Reviewer’s report

Title: Immunosuppressive Phenolic Compounds from Hydnora abyssinica A. Braun

Version: 2 Date: 2 March 2015

Reviewer: beaudelaire Dr ponou kemvoufo

Reviewer’s report:

- Minor Essential Revisions
  • Page 2 (Line 19): There should be a space after a punctuation sign.
  • Page 3 (Line 2): It seems to be Sudanese and not udanese
  • Page 4 (Line 2): According to section 3.1, no NMR data was recorded at 500 MHz.
  • Page 4 (Line 17 to 18): “The filtrate obtained was concentrated under reduced pressure” is better
  • Page 4 (Line 12): The sentence “Pre-coated silica gel TLC plates (E. Merck, F254) were used for evaluating the compounds purity” should be removed. TLC is not the best way for the evaluation of compounds purity.
  • Page 4 (Line 18): It should be filtrate and not filterate.
  • Page 4 (Lines 22, 23 and 24): gm is not a measuring mass unit. It should be g (meaning gram).
  • Page 7 (Line 20): There should be a space before parenthesis.
  • Page 10 (Lines 1 to 4): Punctuation sign are not well used.
  • Pages 16 to 18: Instructions for authors are not respected

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  • Indicate the family to which belongs Hydnora abyssinica and discuss the chemotaxonomy significance of the obtained results.
  • Page 3 (Section 2.2, Lines 16 to 17): “Hundred grams of whole plant material was air-dried under the shed, grounded, and extracted by triple soaking in 80% ethanol at room temperature for 3 days” is not conform with page 4 (Section 2.3.3, Lines 17 to 18): “Dried powder of the whole plant (3 Kg) was extracted exhaustively with 80% ethanol 17 at room temperature. The filterate was evaporated in vacuum to yield (1.2 Kg)”. What actually happened?
  • Page 10 (Lines 1 and 5): The gyromagnetic constants of H and C are in the ¼ ratio. It is not respected.
  • Page 11 (Line 2): The multiplicities of H-2 and H-3 are not well defined. They should be dd with both ortho and meta coupling constants.
• Page 12 (Line 1): H-3 does not exist in the structure
• Page 12 (Line 2): J= 8.9 Hz is not possible for the meta coupling in phenolic compounds.
• The authors should present the original version of the NMR (1H and 13C) spectra of all the compounds as supplementary data.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests' below.