

## 87.1 Introduction

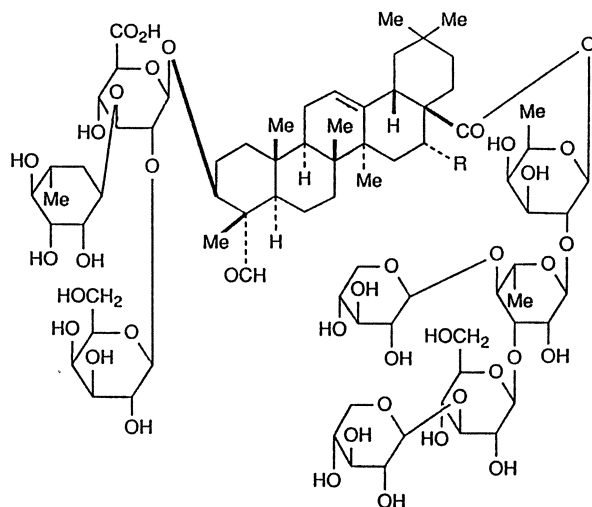
Mubiezi, Semen Momordicae, is the dry ripe seeds of *Momordica cochinchinensis* (Lour.) Spreng. (Cucurbitaceae) collected in winter when the fruits have ripened. It is officially listed in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia and used for treatment of ulcer, carbuncle, anal fistula, tetter, and favus by external administration. ~

Luohanguo, Fructus Momordicae, is the dry fruits of *M. grosvenori* Swingle collected in the fall when the fruits have turned dark green. It is also officially listed in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia and used for treatment of cough and pharyngitis and as a laxative.

## 87.2 Chemical Constituents

### 87.2.1 Chemical Constituents of *Momordica cochinchinensis*

Two saponins named momordica saponins I (87-1) and II (87-2) were isolated from the seeds of *M. cochinchinensis*. The aglycone of saponin I is gypsogenin, whereas that of saponin II is quillaic acid. Both saponins possess the same sugar moiety [1]. Gypsogenin and quillaic acid are both triterpenes derived from oleanane characterized by a carbonyl group at C-23.



Momordica saponin I (87-1): R=H  
Momordica saponin II (87-2): R=OH