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Structures and biological activities of three new terpenes obtained from the fruiting body of a mushroom *Russula lepida*

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The genus of *Russula* is an important group in the subdivision of Basidiomycotina, and hundreds of species have been reported to grow in forests all over the world. Especially, *Russula lepida* has been utilized as a medicinal food in China.

In the course of our research on new types of protein tyrosine phosphatase 1B (PTP1B) inhibitors from terrestrial and marine natural resources, we found a variety of PTP1B inhibitors with unique structural features. Further screening bioassays revealed that an EtOH extract of the fruiting body of *R. lepida*, collected at Miyagi, Japan in 2012, inhibited the PTP1B activity. Bioassay-guided separation of the extract led to the isolation of a new seco-cucurbitane triterpene (1) and two new aristolane sequiterpenes (2 and 3) together with two known terpenes (4 and 5). In this presentation, we describe the isolation, structural elucidation including the absolute configuration, and biological activities of 1–3.

Compounds 1–5 were isolated from the fruiting body of *R. lepida* (1.2 kg) by the solvent extraction, ODS column, and preparative HPLC. Compounds 4 and 5 were identified by comparing their spectroscopic data with those of the reported values for (24E)-3,4-seco-cucubita-4,24-diene-3,26,29-trioic acid and aristlone, respectively.

The structures of 1–3 including the absolute configuration were assigned on the basis of their NMR and ECD spectra. Among these compounds, 1 and 4 exhibited the inhibitory activity against PTP1B with ICs₀ values of 20.3 and 0.4 μ M, respectively. Oleanolic acid, a positive control, inhibited the PTP1B activity at 0.7 μ M (ICs₀) in the same experiment.

This is the first study on the inhibitory activity of seco-cucurbitane triterpenes against PTP1B activity.