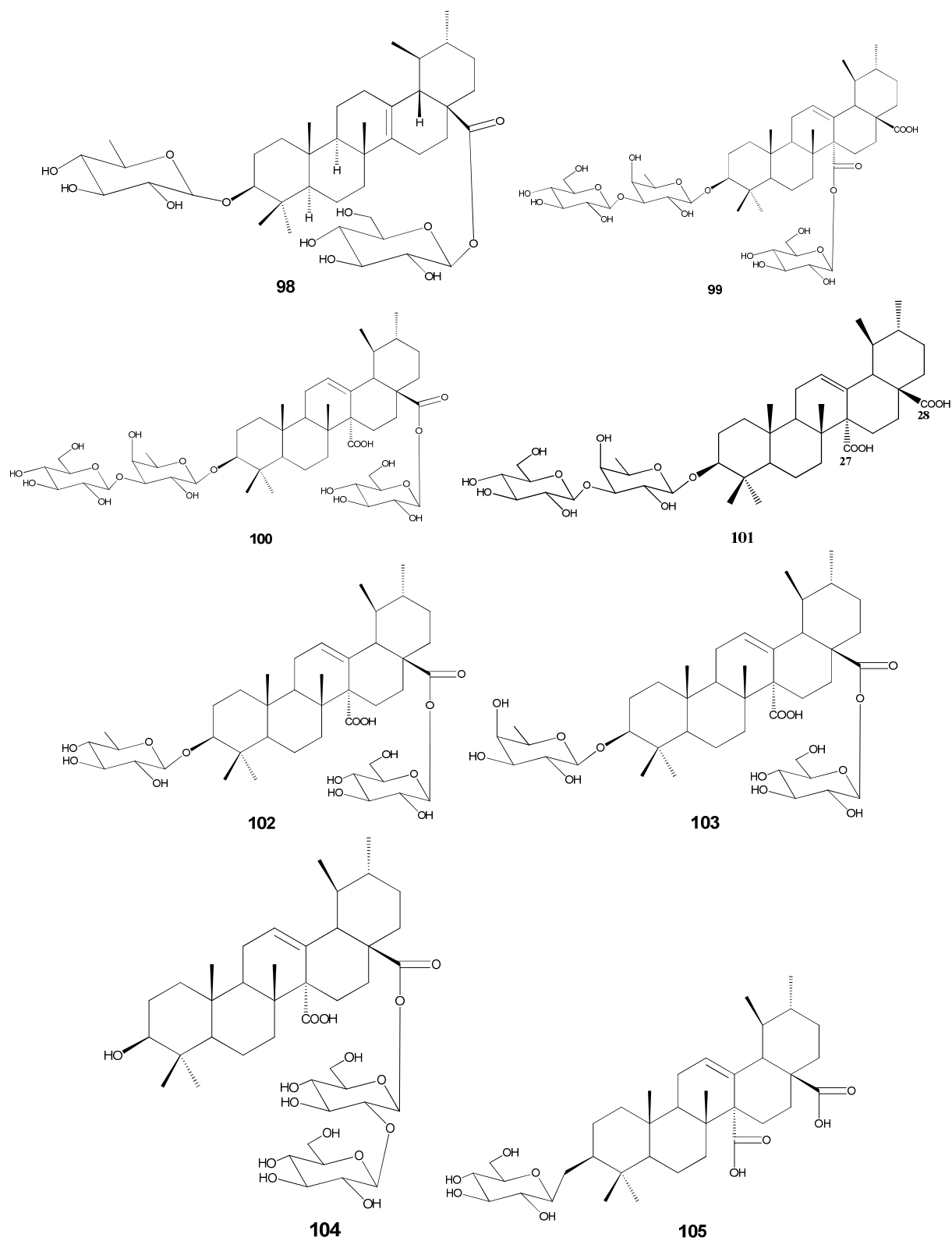


Figure 2. Flavan-3-ols and their dimers









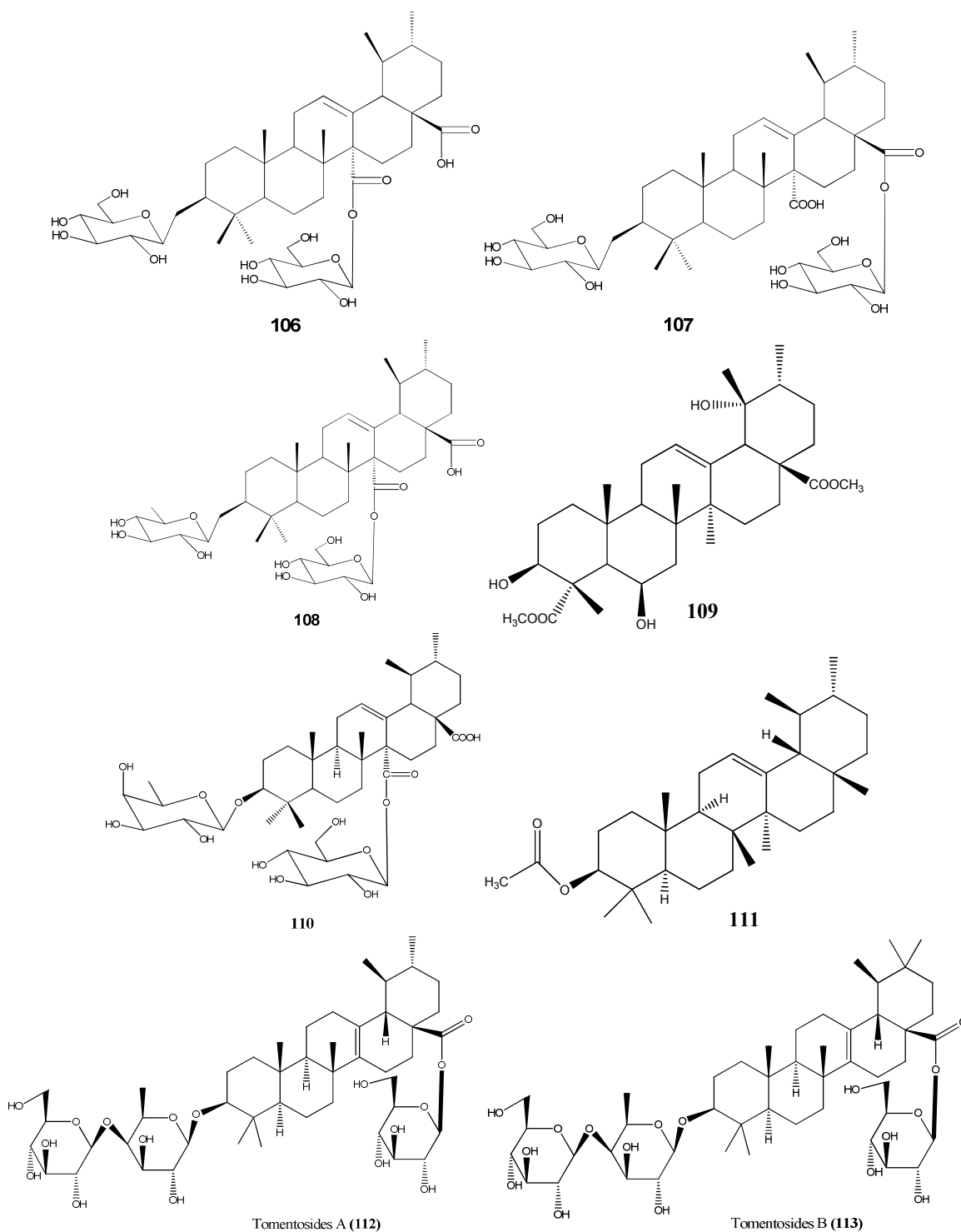


Figure 3. Pentacyclic triterpenoids and triterpenes saponin

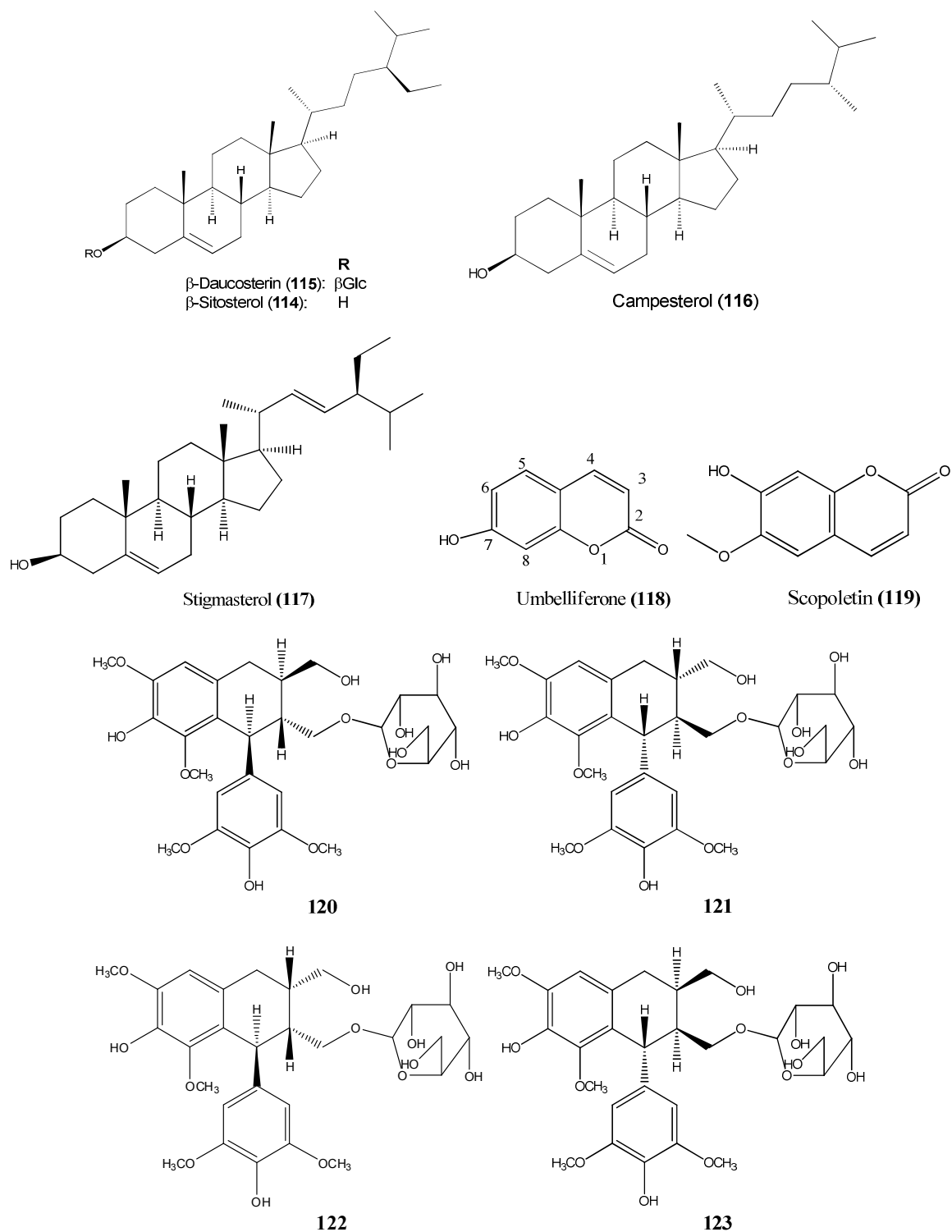
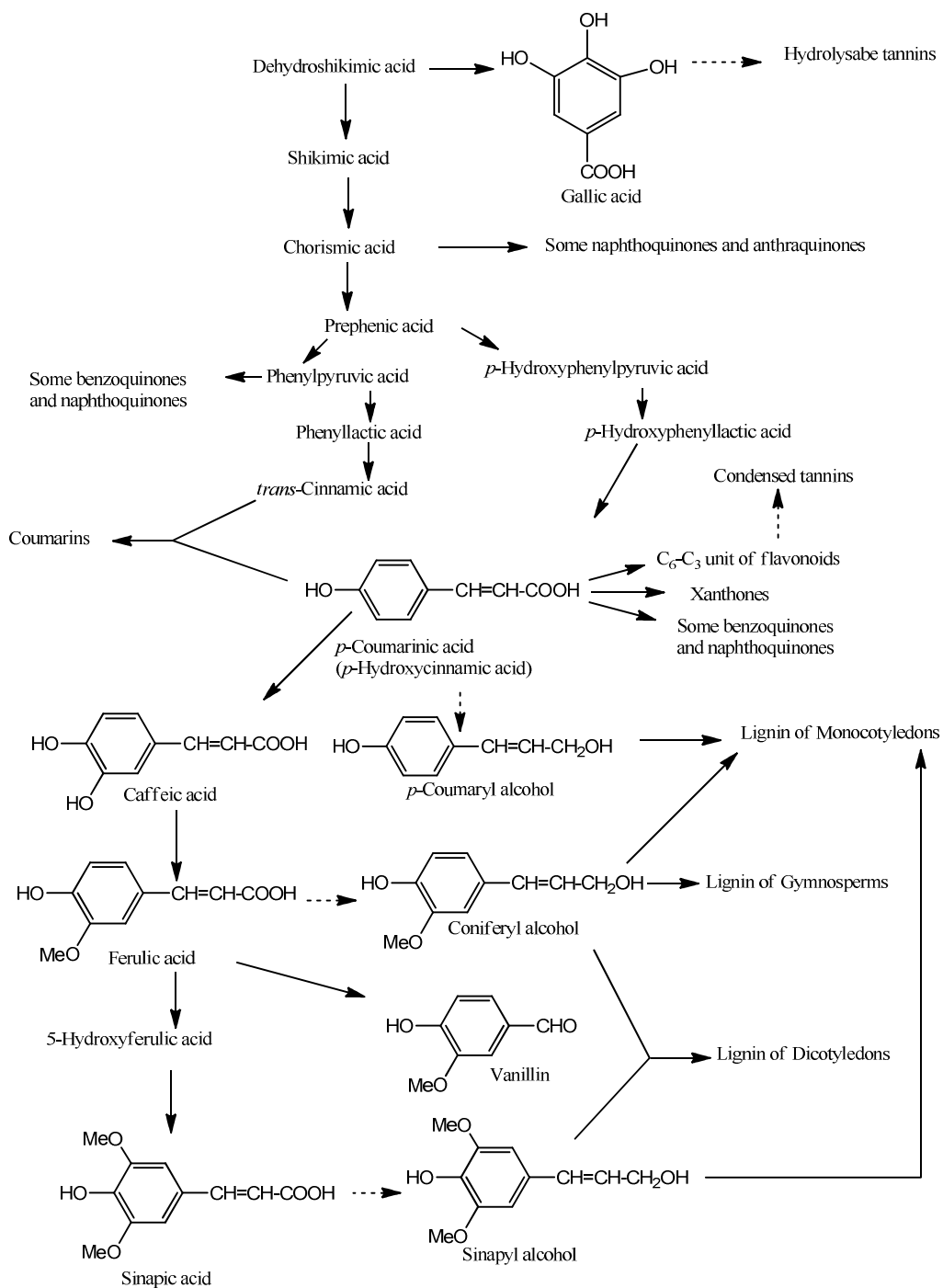
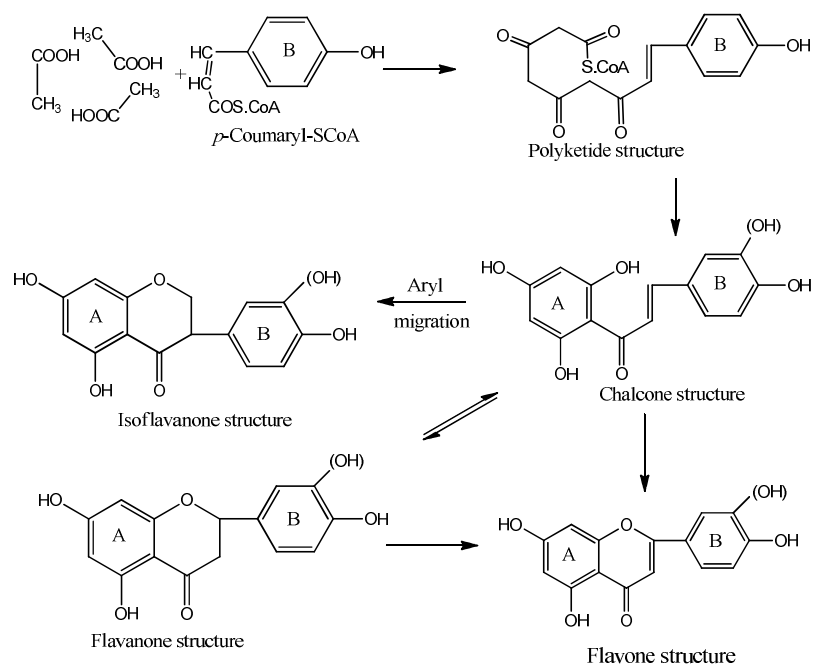


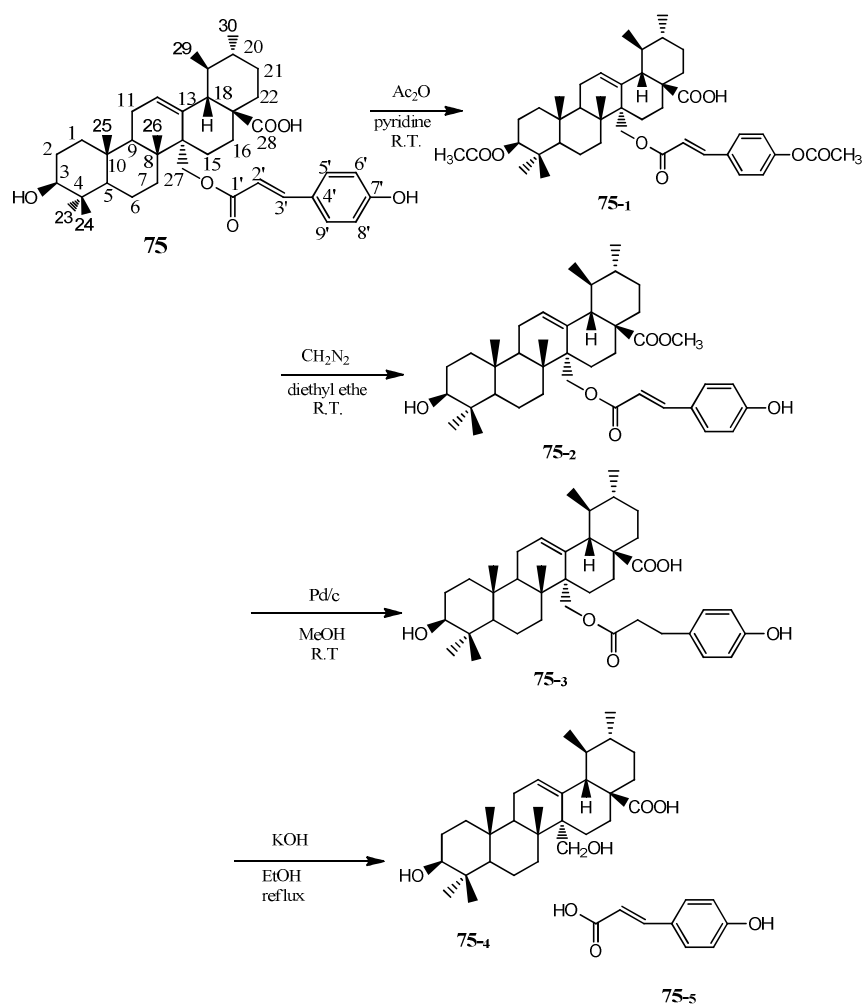
Figure 4. Sterols, coumarins and lignans



Scheme 1. Main steps of the shikimic acid pathway leading to cinnamic acids and their derivatives



Scheme 2. Main step of the flavonoid biosynthesis



Scheme 3. Structure-activity relationship of 3β-hydroxy-27-p-E-coumaroyloxyurs-12-en-28-oic acid derivatives (75)

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