

Isolation, Purification and Identification of Active Chemical Compound Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol (Betulin) from *Tetradium daniellii* Leaves and Study the hypoglycemic Effect on Rabbits

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Abstract

Diabetes mellitus is a syndrome and serious complex chronic condition leading to higher blood glucose levels that is a major source of health disorder worldwide, about 171 million or more diabetes mellitus cases worldwide in patients ages 20 years or more. The active chemicals compounds that isolated from medicinal plants were used successfully to treat this disease. The current study was extracted and isolated the bioactive compound (Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol) from (*Tetradium daniellii*) leaves. Were isolated, separated, purified and identified by thin layer chromatography, column chromatography, gas chromatography, IR-spectroscopy, ¹H-NMR, ¹³C-NMR, dept-NMR, Gas chromatography – mass spectroscopy. Also study of hypoglycemic action in blood glucose levels in normalglycemic and alloxan induced diabetic rabbits of Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol compound, a significant decreasing (P<0.01) at fourth and sixth hrs, and high significant decreasing (P<0.001) at twenty fourth hrs. in hyperglycemic rabbits, while in normalglycaemic rabbits, a significant decline (P<0.05) was at sixth, and a high significant decreasing (P<0.01) was recorded at twenty fourth hrs.

Key world: *Tetradium daniellii*, Betulin, hyperglycemia.

عزل , تنقية وتشخيص المركب الكيميائي الفعال Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol من أوراق نبات *Tetradium daniellii* ودراسة تأثيره المخفض لسكر الدم في الأرانب المختبرية

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الخلاصة

داء السكر هو اضطراب في عملية أيض سكر الكلوكوز في الجسم يؤدي إلى ارتفاع مستويات هذا السكر في الدم بصورة غير طبيعية لأسباب مختلفة , مما يسبب ضرر كبير في مختلف أنظمة جسم الإنسان لذلك استعملت الكثير من الأدوية والعقاقير الطبية ومنها المركبات الكيميائية الفعالة المعزولة من الأعشاب والنباتات الطبية بنجاح لعلاج هذا المرض , في الدراسة الحالية تم استخلاص وعزل المركب *Tetradium daniellii* من أوراق نبات Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol الكيميائي حيث تم عزل , تنقية وتشخيص المركب الكيميائي الفعال بواسطة تقانات كروماتوغرافيا الطبقة الرقيقة , كروماتوغرافيا العمود كروماتوغرافيا الغاز , مطيافية تحت الحمراء و مطيافية الكتلة , مطيافية الرنين النووي المغناطيسي , كما تم دراسة التأثير المخفض

لسكر الكلوكوز في الأرانب المختبرية للمركب الكيميائي المعزول Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol لوحظ فعالية قوية في تخفيض مستويات كلوكوز الدم , حيث أظهرت النتائج انخفاضاً معنوياً عند مستوى معنوية ($P < 0.01$) عند الساعة الرابعة والسادسة وانخفاضاً معنوياً عالياً ($P < 0.001$) عند الساعة الرابعة والعشرين في الأرانب المصابة بفرط السكر المحدث بالالوكسان , بينما في الأرانب السليمة وجد انخفاضاً معنوياً ($P < 0.05$) عند السادسة وارتفاعاً معنوياً عالياً ($P < 0.01$) عند الساعة الرابعة والعشرين .

1. Introduction :

The term diabetes mellitus describes a metabolic disorder of multiple aetiology characterized by chronic hyperglycemia with disturbances of carbohydrate, fat and protein metabolism resulting from defects in insulin secretion, insulin action, or both (Moore *et al.*,2009). The effects of diabetes mellitus include long-term damage, dysfunction and failure of various organs. Diabetes mellitus may present with characteristic symptoms such as thirst, polyuria, blurring of vision, and weight loss. In its most severe forms, ketoacidosis or a non-ketotic hyperosmolar state may develop and lead to stupor, coma and, in absence of effective treatment, death. Often symptoms are not severe, or may be absent, and consequently hyperglycaemia sufficient to cause pathological and functional changes may be present for a long time before the diagnosis is made (WHO,2006; ADA ,2012). Diabetes federaion (2011),reported that 366 million people have diabetes in 2011 and by 2030 million would have risen to 552 million .It was also estimated that diabetes causes 4.6 million deaths (International Diabetes Federation ,2014) . Currently available treatment options in modern medicine have several adverse effects. Therefore there is a need to develop safe and effective treatment modalities for diabetes. Medical plants play an important role in the management of DM especially in developing countries. More than 400 plants have been incorporated in approximately 700 recipes which are used to treat (Chauhan *et al.*,2010 ; Das Gupta and De,2012). a plant commonly used in the Mediterranean traditional medicine for its antidiabetic properties, sedative, analgesic, anti-inflammatory and hypoglycemic activities (Yessoufou *et al.*,2013). There have been many studies on hypoglycaemic plants and a great variety of compounds have been isolated (alkaloids glycosides, terpenes ,phenols and flavonoids(Andrade-Cetto, and Heinrich,2005; El-Houri *et al.*, 2014).Tetradium daniellii (Benn.) commonly known as (Korean evodia, Rutaceae) belongs to family Rutaceae, the table (1) showing scientific classification, occurring in temperate to

tropical east Asia is native to Tibet and the Yunnan Province, China, northeast through China to North and South Korea and some parts of Europe (Hartley 1981)

Table (1) scientific classification of Tetradium daniellii (Vincent,2004).

Kingdom:	Plantae
(unranked):	Angiosperms
(unranked):	Eudicots
(unranked):	Rosids
Order:	Sapindales
Family:	Rutaceae
Genus:	<i>Tetradium</i>
Species:	<i>daniellii</i>

A moderate-sized tree or large shrub, reaching 8–12(–20) m tall, with a similar spread of the crown. Its bark is smooth and gray to black. The young branches are pubescent becoming glabrous as the growing season progresses; winter buds are naked Leaves are 22–40 cm long(Anonymous ,2002). Tetradium genus is economically important because of their alimentary, industrial and medicinal applications (Seidemann, 2005; Chase *et al.*, 1999) Species of this genus are medicinal plants and have economic importance as sources of edible fruits, oils, wood, raw materials for industries, ornamentals, culinary applications, in previews studies isolated active chemicals compounds from *Tetradium daniellii* have biologic activities against some diseases (Yang, 2008; Da Silva *et al.* 2006; Adesina, 2005; Seidemann, 2005). in this study isolated active chemicals compounds from terpenoids compounds Terpenes are a wide-spread group of natural compounds with considerable practical significance which are produced by arrangement of squalene epoxide in a chair-chair-chair-boat arrangement followed by condensation. In our

everyday life we all encounter either directly or indirectly various terpenes, such as mono- and sesquiterpene components of essential oils, which contribute to the aroma of plants, triterpenes of different types included in all higher plants, (Olukoga and Donaldson 2000 ; Szakiel *et al.* 1995).

2. Material And Methods

2.1. Study plant

Young buds and leaves of *Tetradium daniellii* were collected in 2014 from Guildford region near surrey university in united kingdom , The plant was classified in the Natural Products Research Group in chemistry department Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences the University of Surrey

2.2 Preparation of Crude Extract

The leaves and buds of *Tetradium daniellii* were dried at 25°C. The dried plant materials were ground to fine powder using grinding mills and extracted successively in a Soxhlet extractor using dichloromethane (DCM). The extracts were filtered and the solvent was evaporated, and collected the crude extract. (Mulholland *et al.*,2013).

2.3. Isolation and purification of compound

For the isolation process the following techniques of column chromatography and thin layer chromatography (TLC) were used. Different size columns were used for column chromatography, ranging from 2-6 cm diameter depending on the purification stage and the amount of the sample available. The separation of compounds was carried out using thin layer chromatographic analysis technique and size-exclusion column chromatography over Sephadex using (CH₂Cl₂: Hexane, 1:1) as the mobile phase. TLC analysis was carried out on 0.2 mm silica gel, aluminum-backed plates (Merck Art.5554) (Mulholland *et al.*,2013).

2.4. Analysis spectral terpenoid compound

Various spectroscopic techniques including NMR, FTIR, TLC and MS analysis were used to identify the compound from *Tetradium daniellii* extract.

2.4.1. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (NMR)

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectroscopic experiments were performed on a 500 MHz Bruker AVANCE NMR spectroscopy at University of Surrey in United kingdom. The spectra were recorded in either deuterated chloroform (CDCl₃) or deuterated methanol (CD₃OD).

2.4.2. Mass Spectrometry (MS)

High resolution electron impact mass spectrum were acquired by using a Hewlett Packard G1800A GCD system at University of Surrey in United kingdom.

2.4.3. Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR)

Infrared spectra were recorded using a Perkin-Elmer (2000 FTIR) spectrometer. The samples were dissolved in chloroform and analyzed using NaCl plates

2.5. Animals

Rabbits weighting 1.5-2.0 Kg were procured from central animal house of Basra University, Basra, Iraq .Animals were kept in clean polypropylene cages and fed on standard antibiotic free diet. All animals were kept in fast for 24 hr. before starting the experiments (Manohar *et al.*,2012).

2.5.1. Hyperglycemia Induction of Rabbits

2.6. Effect of Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol (Betulin) on glucose level in alloxan –induced diabetic rabbits

Twelve fasted hyperglycemic rabbits were divided into two equal groups. The first was given 3ml of normal saline and considered as a control group while the second group was given 0.2gm/kg body weight of (Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol (Betulin) dissolved in 3ml of normal saline which was considered as treatment group. Blood samples were collected at times (0 (as fasting), 2,4,6 and 24 hrs). The glucose concentrations were measured at each time point (Sultan and Abdul-Rahman ,.2009) .

2.7. Statistical Analysis

The statistical analysis was carried out for all experiments of hyperglycemic rabbits by one way method using ANOVA method of variance analysis using SPSS Version 14-2006 for testing presence of significant differences between control and treatment means.

3. Results

3.1. Qualitative and quantitative analysis of triterpenes extracted from *Tetradium daniellii*

3.1.1. Triterpenes test

1 ml of concentrated of sulphuric acid was added to 1 ml of oils dissolved in 1 ml of chloroform the purple-red formed indicates the presence of triterpenes (Harborne, 1984).

3.2. Preliminary chemical screening

3.2.1. Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC)

TLC results of terpenoid extract using after hydrolysis showed the presence of one spot that indicate the present one terpenoid compound. Therefore it was separated by TLC, using (22%DCM:78% Ethyl acetate) as eluent . The sample was lined across the TLC plate, 1 cm from the bottom of the plates. The plates were then placed in chromatography tanks and left to develop in the desired solvent system. This process was carried out four times. The compounds of interest successfully separated. These were detected and marked under UV light and anisaldehyde spray reagent and heating

3.3. Structural elucidation of active chemical compound Lup-20(29)- ene-3, 28-diol (Betulin)

3.3.1. GC-Mass Spectrum

The Mass spectrum recorded of the terpenoid compound isolated from the leaves of *Tetradium daniellii* shown in Fig(1) it showed The abundance and m/z Packets .

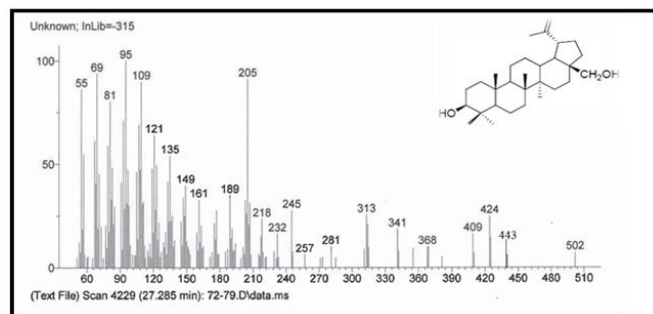


Fig (1) Mass Spectrum for **Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol** compound isolated from *Tetradium daniellii*

3.3.2.F T-IR spectrum

The infrared spectrum recorded of the compound isolated from the leaves of *Tetradium daniellii* is shown in fig(2) .and table (2) showed The intensity of the absorption Packets and structure groups

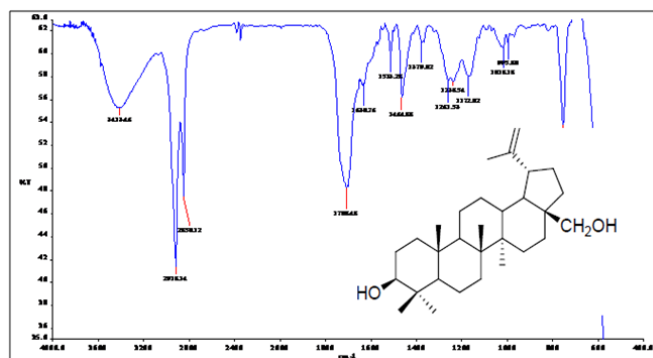


Fig (2) FT-IR Spectrum for **Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol** compound isolated from *Tetradium daniellii*

Table (2) The intensity of the absorption packets and wave number

Wave number cm^{-1}	Group	Vibration Type	Intensity
3412.46	OH	Stretching	Strong
2918.14	CH	Sym. Stretching	Strong
2850.12	CH	A sym. Stretching	Strong
1620.76	C=C	Bending	Strong
1172.00	C-O	Stretching	Strong

3.3.3. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (NMR)

¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR spectra of compound Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol (Betulin) isolated from the leaves of *Tetradium daniellii* is shown in Fig(3), Fig(4) and Fig (5) which show chemicals shift for hydrogen groups and carbons atoms.

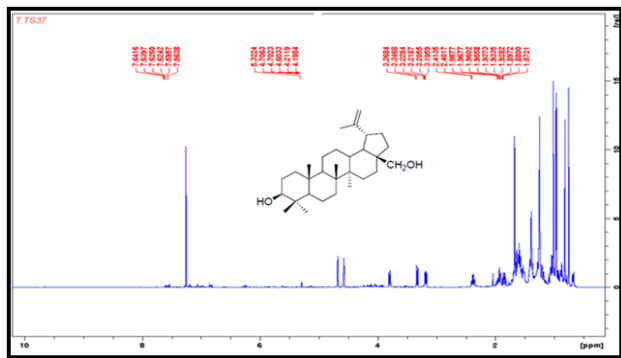


Fig.3 ¹H NMR spectrum for Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol compound isolated from *Tetradium daniellii* in CDCl₃

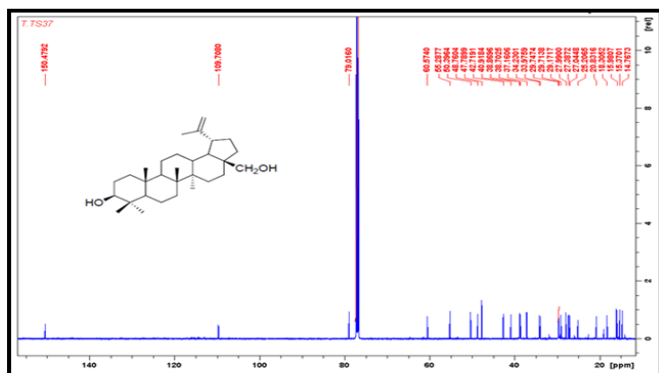


Fig.4 ¹³C NMR spectrum for Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol compound isolated from *Tetradium daniellii* in CDCl₃

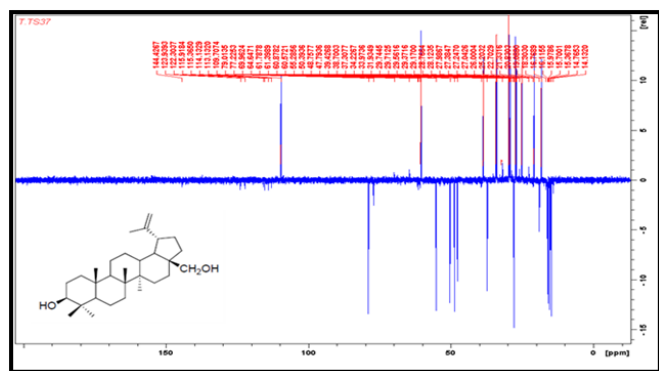


Fig.5 DEPT spectrum for Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol compound isolated from *Tetradium daniellii* in CDCl₃

3.4. Hypoglycemic Action of Oral Administration of Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol of *Tetradium daniellii* leaves on Blood Glucose Conc. in Normalglycemic rabbits

The oral administration of Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol compound a significant result to decrease glucose conc. was found at times 6 hrs (P<0.05) and a significant decrease occurred at 24 hrs (P<0.05), when compared with control group as shown in table (3).

Table (3): Action of oral administration Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol of *Tetradium daniellii* on blood glucose

Extract and Dose (gm/kg)	N	Blood glucose conc. (mg/100 ml)				
		0 hrs	2 hrs	4 hrs	6 hrs	24 hrs
Control 3ml normal saline	6	123.89±	123.00±	121.02±	120.00±	117.5±
		3.46	2.68	3.21	3.23	1.34
0.2 g/kg (Betulin)	6	127.12±	125.70±	123.10±	96.02*±	102*±
		2.68	1.43	2.60	4.22	4.61

Blood glucose conc. were represented as mean ± S.E.M.
P* < 0.05, N = number of rabbits in each group.

3.5. Effect of Oral Administration of Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol on blood glucose level in hyperglycemic rabbits

The effect of Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol compound isolated from *Tetradium daniellii* on blood glucose level. In hyperglycemic rabbits at deferent times after oral administration, is indicated in table (4). It was found that extract decreases significantly glucose conc. at 4hrs (P<0.05) and a significant decreasing occurred at 6 hrs (p<0.01). The greatest significant decreasing was recorded at 24hrs (P<0.001).

Table (4): Action of oral administration of Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol of *Tetradium daniellii* blood glucose conc. in hyperglycemic rabbits

Extract and Dose (gm/kg)	N	Blood glucose conc. (mg/100 ml)				
		0 hrs	2 hrs	4 hrs	6 hrs	24 hrs
Control 3ml normal saline	6	325.22±	321.52±	316.00±	308.92±	297.25±
		3.26	3.45	2.33	6.00	3.42
0.2 g/kg (Betulin)	6	334.50±	330.4±	259.91*±	218.18**±	178.67***±
		1.59	6.34	4.52	7.30	5.86

Blood glucose conc. were represented as mean ± S.E.M.
P* < 0.05, P** < 0.01, P*** < 0.001, N = number of rabbits in each group.

Physical description: amorphous solid
 Solubility: soluble in chloroform and ethylacetate
 Melting Point: 249-253 °C (determined by open
 Capillary method)
 R_f Value: 0.584 in 22 % DCM + 78% ethyl acetate

4. Discussion

4.1. Structural elucidation of compound Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol

FT-IR spectrum of isolated compound gave characteristic peaks of groups present in the isolated compound like C-H (alkane), -CH₃ (bending), C=C, C-O and -OH group as show fig (1).

Mass spectroscopy of isolated compound was performed, by High resolution mass technique, showing a molecular ion peak at M +1. at 443 ,while calculated molecular weight of betulin (molecular formula- C₃₀H₅₀O₂) is 442 as show fig(2).

H¹- NMR spectroscopy was used for the confirmation of structure of isolated compound; in which various peaks in CDCl₃ were found at δ value

¹H-NMR, 4.70 (s, 1H), 4.48 (dd, J = 4.6, 1H), 4.19 (d, 1H), 3.8(d,H) 3.38(H), 3.2(q,H) ,2.40–2.42 (m, 1H) , 1.96–1.90 (m, 5H), 1.80-1.9(m,17H),, 1.15–1.11 (s, 3H), 1.10–0.90 (m, 1H), 1.05 (s, 3H), 0.99 (s, 3H), 0.95 (s, 3H), 0.86 (s, 3H), 0.82 (s, 3H), as show Fig.(3) and it shows the presence of 50 hydrogen in the compound, and δ value of ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 150.4 (C-20), 109.7 (C-29), 79.01 (C-3), 60.5 (C-28), 55.4 (C-5), 50.3 (C-9), 48.7 (C-19), 47.7 (C-17), 42.7 (C-18), 40.9 (C-14), 38.8 (C-8), 38.9(C-1), 38.7 (C-4), 37.1 (C-10), 34.2 (C-13), 33.9 (C-7), 29.74 (C-22), 29.71 (C-21), 29.1(C-16), 27.9 (C-23), 27.3 (C-2), 27.0 (C-15), 25.2 (C-12), 20.8 (C-11), 18.3 (C-30), 15.9 (C-6), 15.3 (C-25), 14.9 (C-26), 14.7 (C-24), 14.1 (C-27) as show Fig.(4)and Fig(5)

On the basis of characterization studies of isolated compound, it was concluded that the isolated compound betulin and its structure is determined as follows. it can be concluded that the isolated compound is similar to the molecular formula C₃₀H₅₀O₂.

4.2. Physical Properties of Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol

Colour: yellowish white

4.3. Hypoglycemic effects of Active Chemical Compound (Lup-20(29)-ene-3, 28-diol) Isolated from Leaves of *Tetradium daniellii* in Normalglycemic and Hyperglycemic Rabbits

It was observed from table (3) and table (4), that Tri terpenoid compound isolated from pods of plant decreased blood glucose conc. in hyperglycemic rabbits significantly because this compounds and most terpenoids active compounds have an antioxidant activity to capture free radicals, therefore these chemical compounds product the insulin hormone from free radicals and then decreasing oxidation of this hormone (Milner ,1994). Betulin and betulinic acid are naturally occurring pentacyclic triterpenes showing cytotoxicity towards a number of cancer cell lines (**Drag et al.,2009**).

Betulin also occurs as the palmitate in the glue firm bark of *Trochodendron aralioides*. The antiphlogistic activity of betulin was confirmed in various experimental models. Studies on the activity of a methanolic extract from the rhizomes of *N. nucifera*, as well as betulin and betulinic acid revealed a marked inhibition of the carrageenin- and serotonin-induced rat paw edema, which was comparable to that of the standard anti-inflammatory agents phenylbutazone and dexamethazone. (steroid triterpenes), (**Recio et al. 1995**); (**Patočka,2003**). By general Triterpenoids were among the bioactive constituents reported for antidiabetic activity of *medicinal plants* ; their mechanism of action has been attributed to inhibition of α-amylase and α-glucosidase (**Nkobole et al .,2011**). Although the mechanism of action was not determined, sitosterol (one of tri trpenoids) has been shown as the active principle behind the hypoglycemic activity shown by extract of *Ipomoea digitata* tuber in streptozotocin-induced diabetic rats (**Pandey et al.,2013**). Sitosterol has also been shown to be the active principle in antihyperglycemic activity of *Swietenia macrophylla* seed extracts in normoglycemic rats undergoing glucose tolerance tests (**Hashim et al.,2013**). Also clinical studies (**Gao et al.,2009**) have shown that betulin (3β-lup-20(29)-en-3,28-diol), was effective against a variety of tumors. Betulin causes

some types of tumor cells to start a process of self-destruction called apoptosis and can slow the growth of several types of tumor cells. Recent studies (Tilford, 1997) have proved that betulin, inhibited the maturation of Sterol regulatory element-binding protein (SREBPs). Inhibition of SREBP by betulin decreased the biosynthesis of Cholesterol and fatty acid. In vivo, betulin ameliorated diet-induced obesity, decreased the lipid contents in serum and tissues, and increased insulin sensitivity. Furthermore, betulin reduced the size and improved the stability of atherosclerotic plaques. (Alakurtti *et al.*, 2006).

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