


Article

Fusarins G–L with Inhibition of NO in RAW264.7 from Marine-Derived Fungus *Fusarium solani* 7227

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Abstract: Six new fusarin derivatives, fusarins G–L (1–6), together with five known compounds (5–11) were isolated from the marine-derived fungus *Fusarium solani* 7227. The structures of the new compounds were elucidated by means of comprehensive spectroscopic methods (1D and 2D NMR, HRESIMS, ECD, and ORC) and X-ray crystallography. Compounds 5–11 exhibited potent anti-inflammatory activity by inhibiting the production of NO in RAW264.7 cells activated by lipopolysaccharide, with IC₅₀ values ranging from 3.6 to 32.2 μM. The structure–activity relationships of the fusarins are discussed herein.



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Keywords: *Fusarium solani*; fusarins; marine-derived fungus; anti-inflammatory activity

1. Introduction

Fusarium species are widely distributed in plants and soils worldwide. They have been proven to be an important source of plant pathogens in agriculture [1,2] and are also excellent sources of bioactive natural products. Among these, fusarin-related compounds are representative of *Fusarium* natural products, including epolactaene [3]; fusarins A, C, D, and F [4]; L-755,807 [5]; and NG-393 and NG-391 [6] (Figure 1), which possess a γ -lactam nucleus with a polyunsaturated side chain. *Fusarium* species have also received widespread attention in terms of both total chemical synthesis and biosynthesis [7,8]. For example, lucilactaene has been considered as a cell cycle inhibitor in p53-transfected cancer cells, which could arrest cell-cycle progression in a p53-independent manner in cells possessing a temperature-sensitive p53 protein, isolated from a strain of *Fusarium* species [9]. L-755,807 was reported as a bradykinin binding inhibitor, displaying bradykinin B2 receptor antagonist activity with an IC₅₀ of 71 μM [5]. NG-391 has displayed the impairment of nucleic acid formation, while translation remains unaffected, in K-562 human cancer cells [10].

To date, thirteen fusarin-related compounds (belonging to 3-oligoenoyltetramic acids) with a 1-oxopentadienyl substituent at C-3 in the tetramate ring have been discovered in marine microorganisms [11]. In fact, fusarin derivatives have rarely been reported in marine-derived fungi. Recently, the examination of extracts of *Fusarium solani* 7227, a seawater-derived fungus obtained from the South China Sea, led to the discovery of fusarin-related compounds. Further chemical investigation of this extract led to the isolation of six new fusarin derivatives (1–6) with a polyunsaturated side chain. According to the detailed spectroscopic analysis and by comparison with the reported literature data, the known compounds were identified as 3,5,7,9-undecatetraenoate (7) [12], methyl (2*E*,3*E*,5*E*,7*E*,9*E*)-11-((3*aS*,6*S*,6*aR*)-3*a*,6-dihydroxy-5-oxohexahydro-2*H*-furo[3,2-*b*]pyrrol-6-yl)-2-ethylidene-11-

hydroxy-4,10-dimethylundeca-3,5,7,9-tetraenoate (8) [13], 4Z-lucilactaene (9), 8Z-lucilactaene (10), and lucilactaene (11) [14], as shown in Figure 2. Herein, we report the isolation, bioactive evaluation, and structure–activity relationships of compounds 1–11 from the marine-derived fungus *Fusarium solani* 7227.

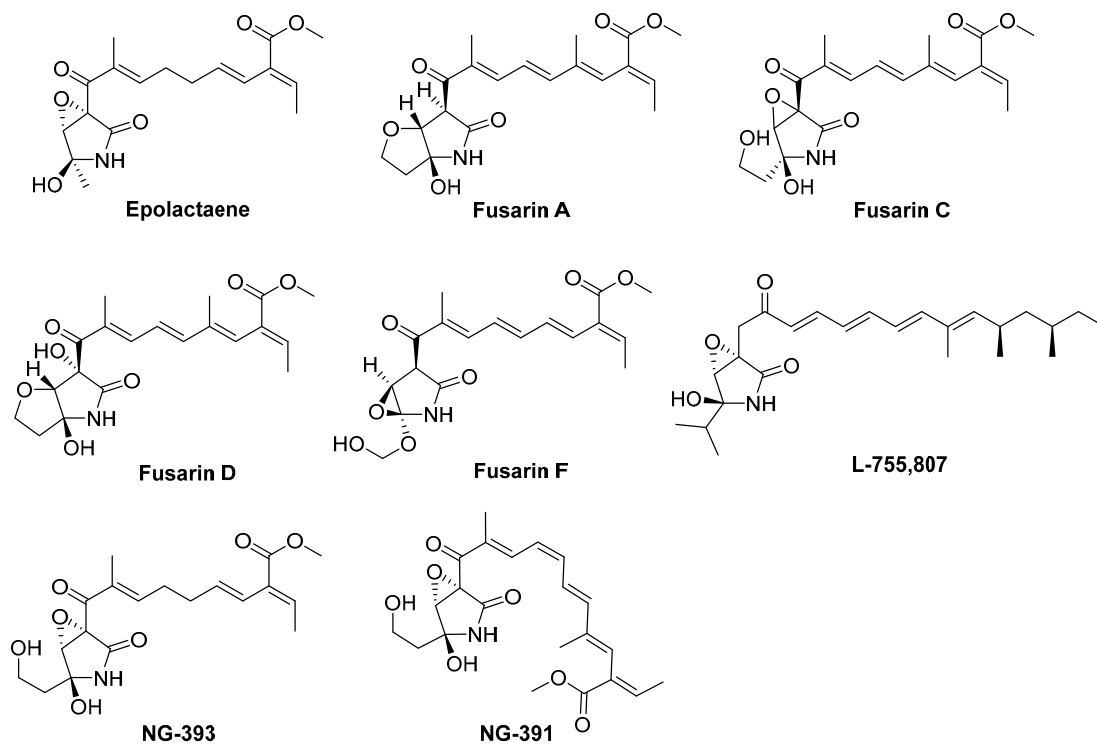


Figure 1. Structures of fusarin analogs.

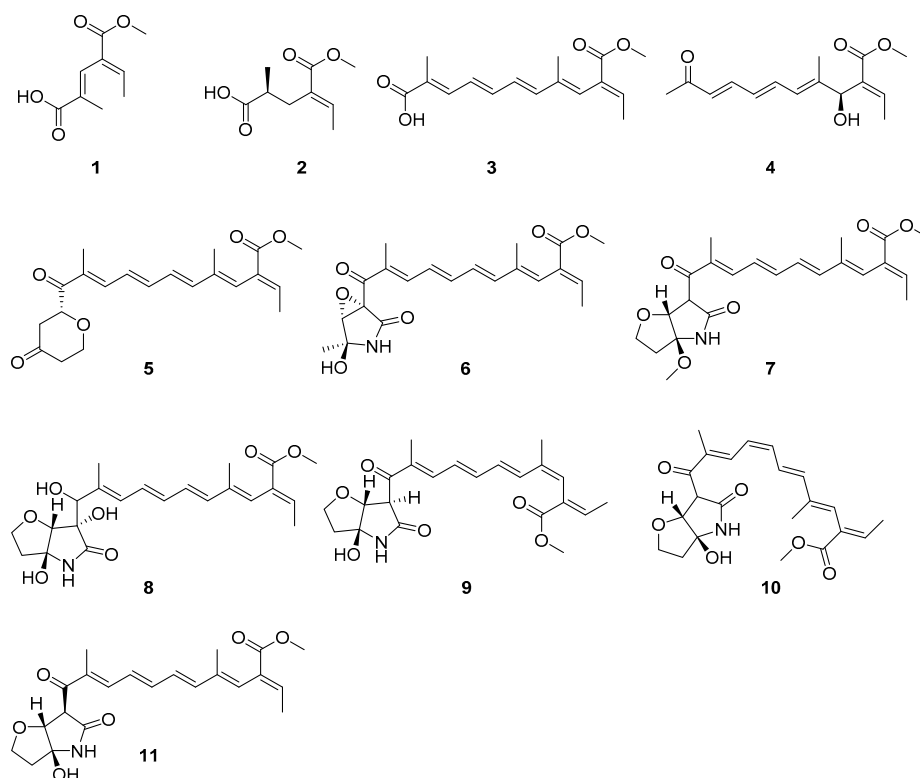


Figure 2. Structures of compounds 1–11..

2. Results

Fusarin G (**1**) was isolated as a white solid, and 6.4 mg was obtained from 197.9 g of crude extract. HRESIMS gave a molecular formula of $C_9H_{11}O_4$, implying four degrees of unsaturation. Based on analysis of the 1H NMR data of **1** (Table 1), there were two olefinic proton signals, δ_H 7.08 (1H, qd, $J = 7.2, 1.1$ Hz) and 7.7 (1H, m); two methyls, δ_H 1.78 (3H, d, $J = 1.4$ Hz) and 1.76 (3H, d, $J = 1.4$ Hz); and one methoxy, H-8 δ_H 3.76 (3H, s). The planar structure of **1** was identified through 1H - 1H COSY and HMBC analysis (Figure 3). The core moiety of compound **1**, a hexadienoic acid with a 5-substituted methyl, was established by means of HMBC correlations from H-4 to C-2, C-5, and C-6; H-9 to C-4, C-5, and C-6; and H-1 to C-2 and C-3; together with 1H - 1H COSY data from H-1 and H-2. A methyl ester was linked to C-3, which was deduced from the HMBC correlation from H-8, H-4 and H-2 to C-7. The structure was further confirmed using X-ray crystallography. The X-ray structure (Figure 4) clearly showed that the geometric configurations were both *E*; two methyl groups on olefinic carbon were located on the same side but not on the same face with a small angle. The chemical shift of H-2 (δ_H 7.08) and H-4 (δ_H 7.36) were downfield shifts, due to the de-shielding effect of carbonyl C-7 (δ_C 166.7). This suggests that H-2 and H-4 are located on the same side as carbonyl C-7 in liquid.

Table 1. 1H NMR (400 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz) data for **1** and **2** in $CDCl_3$.

No.	1		2	
	δ_C Type	δ_H (J in Hz)	δ_C Type	δ_H (J in Hz)
1	16.0 CH ₃	1.78 (d, 1.4)	14.7 CH ₃	1.82 (d, 7.2)
2	142.2 CH	7.08 (qd, 7.2, 1.1)	140.3 CH	6.9 (q, 7.2)
3	129.3 C		130.2	
4	135.3 CH	7.36 (m)	30.1 CH ₂	2.72 (m, overlap)
4'				2.4 (m)
5	131.0 C		38.9 CH	2.72 (m, overlap)
6	172.8 C		182.4	
7	166.7 C		168.1	
8	52.2 OCH ₃	3.76 (s)	51.9 OCH ₃	3.73 (s)
9	14.3 CH ₃	1.76 (d, 1.4)	16.7 CH ₃	1.16 (d, 6.6)

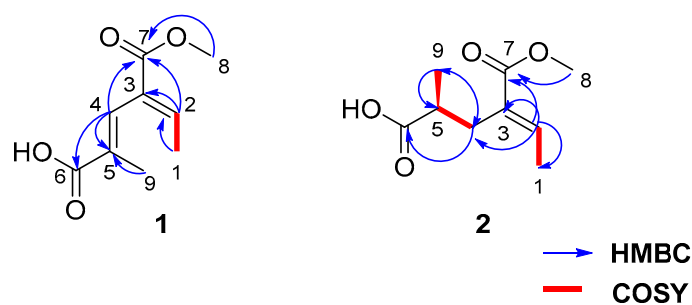


Figure 3. Structures of **1** and **2** with key COSY and HMBC correlations.

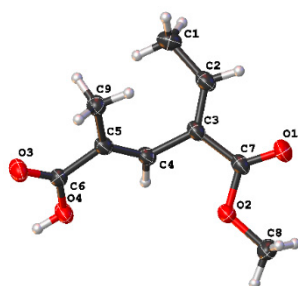


Figure 4. ORTEP representation of the X-ray crystal structure of **1**.

Compound **2** was isolated as a white solid, and 7.3 mg was obtained from 197.9 g of crude extract. HRESIMS provided a molecular formula of $C_9H_{14}O_4$. Analysis of the 1H NMR data (Table 1) indicated that the planar structure of **2** was similar to that of **1**. This was further supported by HMBC correlations (Figure S15) from H-2 to C-3, C-4, and C-7 and H-4 to C-5, C-6, and C-9, which also revealed the methyl C-9 to be connected to C-5. HMBC correlations also identified a methyl ester at C-3. Based on these data, the structure of **2** was determined as shown in Figure 2. To further identify the absolute configurations of compound **2**, we compared the calculated optical rotation of (5*S*)-**2** (+127.5) with the experimental data (+3.7), which indicated that the absolute configuration of **2** was (5*S*)-**2**. Compound **2** was named fusarin H.

Compound **3** was obtained as a yellow oil, and 9.8 mg was obtained from 197.9 g of crude extract. The molecular formula of $C_{16}H_{20}O_4$ was deduced from its HRESIMS data. Compared with the NMR data (Table 2) of **2** and **3**, compound **3** shares a methyl butenoate fragment. The structural differences were apparent in the 1H - 1H COSY NMR data (Figure S25) of **3**. These data revealed a spin system comprised of five olefinic hydrogens, H-6, H-7, H-8, H-9, and H-10, indicating that an unsaturated chain existed. HMBC (Figure S24) correlations from H-16 to C-10, C-11, and C-12 and from H-15 to C-6 and C-5 suggested that **3** had a dimethylundecatetraenoic acid chain linked to C-5. At the same time, HMBC correlations from H-4 to C-5 and C-13 were observed. This suggested that C-4 connected with the methyl butyrate moiety at C-3. Therefore, the structure of compound **3** was identified and named fusarin I.

Table 2. 1H NMR (400 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz) data for fusarins I (**3**) and J (**4**) in $CDCl_3$.

No.	3		4	
	δ_C Type	δ_H (J in Hz)	δ_C Type	δ_H (J in Hz)
1	16.0 CH ₃	1.74 (d 7.3)	14.6 CH ₃	1.92 (d 7.2)
2	140.5 CH	6.98 (q 7.1)	141.1 CH	7.05 (q 7.2)
3	130.5		131.8	
4	127.1 CH	6.18 (s)	71.8 CH	5.06 (d 10.5)
5	138.1		144.2	
6	140.6 CH	6.58 (m)	123.7 CH	6.28 (d 11.4)
7	128.6 CH	6.43 (dd 15.2, 10.3)	137.5 CH	6.86 (dd 14.7, 11.4)
8	140.6 CH	6.66 (dd 14.6, 10.4)	130.6 CH	6.34 (dd 14.7, 11.2)
9	127.9 CH	6.55 (d 14.7)	143.9 CH	7.20 (dd 15.4, 11.1)
10	140.9 CH	7.37 (d 11.3)	129.8 CH	6.13 (d 15.4)
11	126.0		198.6	
12	173.6		27.5 CH ₃	2.27 (s)
13	167.7		167.8	
14	52.1 OCH ₃	3.74 (s)	52.1 OCH ₃	3.74 (s)
15	14.4 CH ₃	1.70 (s)	14.5 CH ₃	1.80 (d 1.3)
16	12.5 CH ₃	1.98 (s)		

Compound **4** was isolated as a yellow amorphous solid, and 5.1 mg was obtained from 197.9 g of crude extract. The molecular formula was assigned as $C_{15}H_{20}O_4$ based on HRESIMS data. Compared to the NMR data of **3** (Table 2), **4** showed similar spectroscopic features to **3**, which had an unsaturated chain and methyl butyrate moiety. The main difference in compound **4** was the absence of one olefinic proton and carboxyl acid, and the presence of an additional keto carbonyl and a secondary oxygenated carbon. HMBC correlations from H-12 to C-11, C-10, and C-9 revealed that keto carbonyl was located on C-11. In addition, a secondary alcohol was attached to C-4, determined on the basis of the chemical shift of C-4 (δ_C 71.8, δ_H 5.06) and the HMBC correlation of H-15 and H-1 with C-4. Hence, the planar structure of compound **4** was deduced, as shown in Figure 5. To further identify the absolute configurations of compound **4**, the calculated optical rotation of (4*S*)-**4** (+226.63) was compared with the experimental data (+25.2), which indicated the absolute configuration of **4** was *S*. Finally, compound **4** was named fusarin J.

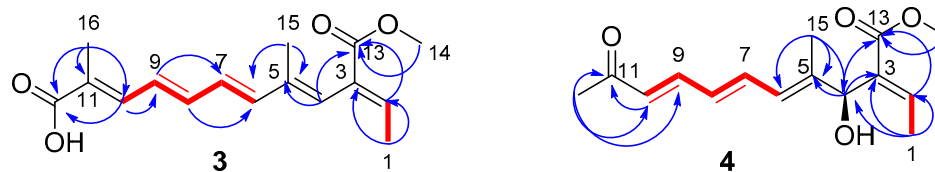


Figure 5. Structures of fusarins I (3) and J (4) with key COSY and HMBC correlations.

Compound **5** was obtained as a yellow amorphous substance, and 1.7 mg was obtained from 197.9 g of crude extract. The molecular formula was assigned as $C_{26}H_{26}O_5$ based on HRESIMS data. The 1D NMR data (Table 3) indicated that compounds **5** and **3** had common fragments, except for the change in the carboxyl group C-12 (δ_C 196.94), replaced with a γ -pranone unit, which was supported by the 1H - 1H COSY (Figure 6) of H-13, H-14 and H-16, H-17, with two spin systems and HMBC correlations (Figure 6) from H-14 to C-12, C-13, and C-15; H-16 to C-15; and H-17 to C-13. To further identify the absolute configurations of compound **5**, the calculated optical rotation of (13*S*)-**5** (-309.39) was compared with the experimental data ($+1.8$), which indicated the absolute configuration of **5** was *R*. Compound **5** was named fusarin K.

Table 3. 1H NMR (400 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz) data for fusarins K (5) and L (6) in $CDCl_3$.

No.	5		6	
	δ_C Type	δ_H (J in Hz)	δ_C Type	δ_H (J in Hz)
1	16.1 CH ₃	1.75 (dd 7.2, 1.4)	16.1 CH ₃	1.73 (dd 7.2, 1.3)
2	140.6 CH	6.99 (q 7.5)	140.6 CH	6.97 (m)
3	130.5		130.3	
4	127.5 CH	6.20 (s)	128.1 CH	6.2 (s)
5	138.2 C		138.2	
6	141.1 CH	6.59 (m)	142.4 CH	6.60 (m)
7	128.6 CH	6.4 (dd 15.2, 9.7)	128.6 CH	6.43 (dd 15.2, 10.9)
8	141.05 CH	6.56 (m)	143.9	6.80 (dd 14.6, 10.8)
9	128.4 CH	6.63 (m)	128.2 CH	6.64 (m)
10	139.7 CH	7.09 (d 8.9)	146.0 CH	7.50 (d 11.4)
11	135.3		133.8	
12	196.9		190.5	
13	75.9 CH	4.06 (dd 5.3, 3.5)	62.7	
14	39.72 CH ₂	3.13 (dd 17.5, 5.4) 3.37 (dd 17.5 3.5)	64.1 CH	3.94 (d 2.4)
15	216.2		83.9	
16	36.7 CH ₂	2.54 (ddd 17.9, 7.6, 4.3) 2.87 (dt 17.9, 8.9)	170.6	
17	65.3 CH ₂	4.13 (q 7.9) 4.37 (td 9.1, 4.3)	21.8 CH ₃	1.55 (s)
18	167.7		167.6	
19	52.1 OCH ₃	3.75 (s)	52.1	5.28 (s)
20	14.4 CH ₃	1.71 (d 1.2)	14.3 CH ₃	1.68 (s)
21	11.8 CH ₃	1.91 (d 1.2)	11.5	1.92 (s)

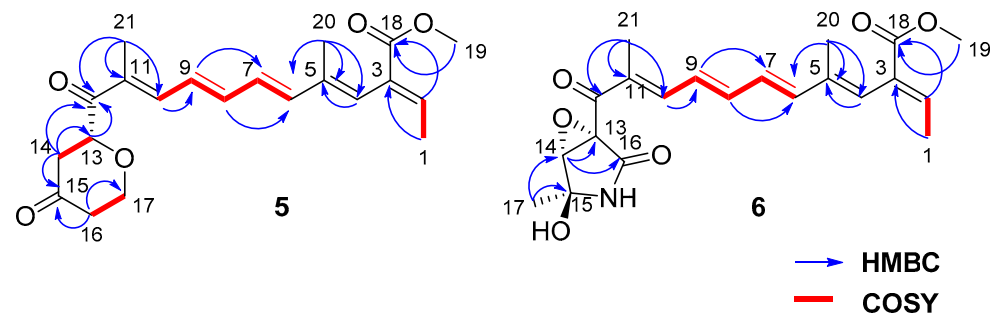


Figure 6. Structures of fusarins K (5) and L (6) with key COSY and HMBC correlations.

Fusarin L (6) was obtained as a yellow amorphous substance, and 11.3 mg was obtained from 197.9 g of crude extract. HRESIMS analysis gave a molecular formula of $C_{21}H_{24}NO_6$ with 10 degrees of unsaturation. Based on the analysis of 1D and 2D NMR data (Table 3), compound 6 belongs to a fusarin derivative and has a similar structure to that of 5 in the comparison of their NMR data. The HMBC correlations from methyl proton H-17 to C-15 and C-14 and from H-14 to C-13 and C-16 indicated an epoxy- γ -lactam ring with a methyl at C-15, which was linked to keto carbonyl C-11 in compound 6, which replaced a pyrone moiety in compound 5. Hence, the planar structure of 6 was confirmed. The theoretical ECD spectra (Figure 7) of compound 6 were calculated by means of a quantum chemical method at the [b3lyp/6-31+g(d,p)] level for a pair of configurations—13*R*, 14*R*, and 15*S* and 13*R*, 14*R*, and 15*R*. The computed configurations of 13*R*, 14*R*, and 15*S* were well in agreement with the experimental results. Furthermore, the computed optical rotation of (13*R*, 14*R*, 15*S*)-6 with +351.83 was consistent with the experimental value (+44.95). Thus, combined with ECD, ORC, and the literature [13], the absolute configuration of 6 was proposed, with stereochemical assignments of 13*R*, 14*R*, and 15*S*.

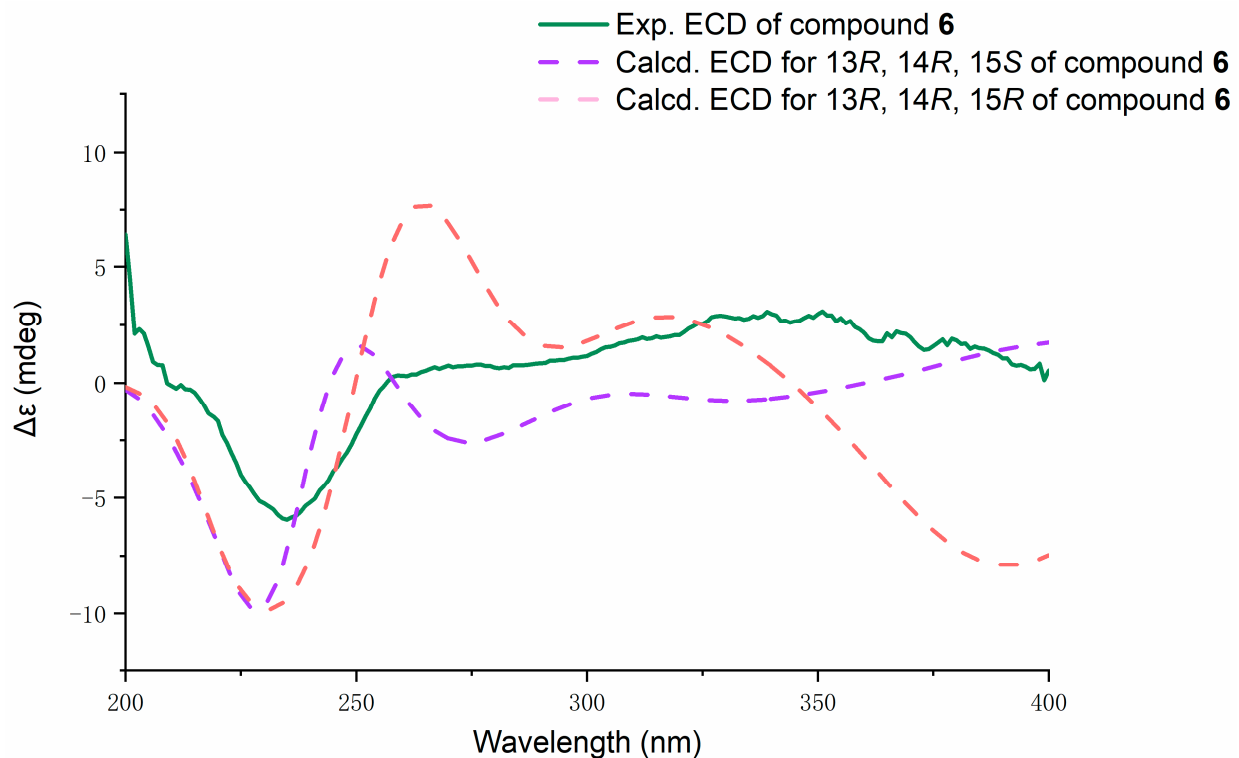


Figure 7. Experimental ECD spectrum of 6 (green) in methanol with computed spectra of the enantiomers 13*R*, 14*R*, and 15*S* and 13*R*, 14*R*, and 15*R* at the b3lyp/6-31+g(d,p) level of theory. Red dotted line: 13*R*, 14*R*, and 15*R*; purple dotted line: 13*R*, 14*R*, and 15*S*.

All the compounds were evaluated for their inhibition of nitric oxide (NO) production in RAW264.7 cells activated by lipopolysaccharide (LPS) using the Griess assay with indomethacin as a positive control (Table 4). Compounds **9**, **10**, and **11** displayed strong inhibition of nitric oxide (NO) production, with IC₅₀ values of 7.6, 3.6, and 8.4 μM, respectively, whereas compounds **2**, **3**, **4**, and **5** showed moderate anti-inflammatory activity, with IC₅₀ values of 22.3, 13.1, 13.9, and 21.9 μM. In comparing the anti-inflammatory activity of fusarins G and H, **2** showed much stronger activity than that of **1**, indicating that the double bond (C4–C5) of **1** is a disadvantage in terms of anti-inflammatory activity. Compound **5** exhibited stronger anti-inflammatory effects than those of **6**, indicating that the pyrone moiety made a more positive contribution to the anti-inflammatory activity than the epoxy-γ-lactam ring.

Table 4. Inhibitory activity of all compounds **1–11** against lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced NO production in the murine macrophage cell line (RAW 264.7 cells).

Compounds	IC ₅₀ (μM)
1	>50
2	22.3 ± 5.0
3	13.1 ± 6.8
4	13.9 ± 7.5
5	21.9 ± 9.8
6	>50
7	32.2 ± 5.7
8	17.8 ± 4.9
9	7.6 ± 2.0
10	3.6 ± 2.2
11	8.4 ± 2.2
Indometacin ^a	32.1 ± 2.5

^a Positive control.

3. Materials and Methods

3.1. General Experimental Procedures

One-dimensional and two-dimensional NMR spectra were acquired in CDCl₃ with a Bruker Avance 400 MHz NMR spectrometer (Fällanden, Switzerland). HR-ESI-MS data were measured using a maXis Q-TOF mass spectrometer in positive ion mode (Bruker, Fällanden, Switzerland). UV and CD spectra were acquired using a JASCO J-810 circular dichroism spectrometer (JASCO International Co. Ltd., Hachioji, Tokyo, Japan). X-ray diffraction intensity data were recorded on an XtalLAB PRO single-crystal diffractometer, using Cu-Kα radiation (Rigaku, Japan). The data were corrected for absorption, using CrysAlisPro 1.171.39.33c (Rigaku Oxford Diffraction, 2017). Optical rotations were acquired using an MCP-500 polarimeter with a 1.0 mL cell (Anton, Austria). HPLC was performed on the Hitachi Primaide with the YMC ODS SERIES column (YMC-Pack ODS-A, YMC Co. Ltd., Kyoto, Japan, 250 × 10 mm I.D., S-5 μm, 12 nm). Column chromatography (CC) was carried out on silica gel (200–300 mesh, Qingdao Marine Chemical Factory, Qingdao, China) and Sephadex LH-20 (40–70 μm, Amersham Pharmacia Biotech AB, Uppsala, Sweden). TLC plates with silica gel GF254 (0.4–0.5 mm, Qingdao Marine Chemical Factory, Qingdao, China) were used for the analyses.

3.2. Fungal Isolation and Fermentation

Fusarium solani 7227 was isolated from a seawater sample collected in February 2018 from the South China Sea. The fungus was identified as *Fusarium solani* by morphological observation and analysis of the internal transcribed spacer (ITS) regions of its rDNA, the sequence data of which were deposited in GenBank with the accession number MN922526. The strain was grown on PDA plates at 28 °C for 5 days; then it was cut into small pieces and inoculated into 1.5 L of PDA medium as a seed liquid at 28 °C for 2 days in a shaker;

then poured in 5–10 mL of seed liquid into 180 6-inch plates of sterilized rice medium (rice 60 g, 0.3% salinity water 60 mL) for fermentation at 28 °C for 28 days.

3.3. Extraction and Isolation

The fermented material was extracted with EtOAc under ultrasonication, then concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 197.9 g of a crude extract. The crude extract was subjected to silica gel column chromatography (CC) (9 × 40 cm, 700 g), using gradient mixtures of PE (petroleum ether)/EtOAc (60:1 to 1:9), followed by 100% CH₃OH, to afford 4 major subfractions (Fr. 1–Fr. 4).

Fr. A was fractionated using CC on silica gel (300–400 mesh) and eluting with PE/EA (from 9:1 to 1:1), to afford 2 fractions, Fr. A-1 and Fr. A-2. Those two fractions were further separated on Sephadex LH-20 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH *v/v*, 1:1). Fr. A-1 was purified by means of NP-HPLC (n-hexane: IPA (isopropyl alcohol) *v/v*, 99:1, flow rate 2.0 mL/min) to obtain **1** (*t_R* 24.5 min, 4.6 mg) and **2** (*t_R* 21.9 min, 7.3 mg). Fr. A-2 was purified by means of NP-HPLC (n-hexane: IPA *v/v*, 97:3, flow rate 2.0 mL/min) to obtain **3** (*t_R* 21.2 min, 9.8 mg). Fr. B was separated with Sephadex LH-20 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH *v/v*, 1:1) to afford Fr. B-1 and Fr. B-2. Fr. B-1 was further purified by means of NP-HPLC (n-hexane: IPA *v/v*, 94:6, flow rate 2.0 mL/min) to obtain **4** (*t_R* 21.2 min, 5.1 mg), and Fr. B-2 was purified by means of NP-HPLC (n-hexane: IPA *v/v*, 9:1, flow rate 2.0 mL/min) to obtain **5** (*t_R* 19.1 min, 1.7 mg). Compounds **1–5** were purified by means of analytical NP-HPLC (Venusil XBP Silica column 4.6 × 250 mm, 5 μm). Fr. C was subjected to Sephadex LH-20 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH *v/v*, 1:1) to obtain Fr. C-1 and Fr. C-2. Fr. C-1 was subjected to silica gel CC with PE/EA (from 4:1 to 2:3), resulting in two further subfractions, Fr. C-1-1 and Fr. C-1-2. Compound **6** (*t_R* 14.0 min, 11.3 mg) was separated by means of semipreparative NP-HPLC (Venusil XBP Silica column 10 × 250 mm, 5 μm) and eluted with n-hexane: IPA *v/v*, 94:6 with flow rate 2.0 mL/min from Fr. C-1-1. The purification of Fr. C-1-2 was performed by means of RP-HPLC (H₂O: MeOH *v/v*, 3:7, flow rate, 4.0 mL/min), affording compounds **9** (*t_R* 10.2 min, 2.8 mg) and **10** (*t_R* 8.2 min, 5.3 mg). Fr. C-2 was subjected to the same process as that used for Fr. C-1, affording Fr. C-2-1 and Fr. C-2-2. Fr. C-2-1 was purified by means of RP-HPLC (H₂O: MeOH *v/v*, 34:66, flow rate 4.0 mL/min), affording compounds **7** (*t_R* 13.8 min, 6.9 mg) and **11** (*t_R* 11.0 min, 6.1 mg). Fr. C-2-2 was purified by means of RP-HPLC (H₂O: MeOH *v/v*, 4:1, flow rate 3.0 mL/min), affording compound **6** (*t_R* 9.5 min, 11.3 mg). Compounds **6–11** were purified by means of analytical NP-HPLC (Venusil XBP Silica column 4.6 × 250 mm, 5 μm).

Compound **1**: colorless crystal; UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 203 (4.2) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 723, 761, 817, 904, 943, 979, 1025, 1060, 1135, 1267, 1328, 1384, 1438, 1637, 1718, 2954 cm⁻¹ (Figure S1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 183.0662 [M – H]⁻ (calcd. for C₉H₁₁O₄, 183.0663).

Compound **2**: Yellow amorphous solid; [α]_D²⁵ +3.7 (c 0.1, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 212 (3.6) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 767, 825, 860, 892, 952, 993, 1026, 1093, 1213, 1249, 1272, 1378, 1405, 1438, 1459, 1712, 2854, 2925, 3438 cm⁻¹ (Figure S18); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 185.08198 [M – H]⁻ (calcd. for C₉H₁₃O₄, 185.08193).

Compound **3**: Yellow amorphous solid; UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 335(3.8), 212(3.5) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 1413, 1467, 1629, 1652, 2844, 2914, 3180, 3349 cm⁻¹ (Figure S27); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), see Table 2; HRESIMS *m/z* 275.12920 [M – H]⁻ (calcd. for C₁₆H₁₉O₄, 276.12888).

Compound **4**: Yellow amorphous solid; [α]_D²⁵ +25.2 (c 0.1, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 208(3.5), 270(3.2), 323(3.3) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 763, 902, 964, 998, 1045, 1072, 1133, 1191, 1255, 1294, 1361, 1436, 1515, 1573, 1602, 1637, 1664, 1708, 2852, 2917, 2952, 3457 cm⁻¹ (Figure S36); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), see Table 2; HRESIMS *m/z* 287.1250 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd. for C₁₅H₂₀NaO₄, 287.1254).

Compound **5**: Yellow amorphous solid; [α]_D²⁵ +1.8 (c 0.1, MeOH); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ε) 207(3.85) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 732, 765, 838, 883, 995, 1033, 1058, 1093, 1151, 1255, 1376,

1400, 1436, 1589, 1660, 1716, 1754, 2854, 2925, 2950, 3473 cm^{-1} (Figure S45); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz), see Table 3; HRESIMS m/z 359.18512 $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ (calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{O}_5$, 358.1853).

Compound 6: Yellow amorphous solid; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$ +44.95 (c 0.1, MeOH); UV (MeOH); CD (MeOH) λ_{max} ($\Delta\epsilon$) 235 (−5.9); λ_{max} ($\log \epsilon$) 365(3.47) nm; IR (neat) ν_{max} 729, 765, 881, 948, 997, 1029, 1066, 1128, 1155, 1261, 1324, 1380, 1434, 1714, 2854, 2923, 3398 cm^{-1} (Figure S54); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz), see Table 3; HRESIMS m/z 386.16132 $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ (calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_6$, 387.16091).

3.4. Computational Detail

In optical rotation and ECD calculations, conformational analysis of compounds was performed using Spartan'14 software (Wavefunction Inc., Irvine, CA, USA) in the MMFF force field and the b3lyp/6-31+g(d,p) level was used to optimize the conformers, using this approach with the solvent model for MeOH [15,16]. Conformers with Boltzmann distributions over 5% were selected for ECD and OR calculations in methanol at the b3lyp/6-31+g(d,p) level. The ECD and OR spectra were generated using the programs SpecDis 1.71 (University of Würzburg, Würzburg, Germany) and OriginPro 2021 (OriginLab, Ltd., Northampton, MA, USA) based on dipole-length rotational strengths by applying Gaussian band shapes with $\sigma = 0.30$ eV [17,18]. The optical rotations were calculated using time-dependent density functional theory. The b3lyp/6-31+g(d,p) level was employed in methanol for calculating optical rotations at $\lambda = 589.3$ nm. All the calculations were performed using Tianhe-2 in the National Super Computer Center in Guangzhou.

3.5. Crystal Structure Analysis

Colorless crystals of compound 1 were obtained from a solvent of chloroform. Crystal data were acquired using the hemisphere technique on a Rigaku Oxford Diffraction diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Cu-K α (radiation $\lambda = 1.54178$ Å). The structure was solved by means of direct methods using SHELXT; refinement was carried out by full-matrix least squares on F 2 , using the SHELXT program suite on Olex2 Launcher [19,20].

Crystal Data of 1— $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_4$ ($M = 182.17$ g/mol): monoclinic, space group $P2_1/c$ (no. 14), $a = 6.4187(2)$ Å, $b = 28.6008(9)$ Å, $c = 4.7982(2)$ Å, $\beta = 99.313(3)^\circ$, $V = 869.24(5)$ Å 3 , $Z = 4$, $T = 150.01(11)$ K, $\mu(\text{Cu-K}\alpha) = 0.935$ mm^{-1} , $D_{\text{calc}} = 1.392$ g/cm^3 , 3075 reflections measured ($12.38^\circ \leq 2\theta \leq 147.79^\circ$), 1688 unique ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.0306$, $R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0447$), which were used in all calculations. The final R_1 was 0.0439 ($I > 2\sigma(I)$) and wR_2 was 0.1396 (all data). Crystallographic data for 1 have been deposited in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center as supplementary publication number CCDC 1989670.

3.6. Anti-Inflammatory Activity

Evaluation of their inhibition of nitric oxide (NO) production in RAW264.7 cells activated by lipopolysaccharide (LPS) was carried out using the Griess assay with indomethacin as a positive control, according to a previous report [21]. RAW264.7 cells were purchased from the cell bank of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

4. Conclusions

In this study, a chemical investigation on the secondary metabolites of *Fusarium solani* 7227, isolated from seawater in the South China Sea, led to the isolation of compounds 1–11. Among the isolates, compounds 1 and 2 were found to be possible precursor compounds and compounds 3–6 were a series of new fusarin-related compounds with a polyunsaturated side chain. Together with the known compounds 7–11, all compounds were evaluated for their inhibition of NO production in RAW264.7 cells activated by LPS. Compounds 2–5 and 7–11 displayed potent anti-inflammatory activity, with IC_{50} values ranging from 3.6 to 32.2 μM . A preliminary structure–activity relationship analysis indicated that the anti-

inflammatory activities depend on the double bonds between C-4 and C-5 for compounds **1** and **2** and on the substitution group of the polyunsaturated chain for compounds **3–11**.

Supplementary Materials: The following are available online at <https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/md19060305/s1>, Figures S1–S54: ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, DEPT, HSQC, HMBC, COSY, IR, and HRESIMS spectra of compounds **1–6**. Figures S55–S59: The optimized low energy conformers of compounds **2**, **4**, **5**, and **6**. Tables S1–S5 Energy analysis for the conformers of compounds (5S)-**2**, (4S)-**4**, (13S)-**5**, and (13R, 14R, 15S)-**6** and (13R, 14R, 15R)-**6**.

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