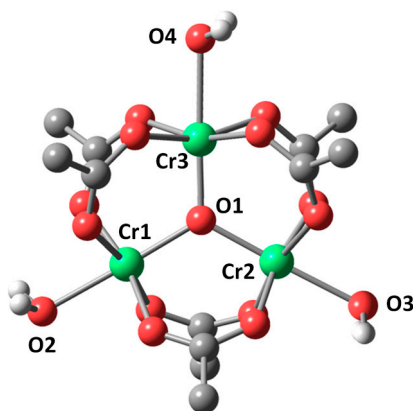


Supplementary Material

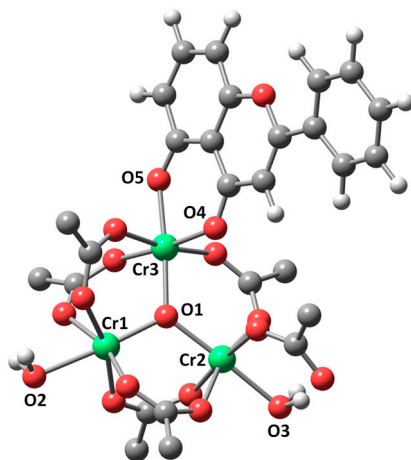
Table S1. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg). Comparison of the calculated (DFT) geometry of $[\text{Cr}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_6(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3]^+$ and the experimental (X-ray) crystal structure of $[\text{Cr}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_6(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3]\text{Cl}\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$.



bond/Angle	Calculated ^a	Experimental ^b
O1-Cr1	1.90	1.90
O1-Cr2	1.90	1.90
O1-Cr3	1.89	1.88
avg Cr1-O _{acetate}	1.98	1.97
avg Cr2-O _{acetate}	1.98	1.96
avg Cr3-O _{acetate}	1.99	1.97
Cr1-O2	2.13	2.05
Cr2-O3	2.13	2.01
Cr3-O4	2.13	2.04
avg C-O _{acetate}	1.27	1.25
Cr1-O1-Cr2	119.8	119.9
Cr1-O1-Cr3	120.1	120.0
Cr2-O1-Cr3	120.1	120.1
O1-Cr1-O2	178.4	178.3
O1-Cr2-O3	178.3	177.9
O1-Cr3-O4	178.3	178.5
avg O1-Cr1-O _{acetate}	95.6	95.0
avg O1-Cr2-O _{acetate}	95.6	94.4
avg O1-Cr3-O _{acetate}	95.7	94.6
avg O _{acetate} -C-O _{acetate}	124.6	125.0
O1- <i>Pl</i> _{Cr1Cr2Cr3}	0.00 ^c	0.02 ^c

^a B3LYP//6-31G*(C,H,O)/LANL2TZ(Cr); see computational details; ^b X-ray crystal data from the literature for $[\text{Cr}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_6(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3]\text{Cl}\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (ref [12]); ^c Deviation from the mean Cr1-Cr2-Cr3 trigonal plan (Å).

Table S2. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg) from the calculated (DFT) geometry of $[\text{Cr}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_6(\text{Pri})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]$. ^a



O1-Cr1	1.88
O1-Cr2	1.94
O1-Cr3	1.98
avg Cr1-O _{acetate}	1.99
avg Cr2-O _{acetate}	2.00
avg Cr3-O _{acetate}	2.01
Cr1-O2	2.18
Cr2-O3	2.09
Cr3-O4	1.97
Cr3-O5	1.96
O4-C4	1.27
O5-C5	1.29
Cr1-O1-Cr2	116.2
Cr1-O1-Cr3	117.5
Cr2-O1-Cr3	125.2
O1-Cr1-O2	176.2
O1-Cr2-O3	175.0
O1-Cr3-O4	93.7
O1-Cr3-O5	176.1
Cr3-O4-C4	128.8
Cr3-O5-C5	130.0
C4-C-C5	122.7
O1- <i>Pl</i> _{Cr1Cr2Cr3}	0.12 ^b

^a B3LYP//6-31G*(C,H,O)/LANL2TZ(Cr); see computational details; ^b Deviation from the mean Cr1-Cr2-Cr3 trigonal plan (Å).

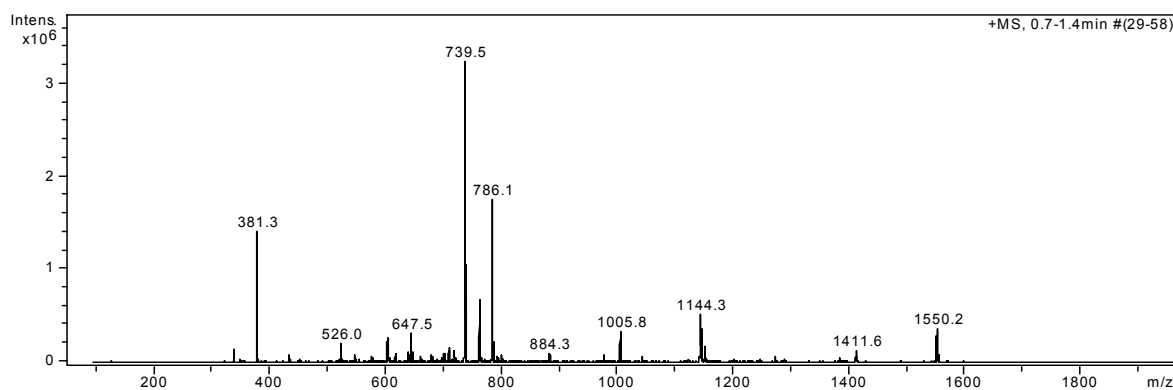


Figure S1. ESI MS of $[\text{Cr}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_6(\text{Pri})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]$ in acetonitrile.

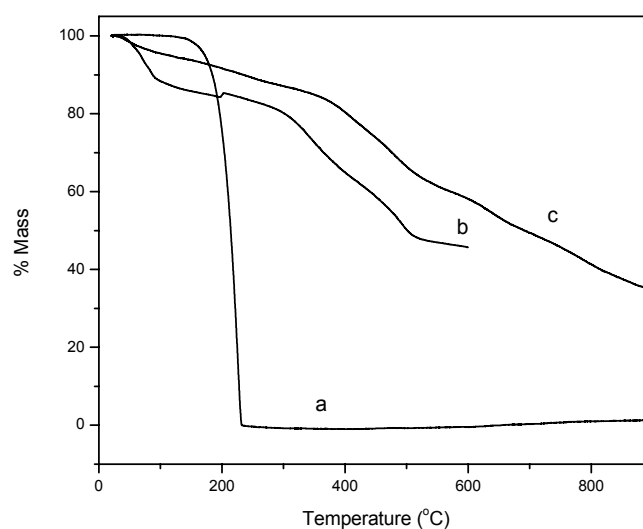


Figure S2. TG curve of (a) primuletin; (b) $[\text{Cr}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_6(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3]\text{Cl}\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$; and (c) $[\text{Cr}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_6(\text{Pri})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]$.

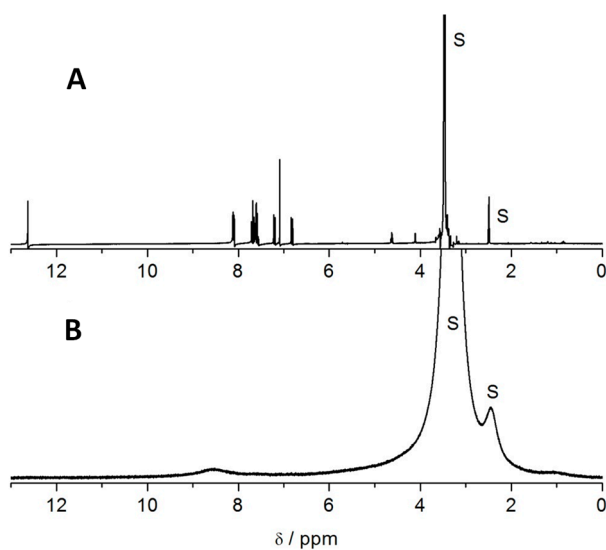


Figure S3. ^1H NMR spectra of (A) primuletin and (B) $[\text{Cr}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_6(\text{Pri})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$. Signals marked S represent the solvent.

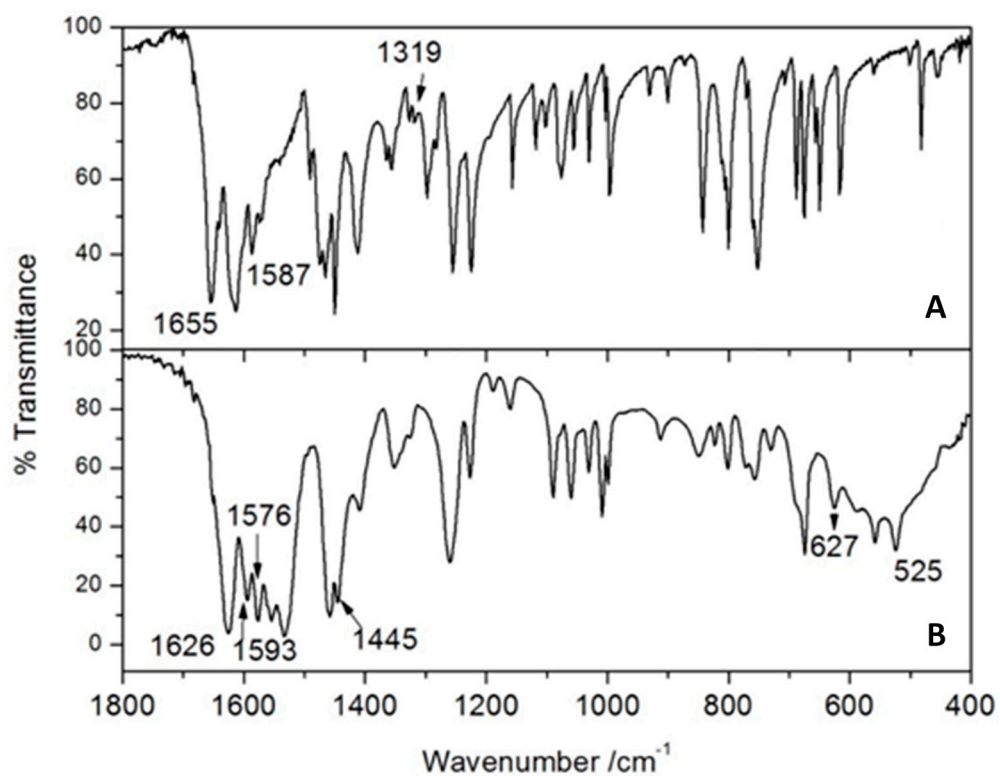


Figure S4. FTIR spectra of (A) primuletin and (B) complex $[\text{Cr}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_6(\text{Pri})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]$ in KBr pellets.