## Supplementary Information

## Synthesis and evaluation of novel ellipticines and derivatives as inhibitors of $P$. Infestans growth.

1. Synthesis of Isoellipticine framework S-2
2. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR data S-4

## 3-(1H-Indole-2-carbonyl)isonicotinic acid



3-(1-(Phenylsulfonyl)-1H-indole-2-carbonyl)isonicotinic acid (17.86 g, $43.9 \mathrm{mmol})$, potassium carbonate ( $24.3 \mathrm{~g}, 175.7 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), methanol ( 480 ml ) and water ( 160 ml ) were heated to reflux for 4.5 hours. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the residue dissolved in water ( 450 ml ), cooled on ice and acidified to pH 2 with $37 \%$ aqueous hydrochloric acid. A pale yellow solid formed which was filtered and washed with water. Recrystallisation from acetone yielded the product in two crops (combined yield $10.86 \mathrm{~g}, 92.8 \%$ ). m.p. 241 $-243{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (Lit. m.p. $\left.247-250^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)^{1}$; $v_{\max } / \mathrm{cm}^{-1}(\mathrm{KBr}): 3337,2420,1884,1715,1633,1600,1572,1524,1344,1297$, $1256,1231,1129,1065,745$; $\delta \mathrm{H}\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{DMSO}-d_{6}\right): 6.74[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J 1.4, \mathrm{C}(3) \mathrm{H}], 7.08$ [1H, overlapping ddd, $J$ $7.8,7.1,0.8, \mathrm{C}(5) \mathrm{H}], 7.32[1 \mathrm{H}$, overlapping ddd, $J 8.0,6.9,1.0, \mathrm{C}(6) \mathrm{H}], 7.49[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{dd}, J 8.4,0.6, \mathrm{C}(7) \mathrm{H}], 7.64$ [1H, d, J 8.0, C $(4) \mathrm{H}], 7.86\left[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J 4.7, \mathrm{C}\left(5^{\prime}\right) \mathrm{H}, 8.85\left[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}\left(2^{\prime}\right) \mathrm{H}\right], 8.93\left[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J 5.0, \mathrm{C}\left(6^{\prime}\right) \mathrm{H}\right], 12.07\right.$ [1H, s, $\mathrm{N}(1) \mathrm{H})], 13.80[1 \mathrm{H}$, br s, C(4')COOH]; m/z (ESI-): 265 [(M-H)-, 100\%]

Indolo[1,2-b][2,6]naphthyridine-5,12-dione


3-(1H-Indole-2-carbonyl)isonicotinic acid ( $10.95 \mathrm{~g}, 0.041 \mathrm{~mol}$ ) in acetic anhydride ( $770 \mathrm{ml}, 831.6 \mathrm{~g}, 8.15 \mathrm{~mol}$ ) was heated to $85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ under nitrogen for 18 hours and to $90{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for a further 6 hours. The solution was allowed to cool, concentrated to one third volume and placed on ice for 3 hours. The product precipitated as green needles which were separated by suction filtration and washed with copious water. Recrystallisation from acetone provided the pure product ( $8.05 \mathrm{~g}, 78.8 \%$ ). m.p. $213-215{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (Lit. m.p. $216-218.5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) ${ }^{1}$; $v_{\max } / \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ (KBr): 3123, 3053, 3025, 1708, 1699, 1667, 1552, 1379, 1341, 1242, 751, 729; סн (300 $\left.\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{DMSO}-d_{6}\right): 7.44[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J 7.5, \mathrm{C}(9) \mathrm{H}], 7.65[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{t}, J 7.6, \mathrm{C}(8) \mathrm{H}], 7.78[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}$, $\mathrm{C}(11) \mathrm{H}], 7.88[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J 7.8, \mathrm{C}(7) \mathrm{H}], 8.17[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J 5.0, \mathrm{C}(4) \mathrm{H}], 8.48[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J 8.3, \mathrm{C}(10) \mathrm{H}], 9.14[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J 5.0$, $\mathrm{C}(3) \mathrm{H}], 9.33[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}(1) \mathrm{H}] ; \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}\left(\mathrm{ESI}^{+}\right): 249\left[(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})^{+}, 30 \%\right]$.

## 5,11-Dimethyl-10H-pyrido[3,4-b]carbazole (isoellipticine) 30



Indolo[1,2-b][2,6]naphthyridine-5,12-dione (3.24 g, 13.1 mmol$)$ in tetrahydrofuran ( 500 ml ) was cooled to $-100{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ under nitrogen. Methyllithium ( $19.9 \mathrm{ml}, 1.45 \mathrm{M}, 28.8 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added dropwise whilst ensuring the temperature did not rise above $-100{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The reaction was maintained at $-100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for one hour after addition was completed and then allowed warm to room temperature overnight. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue dissolved in absolute ethanol ( 420 ml ). Sodium borohydride ( 7.40 $\mathrm{g}, 196 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added and the mixture refluxed under nitrogen for a total of 24 hours with a second portion of sodium borohydride $(7.40 \mathrm{~g}, 196 \mathrm{mmol})$ added after 6 hours. The mixture was allowed to cool and solvent removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in water ( 350 ml ) and extracted with dichloromethane - methanol 90:10 ( $3 \times 200 \mathrm{ml}$ ). The pH of the aqueous fraction was adjusted sequentially to pH 7 and pH 2 with $37 \%$ aqueous hydrochloric acid and extracted both times with dichloromethane - methanol 90:10 ( $1 \times 50 \mathrm{ml}$ ). Combined organic layers were washed with water $(2 \times 200$ $\mathrm{ml})$ and brine $(1 \times 100 \mathrm{ml})$, dried over magnesium sulfate and solvent removed under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography eluting with dichloromethane - methanol (98:2-95:5) gave the product as a yellow solid ( $2.67 \mathrm{~g}, 83.2 \%$ ) m.p. $274-276^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (Lit. m.p. $\left.270-283^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)^{1}$; $v_{\max } / \mathrm{cm}^{-1}(\mathrm{KBr}): 3145$, 3077, 2978, 2923, 2870, 1614, 1598, 1464, 1407, 1382, 1319, 1308, 1275, 1231, 1014, 740; бн (300 MHz, DMSO$\left.d_{6}\right): 2.96\left[3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}(11) \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 3.14\left[3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}(5) \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right], 7.26[1 \mathrm{H}$, overlapping ddd, J 8.1, 6.3, 1.8, C(7)H], $7.51-7.61$
[2H, m, C(8)H, C(9)H], $8.12[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, \mathrm{J} 6.1, \mathrm{C}(4) \mathrm{H}], 8.37-8.45[2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{C}(3) \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}(6) \mathrm{H}], 9.59[1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}(1) \mathrm{H}], 11.35$ [1H, s, N(10)H]; m/z (ESI+): 247 [(M+H)+, 100\%]

1. G.W. Gribble, M.G. Saulnier, J.A. Obaza-Nutaitis, D.M. Ketcha, A versatile and efficient construction of the 6H-pyrido[4,3-b]carbazole ring system. Syntheses of the antitumor alkaloids ellipticine, 9 -methoxyellipticine, and olivacine, and their analogs, The Journal of Organic Chemistry 57(22) (1992) 5891-5899.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 20


${ }^{13}$ C NMR Data of 20

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 21


${ }^{13}$ C NMR Data of 21

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of 22

${ }^{13}$ C NMR Data of 22

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 23


${ }^{13}$ C NMR Data of 23

$\left.\left.\right|^{\infty}\right|^{\circ} V^{\circ}$
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 24


${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Data of 24

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of Data 25

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Data of 25

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 26


${ }^{13}$ C NMR Data of 26

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 27

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Data of 27

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 28






${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Data of 28

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 29


${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR Data of 29

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 31 and 32


C(8)H $\mathrm{C}(9) \mathrm{H}$


Comparison of aromatic region of 7-formyl-10-methylisoellipticine with 10methylisoellipticine (both recorded in $\mathrm{DMSO}-\mathrm{d}_{6}$ at 300 MHz )
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR Data of 33a and 33


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