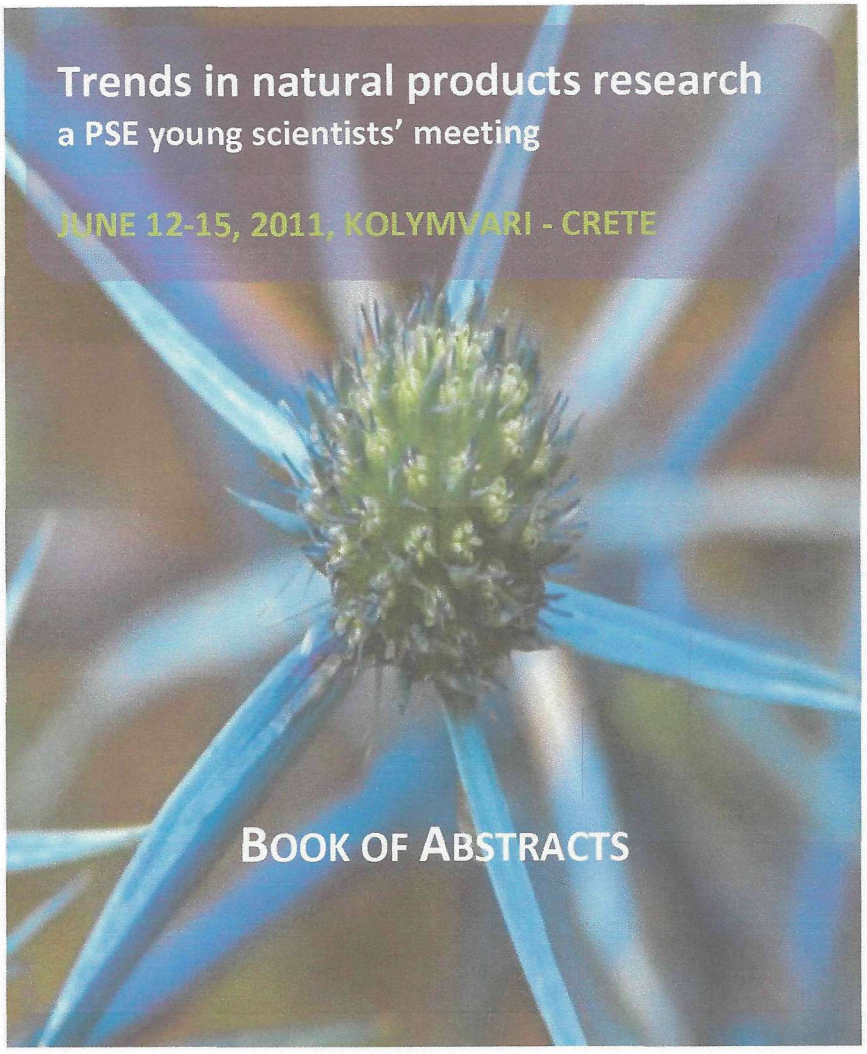

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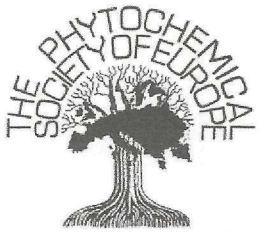


UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

June 12-15, 2011
Kolymvari, Crete, Greece

Edited by
Efstathia Ioannou and Vassilios Roussis

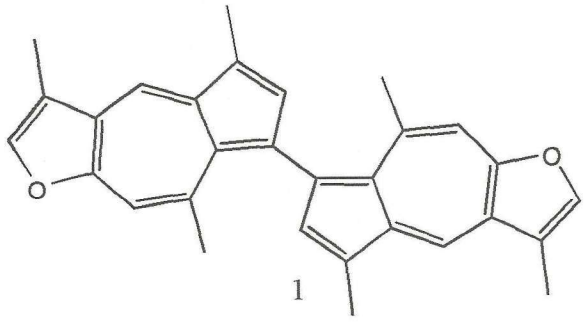
Metabolites from deep sea marine organisms

Stamatios Perdikaris, Efstathia Ioannou, Constantinos Vagias, and Vassilios Roussis

Department of Pharmacognosy and Chemistry of Natural Products, School of Pharmacy, University of Athens, Panepistimiopolis Zografou, 15771 Athens, Greece
E-mail: takiperd@hotmail.com

Deep sea marine organisms offer promising possibilities for extending the frontiers in drug discovery and development.[1] The vastly different environmental conditions which are at play in the deep sea (elevated pressures, depressed temperatures, lower light penetration) favor the development of extreme bio- and chemical diversity. Here, we report the isolation and structure elucidation of a new natural product and a number of previously reported metabolites from two deep sea marine organisms.

Specimens of the gorgonian *Paramuricea clavata* were collected by dredging in Samos island (Greece) at depths of 100-110 m, while specimens of the sponge *Suberites carnosus* were collected using the same method in Cape Pappas in the Ionian Sea (Greece) at depths of 130-150 m. Fractionation of the gorgonian extract yielded one new azulene dimer (**1**), along with linderazulene[2] and cholesta-5-ene-3β-19-diol. Metabolite **1** is a symmetric dimer of linderazulene with the new C-C bond formed between C-7 and C-7'. The sponge extract was subjected to a series of chromatographic separations to afford the known diterpenes dehydroabietic acid, *trans*-communic acid and isopimaric acid. The structures of the isolated metabolites were elucidated on the basis of 1D and 2D NMR and MS data.



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[1] Skropeta, D., *Nat. Prod. Rep.*, **2008**, 25, 1131.
[2] Imre, S., Thomson, R.H., Yalhi, B., *Cell. Mol. Life Sci.*, **1981**, 37, 442.

Acknowledgement: This research has been co-financed by the European Union (European Social Fund – ESF) and Greek national funds through the Operational Programme "Education and Lifelong Learning" of the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) - Research Funding Program: Heracleitus II. Investing in knowledge society through the European Social Fund.