

ABSTRACT

 An ongoing search for alkaloids in the Amaryllidaceae species using GC–MS resulted in the identification of two crinine-type alkaloids, aulicine (1) and 3-O-methyl-epimacowine, (2) from the indigenous Brazilian species Hippeastrum aulicum and Hippeastrum calyptratum, respectively. In addition, two alkaloids, 11-oxohaemanthamine (3) and 7-methoxy-O-methyllycorenine (4) were both isolated from H. aulicum. Furthermore, we provide here complete NMR spectroscopic data for the homolycorine analogues nerinine (5) and albomaculine (6). The absolute stereochemistry of the 5,10b- ethano bridge in the crinine variants was determined by circular dichroism and X-ray crystallographic analysis, thus presenting the first direct evidence for the presence of crinine-type alkaloids in the genus Hippeastrum.

1. Introduction

 GC–MS has proven to be a useful tool in the identification and quantification of Amaryllidaceae alkaloids (Berkov et al., 2011; Torras-Claveria et al., 2013). This spectroscopic technique has been used with success to assist with the isolation of new or unusual structures from alkaloid-rich extracts by comparing their component electron impact-mass fragmentation spectra (EI-MS) with those of known standards (Berkov et al., 2011; Torras-Claveria et al., 2013). For example, candimine from H. morelianum Lem. and 11b-hydroxygalanthamine from H. papilio (Ravenna) Van Scheepen were both isolated based on prior GC–MS screening of these endemic Brazilian species (de Andrade et al., 2012a). Interestingly, both alkaloids have since exhibited promising anti-Trichomonas vaginalis and acetylcholinesterase (AChE) inhibitory activities (de Andrade et al., 2011; Giordani et al., 2010). Therefore, a similar guided approach is attractive in that it circumvents the need for time and labour-intensive chromatographic steps for extracts and alkaloid fractions devoid of new bioactive compounds.

 Since the 1970s, X-ray crystallographic and/or circular dichroism (CD) analyses of 5,10b- ethanophenanthridine alkaloids from Hippeastrum have indicated that they belong exclusively to the haemanthamine series, which are enantiomeric to the crinine series. Earlier, a few crinine-type alkaloids were detected in European Hippeastrum cultivars (Boit and Döpke, 1960; Döpke, 1962), but their absolute configurations have been questioned based on the lack of any tangible evidence, such as CD and X-ray crystallography. These two techniques have since become integral to the unambiguous assignment of the orientation of the 5,10b-ethano bridge in the crinine/haemanthamine series of alkaloids (Bastida et al., 2006; De Angelis and Wildman, 1969; Wagner et al., 1996). In the present study, the use of CD and X-ray crystallographic techniques as well as NMR and GC–MS analysis resulted in the identification of the novel crinine-type alkaloids aulicine (1) and 3-O-methyl- epimacowine (2) (Fig. 1) along with two new alkaloids [11-oxohaemanthamine (3) and 7-methoxy-O- methyllycorenine (4)] from the Brazilian species Hippeastrum aulicum Herb. and Hippeastrum calyptratum Herb. Nineteen additional known alkaloids were identified in the process, and a complete NMR data set for nerinine (5) and albomaculine (6) is also reported herein. These findings are significant in that they represent the first direct evidence for the presence of crinine-type alkaloids in Hippeastrum.

2. Results and discussion

 Of the twenty-three alkaloids identified in H. aulicum and H. calyptratum, thirteen were common to both, while five were unique to either species (Table 1). The major alkaloids detected in H. aulicum 83 were aulicine (1), lycorine (10) and haemanthamine (15), while lycorine (10) was the main constituent present in H. calyptratum. HRESIMS gave a mass of 320.1864 for alkaloid 1, which is expected for the 85 molecular formula C₁₈H₂₆NO₄ and the theoretical mass (320.1856) for the parent [M+H]⁺ ion. Its GC– MS fragmentation pattern was similar to that of the 1,2-dihydroethanophenantridines powellane and deacetylbowdensine (Duffield et al., 1965). As expected, no olefinic proton signals were observed in 88 the ¹H-NMR spectrum of 1 and the only low-field resonance signal was assignable to H-7 (δ 6.10, s) 89 due to HSQC correlation with C-7 (δ 101.0, d), spatial NOESY connectivity to the benzylic 2H-6 90 protons and HMBC contour correlation with C-6 (δ 62.7, t). These data indicated that aulicine (1) possessed a penta-substituted aromatic A-ring and a saturated C-ring moiety. In essence, its 1H-NMR spectrum (Table 2) was similar to that of hippeastidine (Kulhánková et al., 2013; Pacheco et al., 1978; Watson and Zabel, 1982). Although the basic crinane structure of hippeastidine is known with certainty, its absolute stereochemistry still remains unresolved due to its missing CD and X-ray crystallographic 95 data, i.e., it is not clear from the literature whether the compound is of the α - or β -crinane alkaloid series (Kulhánková et al., 2013; Pacheco et al., 1978; Watson and Zabel, 1982).

97 A comparison of the 1 H-NMR data of 1 with that of hippeastidine revealed that the only striking differences pertained to the splitting of the H-3 and H-4 protons, both of which are crucial to the stereochemical relationship between the 3-methoxyl substituent and the 5,10b-ethano bridge. The resonance at δ 1.21 ascribed to H-4β was split into a quartet with an accompanying large coupling 101 constant $(J = 12.4 \text{ Hz})$, indicative of two trans-diaxial couplings (with H-3 and H-4a) and the geminal coupling with H-4α (Table 2). Large coupling constants were also observed for H-2β. Thus, the H-4β and H-2β splitting patterns are consistent with a cis relationship between the 3-methoxyl substituent and 104 the 5,10b-ethano bridge. Interestingly, H-1β was shifted to a lower field when compared to H-1 α due to its syn-proximity to the hydroxyl group at C-10. The complete NMR data set for aulicine (1) is listed in Table 2. Confirmation of the absolute stereochemistry in 1 was arrived at via CD and X-ray crystallography. The CD spectrum of 1 (Fig. 2A) showed a positive Cotton effect at ca. 250 nm and negative Cotton effect at ca. 290 nm, in agreement with a crinine-type alkaloid (De Angelis and Wildman, 1969; Wagner et al., 1996). X-ray crystallographic data analysis was carried out using a copper source (see Materials and methods), leading to the unambiguous structural assignment of 1 as a crininetype alkaloid (Fig. 2B).

112 The new crinine alkaloid 3-O-methyl-epimacowine (2) from H. calyptratum exhibited a parent $[M+H]$ ⁺

113 ion at m/z 288.1595 in its HRESIMS spectrum, thereby suggesting the molecular formula $C_{17}H_{22}NO_3$

(calcd. 288.1594). The NMR data of 2 (Table 3) were similar to those of macowine (Nair et al., 2000),

with the only notable difference arising from the differential substitution pattern at C-3. An aliphatic

116 methoxyl group was indicated by the chemical shift and splitting pattern of the resonance at δ 3.42 (3H,

 s), in accordance with previous studies on 3-substituted alkaloids of the crinine series (Viladomat et al., 118 1995). A small H-3/H-4β coupling $(J = 4.0 \text{ Hz})$ is consistent with the pseudoaxial orientation for the 3-

hydroxyl substituent in macowine (Nair et al., 2000). By contrast, in 2, the large coupling constant (J3,4b

 $120 = 10.5$ Hz) suggested a pseudoequatorial disposition for the 3-methoxyl substituent and therefore a cis

relationship between this substituent and the 5,10b-ethano bridge. The bridge orientation was confirmed

by CD analysis, which showed positive and negative Cotton effects at ca. 250 and ca. 290 nm,

respectively (Fig. 2C).

124 The remaining two new alkaloids, 11-oxohaemanthamine (3) and 7-methoxy-O-methyllycorenine (4), 125 were identified in H. aulicum. The HRESIMS of 3 suggested the molecular formula $C_{17}H_{18}NO_4$ for the 126 parent $[M+H]^+$ ion at m/z 300.1239 (calcd. 300.1230). Its GC–MS fragmentation pattern was similar to 127 that of an alkaloid tentatively assigned to 11-oxohaemanthamine by Kreh et al. (1995). The CD data 128 determined for 3 (see Experimental) were in agreement with those of a crinane-type alkaloid of the α -129 series (Wagner et al., 1996). Characteristic ${}^{1}H\text{-NMR}$ signals included the following: (1) two para-130 oriented aryl protons (δ 6.83 and 6.52, for H-10 and H-7, respectively), (2) two AB doublets at δ 4.58 131 and 3.83, correspondent with the C-6 benzylic proton system in which H-6 β was assigned to a lower 132 field due to its cis relationship with the nitrogen lone pair, and (3) two vicinal olefinic proton resonances 133 (δ 6.54 and δ 6.21, J_{1,2} = 10.0 Hz), the more shielded of which was assigned to H-2 due to its COSY 134 correlation with H-3 resonant at δ 3.84. The magnitude of the coupling constant between H-2 and H-3 135 (J_{2,3} = 5.5 Hz) and the small coupling constants between H-3 and both H-4 protons (J_{3,40} \sim 4.0 and 136 J_{3,4β} = 2.0 Hz) are in agreement with a pseudoequatorial orientation for H-3, thus suggesting a trans 137 relationship between the 3-methoxyl substituent and the 5,10b-ethano bridge (Pabuççuog˘lu et al., 138 1989). The NMR data for 3 (Table 4) are consistent with 11-oxohaemanthamine, which was recently 139 synthesised by Cedrón et al. (2012). The isolation of 3 from a natural source is reported here for the first 140 time.

 Homolycorine-type alkaloids bearing trimethoxyaryl substituents were originally reported during the 1950s (Boit and Döpke, 1957; Briggs et al., 1956). The mass fragmentation pattern of 7-methoxy-O- methyllycorenine (4) was in agreement with patterns typical for homolycorine-type alkaloids (Kreh et al., 1995; Schnoes et al., 1962). The HRESIMS data for 4 was consistent with the molecular formula 145 C₂₀H₂₈NO₅ for the parent ion $[M+H]$ ⁺ at m/z 362.1964 (calcd. 362.1962). The ¹H-NMR data of 4 (Table 5) were similar to of the data for O-methyllycorenine, originally reported by Codina et al. (1993) 147 and differing only by the presence of a third aromatic methoxyl group resonance at δ 3.89 (3H, s). Thus, the 7,8,9-trimethoxyaryl substitution in 4 was confirmed by the NOESY correlation evident between H-149 10 and the N-methyl group. The C-7 and C-8 methoxyl carbon resonances (δ 61.5 and δ 61.2, 150 respectively) were diagnostically downfield shifted from that of C-9 (δ 56.6), as previously indicated 151 (Bastida et al., 1992). The large coupling constant $J_{4a,10b} = 10.0$ Hz confirmed a trans-diaxial relationship between H-4a and H-10b. A cis B/C ring junction was suggested based on the small value 153 of the coupling constant measured between H-1 and H-10b ($J = 2.0$ Hz). NOESY correlation between 6-OMe and H-1 confirmed the β-orientation for H-6, a feature characteristic of hemiacetal functionalised homolycorine alkaloids (Bastida et al., 2006; Codina et al., 1992). The complete NMR data of 4 are provided in Table 5.

 The structures of nerinine (5) and albomaculine (6) were confirmed by comparing their respective physical and spectroscopic data with the data available in the literature (Berkov et al., 2011; Codina et al., 1992; Jeffs and Hawksworth, 1963; Kreh et al., 1995; Schnoes et al., 1962). However, in both instances, these were found to be incomplete and are therefore comprehensively presented here in the Experimental section as well as in Tables 6 and 7.

- 162 Aulicine (1)¹: white crystals; [α]D²⁴ -2,3 (c 0.38, CHCl3); CD [Θ]²⁰ λ : [Θ]255+ 1043, [Θ]279 -768; UV
- 163 (MeOH) λmax(log ε) 233 (3.50), 273 (2.70) nm; IR (CHCl3) νmax 3291, 2931, 2858, 1605, 1577, 1495,
- 164 1455, 1424, 1126, 1103 cm⁻¹; 1H-NMR (CDCl3, 400 MHz) and ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) see
- 165 Table 2; EIMS data shown in Table 1; HRESIMS of $[M+H]^+$ m/z 320.1864 (calcd for C₁₈H₂₆NO₄,
- 166 320.1856).
- 167 3-O-Methyl-epimacowine (2): white needles; $[\alpha]_D^{22}$ -47 (c 0.42, CHCl3); CD $[\Theta]_{254}^{20}$: $[\Theta]_{254}$ +2528,
- 168 [Θ]290 -2215; UV (MeOH) λmax(log ε) 230 (3.31), 288 (3.23) nm; IR (CHCl3) νmax 2925, 2854, 1507,
- 169 1461, 1312, 1277, 1219, 1098, 754 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) and ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125
- 170 MHz) see Table 3; EIMS data shown in Table 1; HRESIMS of $[M+H]^{+}$ m/z 288.1595 (calcd for
- 171 C17H22NO3, 288.1594).
- 172 11-Oxohaemanthamine (3): white needles; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ +44 (c 0.12, CHCl3); CD $[\Theta]^{20}$ _λ : $[\Theta]_{255}$ -3429,
- 173 [Θ]₃₂₀ +3298; UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 250 (2.94), 295 (2.92), 313 (2.82) nm; IR (CHCl₃) λ_{max} 2924,
- 174 2854, 1744, 1503, 1481, 1463, 1377, 1238, 1086, 1038 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) see Table 4;
- 175 EIMS data shown in Table 1; HRESIMS of $[M+H]^+$ m/z 300.1239 (calcd for C17H18NO4, 300.1230).
- 176 7-Methoxy-O-methyllycorenine (4): amorphous solid; $\left[\alpha\right]D^{23} +31$ (c 0.33, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH)
- 177 λmax(log ε) 230 (3.55), 270 (2.75) nm; IR (CHCl3) νmax 2924, 2853, 2783, 1601, 1460, 1336, 1128,
- 178 1053, 1025; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) and ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) see Table 5; EIMS data
- 179 shown in Table 1; HRESIMS of $[M+H]^+$ m/z 362.1964 (calcd for C₂₀H₂₈NO₅, 362.1962).
- 180 Nerinine (5): amorphous solid; $[α]p^{23} + 40$ (c 0.33, CHCl3); UV (MeOH) $λ_{max}(log ε)$ 232 (3.59), 273
- 181 (2.89) nm; IR (CHCl3) v_{max} 3145, 2918, 2849, 1587, 1460, 1410, 1336, 1243, 1122, 1018 cm⁻¹; ¹H-
- 182 NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) and ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) see Table 6; EIMS data shown in Table 1;
- 183 HRESIMS of $[M+H]^+$ m/z 348.1807 (calcd for C₁₉H₂₆NO₅, 348.1805).
- 184 Albomaculine (6): amorphous solid; $[\alpha]_{D}^{23}$ +25 (c 0.95, CHCl3); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (loge) 222 (4.26),
- 266 (3.86), 298 (3.34) nm; IR (CHCl3) ν_{max} 2929, 2849, 2783, 1725, 1592, 1334, 1254, 1111, 1022 cm⁻
- 186 ¹; ¹H-NMR (CDCl3, 400 MHz) and ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) see Table 7; EIMS data shown in
- 187 Table 1; HRESIMS of $[M+H]^+$ m/z 346.1651 (calcd for C₁₉H₂₄NO₅, 346.1649).

3. Conclusions

 In summary, phytochemical investigation of H. aulicum and H. calyptratum led to the identification of 23 Amaryllidaceae alkaloids. Of these alkaloids, aulicine, 3-O-methyl-epimacowine, 11- oxohaemanthamine and 7-methoxy-O-methyllycorenine are reported here for the first time. The structures of these alkaloids were determined by physical and spectroscopic methods, including GC– MS, NMR, CD and X-ray crystallography. The identification of the b-crinane alkaloids aulicine and 3- O-methyl-epimacowine in Hippeastrum is of considerable biosystematic significance because previous findings have revealed that all crinane compounds from this genus are reminiscent of the a-series. Efforts to further delineate this anomaly via targeted studies of other species of Hippeastrum are presently underway in our laboratories.

4. Materials and methods

4.1. General procedure

 NMR spectra were recorded on a Mercury 400 MHz (Palo Alto, CA, USA) or a Varian 500 MHz (Palo Alto, CA, USA) instrument using CDCl3 (CD3OD for 4 and 10) as the solvent and TMS as the internal standard. Chemical shifts are reported in d units (ppm) and coupling constants (J) in Hz. The GC–MS spectra were obtained on an Agilent 6890N GC 5975 inert MSD operating in the EI mode at 70 eV (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA) using a DB5 MS column (30 m x 0.25 mm x 0.25 lm, 210 Agilent Technologies). The temperature program was as follows: $100-180$ °C at 15 °C min⁻¹, 1 min 211 hold at 180 °C and 180–300 °C at 5°C min⁻¹ and 40 min hold at 300 °C. The injector temperature was 212 280 °C. The flow rate of carrier gas (helium) was 0.8 ml min⁻¹, and the split ratio was 1:20. HRESIMS spectra were obtained on a LC/MSD-TOF (2006) mass spectrometer (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA) by direct injection of the compounds dissolved in H2O-MeCN (1:1). Optical rotations were carried out on a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter (Waltham, MA, USA). A Jasco-J-810 Spectrophotometer (Easton, MD, USA) was used to run CD spectra, all recorded in MeOH. UV spectra were obtained on a DINKO UV2310 instrument (Barcelona, Spain) and IR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet Avatar 320 FT-IR spectrophotometer (Waltham, MA, USA). Silica gel (Kieselgel – mesh 0.15/0.30, Val-de-Reuil, France) was used for all vacuum liquid chromatography procedures (VLC). For thin layer chromatography (TLC), silica gel F254 was used as the stationary phase with a plate 221 dimension of 20 cm x 20 cm x 0.20 mm for analytical TLC and 20 cm x 20 cm x 0.25 mm for semi- preparative TLC (SPTLC) (Val-de-Reuil, France). Exclusion chromatography was carried out using a Sephadex LH-20 (Uppsala, Sweden).

4.2. Plant material

 Bulbs of H. aulicum Herb. and H. calyptratum Herb. were collected in October 2011 during the flowering period from a population located in Cunha City, Sao Paulo Province (Brazil). Both species were identified by Mr. Mauro Peixoto and Dr. Jullie Dutilh (University of Campinas, Unicamp, Brazil). The voucher specimens of H. aulicum were deposited in the herbarium at the Plantarum Institute under the reference number HPL 13043. The voucher specimens of H. calyptratum were deposited in the Herbarium of the University of Campinas (Unicamp, Brazil) under the reference number UEC 59648.

- *4.3. Extraction and isolation of alkaloids*
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 Dried bulbs (370 g) of H. aulicum were crushed and thrice extracted for 48 h with MeOH at room temperature, and the combined macerate was filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude 238 extract (90 g) was acidified with sulphuric acid (2%) to pH 2 and extracted with Et2O (4x 250 ml) and EtOAc (4 x 250 ml) to remove neutral material. The aqueous solution was basified with ammonia (25%) up to pH 10 and extracted with n-hexane (8 x 250 ml) to give extract IA (0.86 g). Another extraction using EtOAc (8 x 250 ml) produced extract IIA (2.0 g), wherein lycorine (10) precipitated spontaneously. A final extraction using EtOAc–MeOH (3:1, 3 x 250 ml) showed negative results for alkaloids as confirmed by Dragendorff's reagent stain and GC–MS.

 Extract IA was subjected to VLC (2.5 x 6 cm) on silica gel (10 g), starting with n-hexane (100%), 245 gradually enriching with EtOAc ($0 \rightarrow 100\%$), and finally with MeOH ($0 \rightarrow 30\%$). A total of 150, 50 ml fractions were collected, monitored by analytical TLC (Dragendorff's reagent, UV light k 254 nm) and combined after TLC analysis. Nerinine (5, 15 mg) was isolated by precipitation of fractions 65–86, and the supernatant was submitted to SPTLC (EtOAc–Me2- CO–n-hexane–MeOH – 6:2:1:1, in NH3 atmosphere), which allowed for the isolation of 7-methoxy-O-methyllycorenine (4, 6.5 mg) and galanthamine (13, 10 mg). Fractions 87–118 gave haemanthamine (15) and aulicine (1) again by precipitation and further purification by SPTLC (n-hexane–EtOAc–Me2CO–MeOH–n-BuOH – 4:3:3:2:1, in NH3 atmosphere). The supernatant was oaded onto a VLC column (1.5 x 4 cm) of silica gel (3 g), using nhexane (100%) as the starting solvent, gradually enriched with EtOAc (0?100%), and finally with MeOH (0?30%), ultimately yielding 250 fractions (each 10 ml). After combining the fractions according to the TLC profiles, 11-oxohaemanthamine (3, 5.3 mg) was isolated from pooled fractions 93–113 using SPTLC (n-hexane–Me2CO–EtOAc–MeOH – 15:10:5:2, in NH3 atmosphere). Fractions 222–250 were combined and subjected to SPTLC (n-hexane–EtOAc–Me2CO–MeOH–n-BuOH – 4:3:3:2:1, in NH3 atmosphere), after which 1 and 15 were again isolated.

 Alkaloid 15 precipitated spontaneously from extract IIA after resuspension in MeOH. The supernatant (700 mg) was purified by silica gel VLC (2 x 6 cm column, 10 g), starting with n-hexane (100%), 261 gradually enriching with EtOAc ($0 \rightarrow 100\%$) and finally with MeOH ($0 \rightarrow 30\%$), ultimately yielding 200 fractions (50 ml each) that were then pooled according to TLC profile analysis. SPTLC (n-hexane– EtOAc–Me2CO–MeOH–n-BuOH – 4:3:3:2:1, in NH3 atmosphere) of fractions 134–190 gave 1 (152 mg), 15 (161.1 mg) and 10 (135 mg), while a small quantity of tazettine (19, 3.2 mg) precipitated from fractions 191–205. GC–MS spectra of the remaining fractions indicated the presence of only known compounds (Table 1), which therefore precluded the need for further chromatographic analyses.

 Dried bulbs (135 g) of H. calyptratum were crushed and extracted by stirring with MeOH at room temperature for 48 h (repeating three times), and the combined macerate was filtered and evaporated 269 under reduced pressure. The crude extract (50 g) was acidified with sulphuric acid (2%) to pH 2 and extracted with Et2O (4 x 250 ml) and EtOAc (4 x 250 ml) to remove neutral material. The aqueous solution was then basified with ammonia (25%) up to pH 10 and extracted with n-hexane (8 x 250 ml) to give extract IC (100 mg). Extraction with EtOAc (8 x 250 ml) gave extract IIC (300 mg). A final extraction using EtOAc-MeOH (3:1) showed negative results for alkaloids as confirmed by Dragendorff's reagent and GC–MS analysis.

 Extracts IC and IIC (400 mg) were combined after GC–MS showed them to be similar. Alkaloid 10 precipitated after re-suspension in MeOH and the supernatant was purified by VLC (2.5 x 4 cmcolumn, 10 g of silica gel) using the same solvent systemas that for H. aulicum. Alkaloid 10 (115 mg) precipitated 278 directly from fractions 93–140. Fractions 71–170 were combined (250mg) and subjected to VLC (1.5 x 279 4 cm column) in silica gel (3 g) using n-hexane (100%) followed by EtOAc (0 \rightarrow 100%) and finally 280 with MeOH ($0 \rightarrow 30\%$), ultimately yielding 250 fractions (10ml each). Only fractions 145–200 (110 mg) showed alkaloids with unknown GC–MS fragmentation patterns and were therefore selected for further VLC, which was carried out on silica gel (3 g) using a 1.5 4 cmcolumn, starting with nhexane 283 (100%) and increasing solvent polarity with EtOAc ($0 \rightarrow 50$ %). Thereafter, CHCl₃ and EtOAc were gradually added until a CHCl3-EtOAc ration of 1:1 was reached. Finally, the system was gradually enriched with MeOH (0?30%), ultimately yielding 200 fractions(10ml each). Albomaculine (6, 19.3mg) 286 was isolated from fractions 69–88 by SPTLC (Me₂CO-CH₂C_{l2} – 3:10, in NH₃ atmosphere) together with 2a,7-dimethoxyhomolycorine (9, 3.2 mg). Likewise, 3-Omethyl-epimacowine (2, 18.3mg) and 288 alkaloid 13 (7.7 mg) were isolated from fractions 89–148 using SPTLC (EtOAc-Me₂CO-CH₂Cl₂-MeOH – 3:1:1:0.5, in NH3 atmosphere).

 The alkaloids were identified by comparing their GC–MS spectra and Kovats retention indices (RI) with our library database. This library has been regularly updated with alkaloids isolated and unequivocally identified via physical and spectroscopic means (Berkov et al., 2008; de Andrade et al., 2011, 2012b; Giordani et al., 2011; Llabrés et al., 1986). NMR data for the known alkaloids described here closely matched those reported elsewhere (Bastida et al., 2006; Kobayashi et al., 1980). Mass spectra were deconvoluted using the AMDIS 2.64 software (NIST) (WA, USA), and RIs were recorded using a standard n-hydrocarbon calibration mixture (C9-C36). The proportion of individual components in the alkaloid fractions are expressed as a percentage of total alkaloid content. GC–MS peak areas are dependent on the concentration of the injected alkaloid as well as the intensity of its mass spectral fragmentation. Although the data given in Table 1 are not representative of a validated alkaloid quantification method, these data can be used for relative comparison purposes.

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- *4.5. Crystals of aulicine (1)*
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 Compound 1 was dissolved in a MeOH-CHCl3 (1:1) mixture under a pentane atmosphere. After 14 days standing at ∼5°C, small crystals of 1 formed and were selected for X-ray crystallography.

4.6. X-ray analysis

 A prismatic crystal (0.1 0.1 0.2 mm) was selected and mounted on a Bruker D8 Venture four-circle diffractometer (Karlsruhe, Germany). Intensities were collected with a multilayer monochromator and a Cu high brilliance microfocus sealed tube using the / and x scan-technique. A total of 24158 reflections were measured in the range of 2.93 6 h 6 74.32, with 6377 of the reflections non-equivalent by symmetry 316 (Rint(on I) = 0.031). Overall, 6028 reflections were assumed to be as observed by applying the condition I > $2r(I)$. Lorentz-polarisation and absorption corrections were performed.

 The structure was solved by direct methods, using the SHELXS computer program (and refined by a full-matrix least-squares method with the SHELX97 computer program (Sheldrick, 2008)) and 24158 320 reflections, (very negative intensities were not assumed). The function minimised was $\sum w ||Fo|^2$ $|Fc|^2$ 321 \vert^2 , where w = $\vert \rho^2(I) + (0.0343P)2 + 0.8335P\vert^{-1}$, and P = $\vert \vert \text{Fo} \vert^2 + 2 \vert \text{Fc} \vert^2$)/3, f, f and f'' were taken from the International Tables of X-ray Crystallography (1974). All H atoms were computed and refined using a riding model, with an isotropic temperature factor equal to 1.2 times the equivalent temperature factor 324 of the atoms that are linked. The final R(on F) factor was 0.0298, wR(on $|F|^2$) = 0.074 and goodness of 325 fit = 1.042 for all observed reflections. The number of refined parameters was 423. Max. shift/esd = 326 0.00, Mean shift/esd = 0.00. Max. and min. peaks in the final difference synthesis were 0.215 and 0.164 327 $e\text{\AA}^{-3}$, respectively.

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Legends to figures 417 Figure 1. Alkaloids identified in H. aulicum $\binom{a}{1}$ and H. calyptratum $\binom{b}{1}$. **Figure 2.** CD spectrum (A) and ORTEP projection (B) of alkaloid 1. CD spectrum (C) of alkaloid 2.

Table 1. GC–MS data for H. aulicum and H. calyptratum alkaloids. Values are expressed as a relative

percentage of TIC.

Example Systems

R: Reterior Index. The contract of all alloids from *H* authorities

All alloid percentage in the total mixture of all alloids from *H* authorities.

All alloid percentage in the total mixture of all al

Table 2. ¹H NMR, COSY, NOESY, HSQC, and HMBC data of aulicine (1) (400 MHz, CDCl3).

Table 3 ¹H NMR, COSY, NOESY, HSQC, and HMBC data of 3-O-methyl-epimacowine (2) (500

MHz, CDCl3).

Position	$\delta_{\rm H}$ (<i>J</i> in Hz)	COSY	HSQC
1	6.54 $d(10.0)$	H-2	126.8 d
2	6.21 ddd (10.0, 5.5, 1.5)	$H-1, H-3$	129.5 d
3	3.84 ddd (5.5, 3.5, 2.0)	H-2, H-4 α ; H-4 β	71.8d
4α	1.47 $td(14.0, 4.0)$	H-3; H-4 β , H-4a	29.8t
4β	2.25 $brd(14.0)$	$H-3$; $H-4α$, $H-4a$	
4a	3.55~m	H-4 α ; H-4 β	61.5d
6α	3.83 $d(17.0)$	$H-6\beta$, $H-7$	60.6 t
6β	4.58 $d(17.0)$	Н-6α, Н-7	
7	6.52 s	H-6α, H -6β	106.9 d
10	6.83s		104.2 d
12endo	3.27 dd (18.5, 1.5)	H-12exo	59.3 t
12exo	3.56 $d(18.5)$	H-12endo	
3-OMe	3.37 $s(3H)$		56.8 q
OCH ₂ O	5.92 $2d(1.5)$		101.3 t

Table 4 ¹H NMR, COSY, and HSQC data of 11-oxohaemanthamine (3) (500 MHz, CDCl₃).

Table 5 ¹H NMR, COSY, NOESY, HSQC, and HMBC data of 7-methoxy-O-methyllycorenine (4) (500 MHz, CD3OD).

Table 6 ¹H NMR, COSY, NOESY, HSQC, and HMBC data of nerinine (5) (400 MHz, CDCl³).

Table 7 ¹H NMR, COSY, NOESY, HSQC, and HMBC data of albomaculine (6) (400 MHz, CDCl3).

466

H

rap
18⁸ R₁=OMe; R₂=H; R₃+R₄=CH₂; R₃=OH
18^{8, B}R=OH; R2=H; R2=Me; R4=R₆=H
18⁸ R₁=OH; R2=H; R3+R4=CH2; R₄=H
18⁸ R₁=OH; R2+K; R3+R₄=CH₂; R₃=OH

R₃C

R4O

MeO

 $\frac{HO}{2^b}$

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OMe Ξo

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467

468

469

470

464 **Figure 1**

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OMe

 $\mathbf H$

R,

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 R_1 R₂

194⁵ R₁-R₂-H, R₂-OH
20⁴⁵ R₁-OH, R₂-H, R₂-H³

Figure 2

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