TABLE I.

Reactant	Temp. (°C)	Position of introduced CN	mp (°C)	Yield (%)
Quinoline 1-oxide	75	2 ^{a)}	171	85
Isoquinoline 2-oxide	75	1 ^{a)}	207	85
1,6-Naphthyridine 1,6-dioxide ²⁾	25	2,5 (dicyano) ^{b)}	248 (decomp.)	20
		2 ^{b)}	260 (decomp.)	10
		5 ^{b)}	257 (decomp.)	10
1,6-Naphthyridine 1-oxide ²⁾	25	2 ^{b)}	236 (decomp.)	80
1,6-Phenanthroline 6-oxide ³⁾	25	5 ^{b)}	220	82
Phenanthridine 5-oxide	50	6 ^{a)}	217	58

a) The structures were determined by admixture with authentic samples.

b) The structures were determined by elemental analyses and IR and NMR spectra.

A more quantitative consideration will be made using molecular orbital theory in a full paper.

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Received January 16, 1970

[Chem. Pharm. Bull.]
18(4) 862-863 (1970)

UDC 581.19 : 547.651.02

The Isolation of Neojusticin from *Justicia procumbens* LINN.

Justicidin A (I) and B (II), fish-killing components have been reported from *Justicia Hayatai* var. *decumbens*.¹⁾ We now report the isolation of a new lignan named neojusticin from *J. procumbens* LINN. var. *leucantha* HONDA (Japanese name, Kitsunenomago).

The ether extract of dried plant on chromatography afforded justicidin A and B as major components. Two of minor components were diphyllin (III)²⁾ and a new compound, neojusticin. Neojusticin, mp 273—275°, C₂₁H₁₄O₇ (M⁺ calcd. 378.074, found 378.074) possesses one methoxy group (δ in CDCl₃ 4.31 (3H, s)), two methylenedioxy groups (6.06 (4H, s)), a γ -lactone methylene (5.10 (2H, s)), and five aromatic hydrogen atoms (7.70 (1H, s), 6.99 (1H, s), 6.95 (1H, d, $J=7$ cps), 6.78 (1H, s), and 6.72 (1H, d, $J=7$ cps)). UV $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ m μ (log ϵ): 263.5 (4.69), 298 (4.01), 319 (4.03), and 355 (3.47). IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm⁻¹: 1760 (γ -lactone carbonyl), 1605 (aromatic), 933 (methylenedioxy group).

The nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) signals of aromatic hydrogens and ultraviolet (UV) spectrum of neojusticin resemble those of justicidin A (I), which means the both compounds should have the same substitution pattern. However, the NMR signal of γ -lactone methylene group (5.10) suggested system A rather than system B for neojusticin because Horii and his co-workers³⁾ pointed out that the methylene group in system A appears between 5.08

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and 5.23 ppm whereas 5.32—5.52 in system B. Moreover, the methoxy signal (4.31) comes out in much lower field than justicidin A (3.80, 4.03, and 4.09), which also supports system A for neojusticin. These evidences lead structure (IV) for neojusticin.

Neojusticin would be the sole example of naturally occurring 1-oxygenated-2,3-naphthalide lignan (system A) since the structure of taiwanin E⁴⁾ is represented by VI³⁾ not by V. Neojusticin has fish-killing activity as well as pentachlorophenol.

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Received February 9, 1970

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