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Studies on the Chemical Constituents of Tinospora crispa

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Tinospora crispa (Lour.) Merr. (Family Menispermaceae) is distributed in Xishuangbanna, Yunnan, China. The extract of Tinospora crispa stems has been taken orally by Type 2 diabetic patients to treat hyperglycaemia in Malaysia and Thailand. The methanol extract of this species showed a dosage dependent stimulation. Ten compounds were isolated from this plant including three steroids: β-sitosterol (1), stigmasterol (2), Makisteron C (3), one flavonoid: apigenin (4), three amines: N-cis-feruloyltyramine(5), N-trans-feruloyltyramine (6),*N-trans*-caffeoyltyramine (7),three alkaloids: *N*-formylanonaine (8),N-formylnornuciferine (9), N-acetylnornuciferine (10). Compound (10) was a known compound isolated from this plant for the first time. The structures of these compounds were established by spectroscopic analysis and the biologic activities are currently under investigation.