

# **Natural Products as Environmentally Friendly Antifoulants**

*Iwao Omae*

*Pharmceutical University*

*Omae Research Laboratories*

**In many countries, alternative TBT-free antifoulants in coatings have already been used for small vessels since 1990.**

**Especially, Irgarol 1051 and Diuron which are relatively stable and cost-effective herbicides, are the most frequently used in many countries.**

**As a result, the high levels of contamination have been observed in many harbors, particularly in marinas in the world.**

**Already, many countries have reached on an agreement on the restriction of these two herbicides.**

**The resolutions in the international convention regarding to the total ban on the use of TBT will become effective on September 17, 2008.**

**Hence, the best TBT-free antifoulants selected from the other organic booster biocides besides Irgarol 1051 and Diuron, and natural products which are expected to be environmentally friendly antifouling agents, should be explored as soon as possible.**

# Natural Products

## 1. Terpenes

Monoterpenes, sesquiterpenes,  
diterpenes, sesterterpenes

## 2. Nitrogen-containing compounds

Heterocyclic compounds  
Gramines, pyrrols, pyrazoles, others

Amides

Other nitrogen-containing compounds

## 3. Phenols

Monophenols, polyphenols

## 4. Steroids

## 5. Others

Higher fatty acids, polyacetylenes, polycyclic  
compounds, isocyanides, quinones, enzymes, etc.

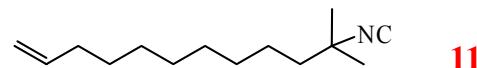
**Table 1** Sesquiterpenes from nudibranchs of the family phyllidiidae and their antifouling activity against larvae of the barnacle, *Balanus amphitrite*

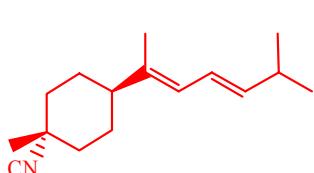
Compound	Antifouling activity IC <sub>50</sub> ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )
3-Isocyanotheonellin <b>1</b>	0.13
10-Isocyano-4-cadinene <b>2</b>	0.14
10- <i>epi</i> -Axisonitrile-3 <b>3</b>	10
Axisonitrile-3 <b>4</b>	3.2
(-)10-Isothiocyanato-4-amorphene <b>5</b>	7.2
2-Thiocyanatoneopupukeanane <b>6</b>	4.6
4-Thiocyanatoneopupukeanane <b>7</b>	2.3
10-Isocyano-4-amorphene <b>8</b>	0.7
2-Isoxyanotrachyopsane <b>9</b>	0.33
17-Epidioxy-5-cadinene <b>10</b>	>50
Cu <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.15

Okino T, Yoshimura E, Firota H, Fusetani N (1996) Tetrahedron 52:9447

**Table 2** Antifouling activity and toxicity of simple linear isocyanides and CuSO<sub>4</sub> against cyprid larvae of the barnacle after 120 h

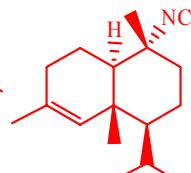
Compound	EC <sub>50</sub> ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )	LD <sub>50</sub> ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )
1,1-dimethyl-10-undecyl isocyanide <b>11</b>	0.046	30 <
Cu <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.30	2.95





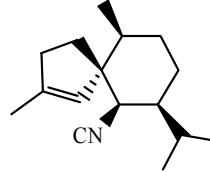
3-isocyanotheonellin

1



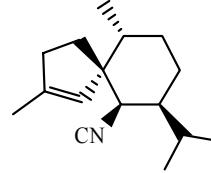
10-isocyano-4-cadinene

2



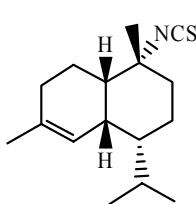
10-*epi*-axisonitrile-3

3



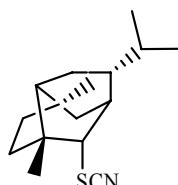
Axisonitrile-3

4



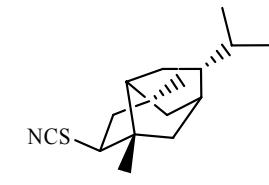
(-)10-isothiocyanato-4-amorphene

5



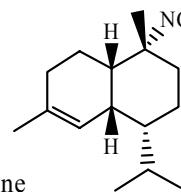
2-thiocyanatoneopupukeanane

6



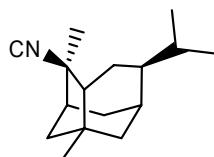
4-thiocyanatoneopupukeanane

7



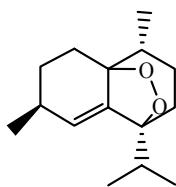
10-isocyano-4-amorphene

8



2-isoxyanotrachyopsane

9



17-epidioxy-5-cadinene

10

**Table 3** Diterpenes from marine sponge *Acanthella carvernosa* and their antifouling activity against the larval attachment and metamorphosis of the barnacle *Balanus amphitrite*

Compound	Antifouling activity IC <sub>50</sub> ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )
Kalihinene X <b>12</b>	0.49
Kalihinene Y <b>13</b>	0.45
Kalihinene Z <b>14</b>	1.1
Kalihinol A <b>15</b>	0.087
10-Formamidokalihinene <b>16</b>	0.095
10 $\beta$ -Formamido-5-isocyanatokalihinol-A <b>17</b>	ca. 0.05
Cu <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.15

Okino T, Yoshimura E, Hirota H, Fusetani N (1996) *J Nat Prod* 59:1081

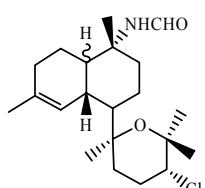
Okino, T.; Yoshimura, E.; Hirota, H.; Fusetani, N. *Tetrahedron Lett.*  
1995, 36, 8637.

Hirota H, Tomono Y, Fusetani N (1996) *Tetrahedron* 52:2359

**Table 4** Diterpenes from gorgonian *Junceella juncea* and their antifouling activity against the larval settlement of barnacle *Balanus amphitrite*

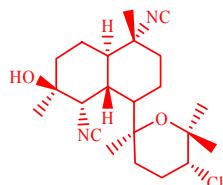
Compound	Antifouling activity EC <sub>50</sub> ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )
Briarane diterpene, juncin R <b>18</b>	0.004
Briarane diterpene, juncin X <b>19</b>	0.004

S.-H. Qi; S. Zhang; P.-Y. Qian, Z.-H. Xiao, M.-Y. Li, *Tetrahedron* 2006, 62, 9123.



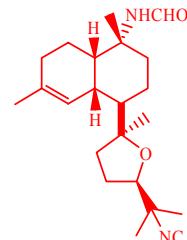
Kalihinene

1 $\beta$ -H, 14- $\alpha$ -Cl **12**  
1 $\alpha$ -H, 14- $\alpha$ -Cl **13**  
1 $\beta$ -H, 14- $\beta$ -Cl **14**



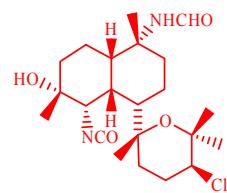
Kalihinol A

**15**



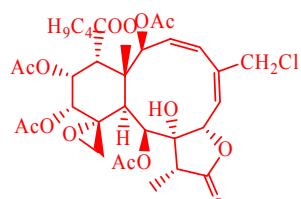
10-Formamidokalihinene

**16**



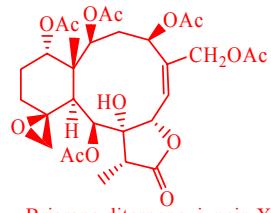
10-Formamido-5-isocyanatokalihinol-A

**17**



Briarane diterpene, juncin R

**18**



Briarane diterpene, juncin X

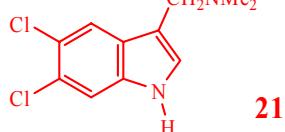
**19**

**Table 5** Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) for larval settlement of the blue mussel and 30% lethal concentration ( $LC_{30}$ ) values of 2,5,6-tribrom-1-methylgramine (TBG) and TBTO (ppm) for reared cyprids

Substance	MIC	$LC_{30}$
TBG <b>20</b>	0.03	0.60
TBTO	0.20	0.06

*Kon-ya K, Shimidzu N, Adachi K, Miki W (1994) Fish Sci 60:773*

**Table 6** Antifouling activity of gramine compounds [28]

Compound	Antifouling activity (ppm)
 <b>20</b>	0.063
 <b>21</b>	0.008
 <b>22</b>	0.063
TBTO	0.127
Cu <sub>2</sub> O	1.25

*Kawamat M, Kaneko F, Fukunaga J, Fukushima K (2000) Taisei Kensetsu Gijyutu Kenkyushoho 33:89*  
*Gramine is the extract from Zoobotron pellucidum.*

**Table 7** Attachment-hibiting activity against the blue mausel, *Mytilus edulis galloprovincialis*, of shogaols, zingerone, zingerols and TBTF in the conventional submerged assay

Compound	Days			
	29 <sup>a</sup>	62	101	125
6-Shogaol ( <b>23</b> ) n=4	○ <sup>b</sup>	○	×	×
8-Shogaol ( <b>23</b> ) n=6	○	○	○	○
10-Shogaol ( <b>23</b> ) n=8 <sup>d</sup>	○	○ <sup>c</sup>	×	×
Zingerone ( <b>24</b> )	○	×	×	×
6-Zingerol ( <b>25</b> ) n=4	○	×	×	×
8-Zingerol ( <b>25</b> ) n=6	○	○	×	×
TBTF	○	○	○	○

a : from 28 June 2001.

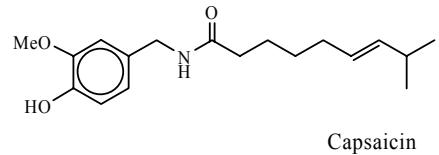
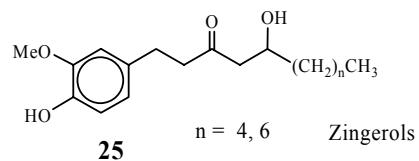
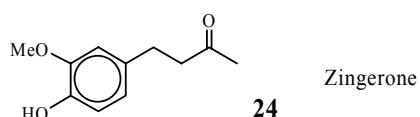
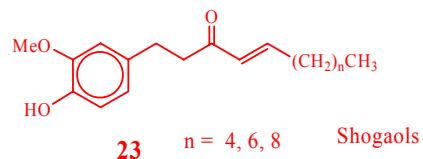
b : ○ activity was apparent; × the degree of fouling was the same as that in the blank zone. Each zone (5 cm in diameter) was coated with 300 mg of a sample.

c : 45 days.

d : 140 mg / 5 cm in diameter.

Etoh H, Kondoh T, Noda R, Singh IP, Sekiya Y, Morimitsu K, Kubota K (2002)  
*Biosci Biotechnol Biochem* 66:1748

#### Phenol Derivatives



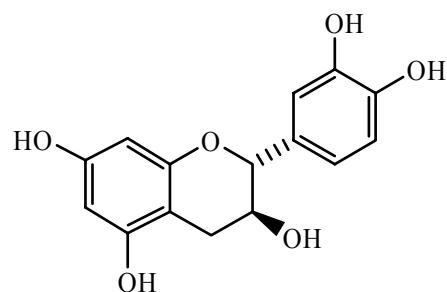
**Table 8** Repellent activity against the blue mussel, *Mytilus edulis*

Compound	Repellent activity (Unit <sup>a</sup> )
(+) Catechin <b>26</b>	6
(-)Epicatechin <b>27</b>	14
Kaempferol coumaroylglucopyranoside <b>28</b> (Kaempferol)	227
Polydatin 6"- <i>O</i> -( <i>E</i> )- <i>p</i> -coumarate <b>29</b>	185
Raponticin 6"- <i>O</i> -( <i>E</i> )- <i>p</i> -coumarate <b>30</b>	179
TBTO	200
TPT acetate	150
CuSO <sub>4</sub> <sup>b</sup>	100

a : Unit : 100 ×  $\frac{\text{minimum dose of CuSO}_4 \text{ for } ++ \text{ activity} (\mu \text{ mol cm}^{-2})}{\text{minimum dose of the sample for } ++ \text{activity} (\mu \text{ mol cm}^{-2})}$

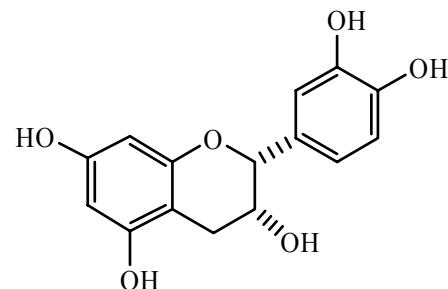
b : Standard sample for repellent activity in the blue mussel assay : 100

## Polyphenols



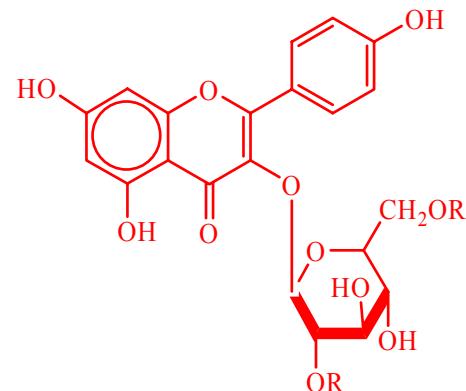
(+) Catechin

26

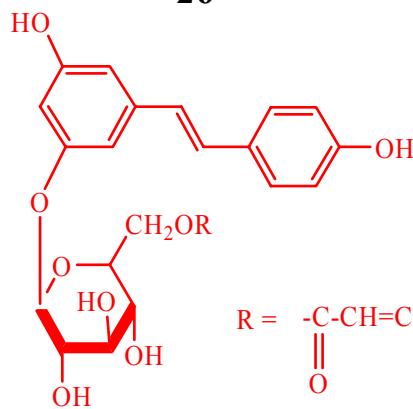


(-) Epicatechin

27

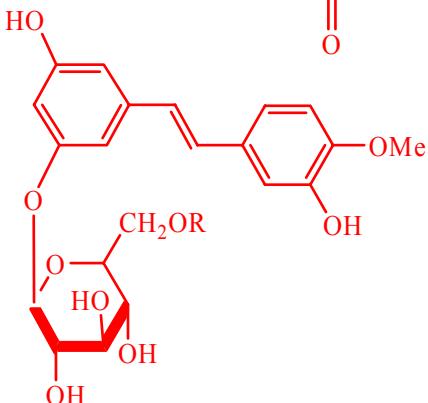


Kaempferol  
28



Polydatin 6''-O-(E)-p-coumarate

29



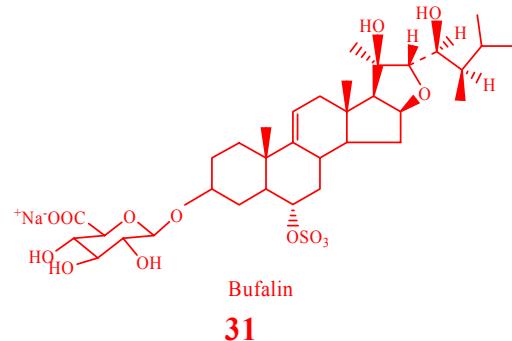
Raponticin 6''-O-(E)-p-coumarate

30

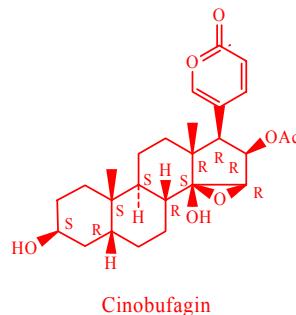
**Table 9** Antibarnacle activity of bufodienolids and tributyltin chloride

Antifoulants	Naupliar toxicity		Cyprid antisettlement	
	LD <sub>50</sub> ng L <sup>-1</sup>	Relative potency	EC <sub>50</sub> ng L <sup>-1</sup>	Relative potency
Bufalin <sup>*1</sup> 31	27	100.0	10	100.000
Cinobufagin <sup>*2</sup> 32	37	73.0	162	6.000
TBT Cl( <i>n</i> -Bu <sub>3</sub> SnCl)	3400	0.8	66000	0.001

\*1 = Bufalin = 3,4-Dihydroxybufa-20,22 dienolide  
 \*2 = Cinobufagin = 16-(Acetoxy)-14,15-epoxy-3 hydroxybufa-20,22-enolide



D. Rittschof, Biofouling 2000, 15, 119



**Table 10** Antibarnacle activity of isocyanocyclohexyl acetate and CuSO<sub>4</sub> against the larvae of the barnacle *Balanus amphitrite*

Compound	EC <sub>50</sub> ( $\mu$ g mL <sup>-1</sup> )
isocyanocyclohexyl acetate	0.0096
Cu <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.36



isocyanocyclohexyl acetate

Y. Kitano, Y. Nogata, K. Shinshima, E. Yoshimura, K. Chiba, M. Tada, I. Sakaguchi, Biofouling 2004, 20, 93

# Conclusions

**1,1-Dimethyl-10-undecyl isocyanide, gramines, shogaols, kaempferols, polydatin, raponticin, bufalin, and isocyanocyclohexyl acetate, showed the similarly high antifouling properties as those of the organotin antifoulants.**

**Finally, for example, 1,1-dimethyl-10-undecyl isocyanide, gramines and isocyanocyclohexyl acetate show high antifouling activities and these chemical structures are not so complicated.**

**We expect that some of these natural products or the similar compounds will be utilized in near future as the environmentally friendly antifoulants.**