



Dendronephthols A-C, New Sesquiterpenoids from the Red Sea Soft Coral *Dendronephthya* sp.

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Abstract:

Three new ylangene-type sesquiterpenoids: dendronephthol A (7,13-dihydroxy-3,4-dihydro- β -ylang-5-one) (1), dendronephthol B (6,7,13-trihydroxy-3,4-dihydro- β -ylangene) (2), and dendronephthol C (6,7,13-trihydroxy- β -ylang-5-one) (3), together with two known compounds: dendronesterone A and cholesterol were isolated from the CHCl₃ fraction of Red Sea soft coral *Dendronephthya* sp. (Nephtheidae). The structures of the new compounds were established on the basis of one- and two-dimensional NMR spectroscopic studies (¹H, ¹³C, DEPT, COSY, HSQC, HMBC, and NOESY) as well as MS spectroscopy and by comparison of the spectral data with those of related known compounds. Compounds 1 and 3 showed cytotoxic activity against the murine lymphoma L5187Y cancer cell line with ED₅₀ values of 8.4 and 6.8 μ g/mL, respectively.

Published In:

Tetrahedron , Vol. 70 , pp. 3822-3825