

A New Diterpene and Flavonoids from *Pulicaria somalensis*

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Abstract. A new diterpene of clerodane type and three known methylated flavones (chrysosplenol D, chrysosplenetin and casticin) have been isolated from the aerial parts of *Pulicaria somalensis* and characterized by spectroscopic methods. Chrysosplenetin and casticin have been isolated from the *Pulicaria* genus for the first time.

Introduction

In the course of our research on natural products from Saudi plants and in view of the absence of any information about the chemistry of *Pulicaria somalensis*, we have undertaken the investigation of this plant. Recently, we reviewed the chemistry of various members of the *Pulicaria* genus [1]. Characteristic constituents of this genus are sesquiterpenoids and flavonoids. Diterpenoids and triterpenoids are however less frequent. Only a total of six diterpenes of the clerodane series have been isolated from three *Pulicaria* species [2-5]. In the present article we describe the isolation of previously unknown clerodane lactone (1) as well as three flavonoids from the aerial parts of *P. somalensis*.

Experimental

Melting points are uncorrected and were taken on a Kofler hot stage. UV spectra were recorded on uv/vs PU 8800 Pye Unicam spectrophotometer. NMR spectra were obtained with a Jeol-100 MHz instrument in CDCl₃ using TMS as an internal reference. Known compounds were identified by comparison of their spectral data with those reported in the literature and in some cases with authentic samples available in our laboratory.