

Design and synthesis of 3, 5- hetero diesters of 4-deoxy quinic acid and their aphicidal activity against Acyrthosiphon pisum

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1 Design and synthesis of 3, 5- hetero diesters of 4-deoxy quinic acid and their aphicidal activity 2 against *Acyrthosiphon pisum*.

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11 Highlights

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- Analogs of chlorogenic acids featuring different and various hydroxyl cinnamoyl groups in 3 and 5 positions
- Four compounds were found to exhibit higher aphicidal activities than natural 3,5-di-O-caffeoylquinic acid
- Both acetylated 3-O-feruloyl-5-O-caffeoyl and 3-O-caffeoyl-5-O-coumaroyl compounds were active
 - Observation of an interesting structure-activity difference for two regioisomers

16 Graphical abstract



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Four analogs of 3,5-dicaffeoylquinic acid, including a new heterodiester of 4-deoxyquinic acid, were found toxic against a pea aphid. Several 4-deoxy quinic analogs featuring two different hydroxyl cinnamoyl moieties in position 3 and 5 were prepared for the first time and carefully analysed. Through an assay on a pea aphid larvae, interesting indications on the structure-aphicidal activity relationships and higher levels of toxicity were observed for four compounds related to the reference natural compound.



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4 Introduction

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Aphids, like the pea aphid *Acyrthosiphon pisum*, are severe agricultural pests damaging crops and vectoring plant pathogens. Aphid control strategies tend to be oriented towards more sustainable measures to reply to emerging resistance issues and concerns about environmental, human health and beneficial organism preservation. Natural products are logically regarded as promising alternatives to synthetic pesticides and still source of inspiration to find potentially less noxious chemicals.^{1,2}

9 Hydroxycinnamoyl quinic acids, particularly caffeoylquinic acids, are widespread edible plant secondary metabolites. Most of 10 these compounds, mono-, di- or triesters of hydroxycinnamoyl acids and polyol quinic acid, are grouped into a family named 11 chlorogenic acids. Commonly used *via* traditional herbal medicines, different *in vitro* bioassays have evaluated their potential 12 biological activities, among antioxidant,³ antifungal,⁴ antiviral,⁵ renoprotective,⁶ neuroprotective,^{7,8} inhibitors of α -glucosidase,^{9,10} or 13 as modulators of the intestinal microbiota in high-fat-diet-fed mice.¹¹

14 The underlying biological mechanisms for host plant resistance to aphids are worth of interest.¹² For example, the correlation 15 between chlorogenic acids concentration and priming of plants¹³ was shown for the carrot fly larval damage,¹⁴ for fungal infection⁴ or 16 for cultured tobacco cells.¹⁵ The resistance of lettuce cultivars to Pemphigus bursarius¹⁶ or the negative effect of chlorogenic acid on 17 Western flower thrips Frankliniella occidentalis were also reported.¹⁷ The cultivar Rubira peach tree, parent of a trait mapped to Rm2 18 gene¹⁸ had shown a strong induced resistance to Myzus persicae, the green peach aphid which represents a threat for many agro-19 industrial crops.¹⁹ An accumulation of metabolite, later identified as 3,5-dicaffeoyl quinic acid 1 (3,5-diCQA), had been previously detected in aphid-infested leaves,²⁰ and also later observed in a fungal-pear tree pathosystem.²¹ While aphicidal activity was 20 21 demonstrated by positive preliminary results of *in vitro* artificial diets assays adding 1 in nutritive medium for aphids,²² the biological 22 mode of action is not yet elucidated. To get preliminary insight into the structure activity relationship and/or to find more active compounds, we had considered the preparation of various synthetic analogs. To prevent isomerization of dihydroxycinnamoyl quinic 23 24 acids during in vitro assays,^{22,23} model compounds with a 4-deoxy quinic acid nucleus had been designed. Eight hydroxycinnamoyl 25 homodiesters of a new 4-deoxy quinic acid or its methyl ester had been synthesized from the new triol 4.24 Their influence on the 26 feeding behaviour of the pea aphid Acyrthosiphon pisum was evaluated. Two homodiesters with a free carboxylic function, 27 compounds 2a and 2b, namely "3,5-dicaffeate" and "3,5-dicoumarate" had been identified as more toxic than the natural 3,5-dicQA 28 1 (Figure 1).



30 **Figure 1** : Representative compounds discussed in this paper

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To extend our study with a second growth inhibition assay, different other structural parameters were adressed. As a very low activity was measured for methyl esters derivatives, only carboxylic acids would be included. First, some previously described but not assayed intermediates, **3a**, **3b**, **3c** could be incorporated in this new investigation to determine the influence of the acetylation of the phenol(s). Secondly, we aimed to study the possible correlation between aphicidal activity and consistent structural modifications

such as heterosubstitution in C-3 and C-5 positions and so the putative influence of the stereochemical position of each 1 2 hydroxycinnamoyl group. To refine our previous results, some questions were addressed: are two caffeoyl or p-coumaroyl groups 3 mandatory for such activity and if not, is their position in C-3 or C-5 determinant? We thus designed other diesters among which 4 those featuring a single caffeoyl and/or a single p-coumaroyl residues. We could anticipate that such preparation would require a clear 5 structural elucidation of defined intermediates to identify regioisomers. Natural caffeoyl-feruloyl quinic acids are interesting 6 «hybrids» not well studied albeit their probable existence was first noted in 1965.25 Characterization for such compounds were then however proposed by NMR^{26, 27, 28,29,30} or by LC-MSⁿ analysis of a methanolic coffee bean extract³¹ or of sweet potato *Ipomea batatas* 7 8 from China.³² Synthesis of methyl muco-quinates, heterosubstituted in 1 and 3 positions, was reported by Jaiswal et al.³³ To the best 9 of our knowledge, there were no reported synthesis for other 3,5-hetero diacylquinic acids. Here we describe our results on the 10 preparation of novel heterocinnamoyl chlorogenic acid analogs : "hybrid diesters or heterodiesters" of 4-deoxy quinic acid 4 (Figure 11 1) were synthesized, carefully characterized and a complementary evaluation of the toxicity of eight compounds against the pea aphid 12 Acyrthosiphon pisum is reported.

13 **Results and discussion**

Partial selectivity observed during monoesterifications of other quinate derivatives (Li, X. unpublished results) encouraged us to embark into the preparation of newly designed heterodiesters by a sequential procedure, starting from the methyl 4-deoxy quinate 4, of two consecutive esterifications with different cinnamoyl chlorides. The first and key step was to identify reproducible conditions of preparation, isolation and characterization of defined monosubstituted compounds from 4^{24} bearing a caffeoyl, feruloyl or *p*coumaroyl residue on the 3 or 5 positions (Scheme1). Then a second different cinnamoyl chloride could be introduced towards different combinations of 3, 5-heterodiesters of 4 and then selective deprotections would give 3, 5-heterodiesters of 4-deoxy quinic acid with acetylated or free phenols.

21 Synthesis of monoesters





Scheme 1 : Synthesis of monoesters. Reagents and conditions. For 5 and 6 : Conditions A DMF/Pyridine 3/2, 0.4M at 45°C, 4h6h : 5a (15%): 5b (33%) 5c (18%); 6a (19%); 6b (28%); 6c (19%); For 7 Conditions B CH₂Cl₂/Pyridine 5/1, DMAP 20 mol. %,
0.1M, -18°C-0°C to r.t, 4h: 7a (11%); 7b (34%); 7c (8%).

To get an optimal conversion of **4** in reaction with acetylated feruloyl, *p*-coumaroyl or caffeoyl chloride into monoesters **5-7a/b** and to limit the formation of homodiesters **5-7c** resulted in reacting **4** with 1.5 equiv. acyl chloride under previously identified conditions.²⁴ A conversion rate of about 65% and a ratio monoesters/3,5-diester up to 2.7/1 could be reached. Best results were obtained under these conditions with feruloyl chloride and *p*-coumaroyl chloride (Scheme1). With caffeoyl chloride, a disappointing even distribution forced to switch to more usual conditions, in CH₂Cl₂/Pyridine/DMAP, with an addition of caffeoyl chloride at 0°C favouring **7b**, isolated with 34% yield on a 600 mg scale of **4** (details in Table S1).

32 NMR identification of the 3 and 5-substituted isomers

Despite moderate yields and selectivity, isolated monoesters **5-7a** and **5-7b** could be all isolated for characterization after the successful, albeit tedious, chromatographic separation of main products, diester, monoesters and unreacted triol **4** : the structural identification of each members of the pairs of 3-*O* or 5-*O* monoesters **5-7 a** or **b** was indeed required for the formation of defined heterodiesters. The position of the esterification in monoesters 5a/5b, 6a/6b or 7a/7b was determined using complete 1D-2D NMR analysis. Despite ¹H NMR spectra in CDCl₃ for 5a/5b are very close (Figure 2, left) (similar analysis could be done for 6a/6b and 7a/7b, see supporting information), a slight discrimination could be however done in the 3.0-6.0 ppm region where could be found the respective signals for : H-3, H-5, OH-1, COOCH₃ and the unaffected OH in position 3 or 5 (Figure 2, right). Esterification of the OH-1, the tertiary hydroxyl group, was first discarded as in both spectra, the signal of one proton (H-3 or H-5) shifted downfield from 4.2-4.4 ppm for 4 to 5.3-5.6 ppm for 5a or 5b.



8 Figure 2 Left : ¹H NMR spectra in CDCl₃ for isolated monoesters 5a/5b ; Right :Zoom on the 3.0-6.0 ppm region

9 The large *trans*-diaxial coupling constant measured between the **axial** proton H-4a (1.5-2.5 ppm) and one of the proton H-3 or H-10 5 (about ${}^{3}J$ 10.3-11.5 Hz for monoesters **5a/5b**) supports more favoured chair conformations of 3-and 5-cinnamoyl monoesters as

5 (about ${}^{3}J$ 10.3-11.5 Hz for monoesters **5a/5b**) supports more favoured chair conformations of 3-and 5-cinnamoyl monoesters as depicted in Scheme 2 (H-4a and *trans*-diaxial configuration in bold). Moreover, the carboxyl or the carboxymethyl groups were found

12 preferentially in an equatorial conformation in quinic derivatives.³⁴



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14 Scheme 2 : Chair conformations of 5- and 3-cinnamoyl monoesters of methyl deoxy quinate 5-7a and 5-7b

15 First, according to the ${}^{1}H{}^{-13}C$ HSQC 2D NMR spectrum of monoester **5a** (Figure 3, left), the signals at 5.51 ppm (${}^{3}J$ 11.2 Hz and

 ^{3}J 4.4 Hz) and at 4.35 – 4.28 ppm were assigned to a secondary carbon CH proton at the esterified position (thus H-3 or H-5) and to

17 the other (H-5 or H-3) proton respectively. Then, thanks to ¹H-¹³C HMBC correlations (Figure 3, right), the signal at 4.43 ppm could

18 be assigned to the tertiary hydroxyl group C1-O<u>H</u> and the one at 4.00 ppm to C3 or C5-O<u>H</u>.



Figure 3 : 2D NMR analysis of 5a (CDCl₃): Left: Partial ¹H-¹³C HSQC (CDCl₃); Right: Partial ¹H-¹³C HMBC (CDCl₃)

In ¹H-¹H NOESY spectrum (Figure 4), the two such assigned signals for hydroxyl groups C1-OH and C3 or C5-OH exhibit interactions with each other (rectangles in Figure 4) indicating their relative cis positions, which is only consistent with a mean conformation for 5-feruloyl monoester 5a (Scheme 2). Additionally, the signal for an axial proton at 5.51 ppm is also correlated 6 (circles in Figure 4) with these two signals for hydroxyl groups. 5a corresponds to a monoester with a feruloyl group in position 5 with a predominant conformation with an equatorial methyl ester group in CDCl₃ and **5b** is the 3-O-isomer (Scheme 1). The acylation positions of *p*-coumaroyl and caffeoyl in other monoesters **6a/6b** and **7a/7b** were analogously confirmed.



10 Figure 4 : ¹H-¹H NOESY (in CDCl₃) of 5a

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12 **Preparation of various heterodiesters**

13 Compounds with various combinations of the three chosen hydroxycinnamoyl moieties were targeted: replacing one of active 14 coumaroyl residue (from 2b) by a feruloyl or caffeoyl one (Scheme 3, 9-12), or a caffeoyl (from 2a) by a feruloyl or coumaroyl 15 residue (11-14). 9, 10, 11 could be prepared from 5a, 6a or 7a with 43%, 75% or 62% isolated yields using the appropriate acyl 16 chloride 8a or 8b (Scheme 3). The reaction between 7b and 8b at 0°C led to 12 in 69% yield while the reverse combination using 6a 17 and 8c was unproductive to get 12. Interestingly coupling 7a with 8c provided 13 in reproducible yields 54-62% whatever the 18 conditions. Surprisingly, despite our efforts to find the right combination as for 12, in coupling either 5a and 8c or 7b and 8a, we 19 never managed to get a pure sample of the isomer 14 from a partial conversion outcome and a too complex crude mixture.

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Scheme 3 : Synthesis of heterodiesters. Reagents and conditions ^a For 9-11 Conditions A : DMF/Pyridine 3/2 at 45°C; For 12
 Conditions B : DMF/Pyridine 3/2 at 0°C to rt; For 13 62% in conditions A; 62% in conditions B; 54% in conditions C: DCM/Pyridine
 5/1, DMAP 20% at 0.1M, from 0°C to room temperature.

5 Cleavage of protecting groups

Targeted compounds had to exhibit a carboxylic acid group on C-1 but either with acetylated or free phenols groups on the hydroxycinnamoyl moiety. Due to required optimisation and tedious purifications for each multi-step synthesis, 9 and 10 featuring feruloyl groups, unfortunately had to be discarded for the next steps, insufficient amounts of pure samples being obtained. Indeed to run insecticidal assays within a given time and with a representative amount of selected samples, responding to the questions addressed above, only 11, 12 and 13 were engaged into the next steps. A first transformation of the methyl esters led to the three corresponding carboxylic acids 15, 16, 17 subsequently giving 18, 19, 20 in quantitative yields after the cleavage of aromatic acetates (Scheme 4).



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1 UPLC-HRMS analysis of compounds 18 and 19

2 The structural similarity makes difficult the discrimination of positional and geometric isomers of acyl quinic acids. To fulfil 3 some limits of IR or NMR spectral methods, Kuhnert, Clifford and collaborators have developed a structure-diagnostic LC-MSⁿ for monoacyl and diacyl chlorogenic acids³¹ or methyl esters³⁵ without the need to isolate the pure compounds. This identification 4 5 method is based on the selective MSⁿ fragmentation pattern observed in tandem mass spectra of chlorogenic acids. Previous 6 characterization of caffeoyl-feruloyl quinic acids³¹ and of 3,5- caffeoyl-*p*-coumaroyl quinic acids³⁶ showed that discrimination was 7 possible between regioisomers according to MS^n spectra (n=2 to 3): m/z values for base peaks but also peak intensities for secondary 8 ions already differ in MS² from the two regioisomers of heterodiesters. Indeed targeted m/z 499 for parent ion of 3, 5-caffeoyl-p-9 coumaroyl quinic acids gave either fragment-targeted MS² m/z 337 (first loss of caffeoyl in position 5) or m/z 353 (first loss of p-10 coumaroyl in position 5).³⁶

We were keen to compare such analysis on regioisomers deoxy compounds **18** and **19**. The two compounds were indeed separable by chromatography and a same m/z 483 for the parent [M-H] ion was found. MS^2 spectra revealed a difference as base peaks found either at m/z 321 for **18** which corresponds to the loss of a caffeoyl residue instead of m/z 337 resulting of a loss of *p*-coumaroyl moiety for **19**. Secondary peaks at m/z 163 and 179 respectively are characteristic of *p*-coumaroyl and caffeoyl fragments.³¹ The identifications of **18** as the 3-*p*-coumaroyl-5-caffeoyl-4-deoxy quinic acid and **19** as the 3-caffeoyl-5-*p*-coumaroyl -4-deoxy quinic acid are also consistent with an acylating residue first removed in position 5 in the deoxy series (see Supporting Information).

17 Mortality data and growth inhibition assay over nymphal development (7 days) of the pea aphid Acyrthosiphon pisum



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Figure 5 : Survival analysis. Lethal Time LT_{50} mean values per active compound (0.5 mM)

3a, **18**, **20** giving a mean LT_{50} superior to 20 days are not represented

Together with the three acetylated homodiesters **3a-3c**,²⁴ five heterodiesters **16**, **17**, **18**, **19**, **20** were included in a new assay in comparison with the natural compound **1**. The total available amount of acetylated heterodiester **15**, isomer of **16**, had to be dedicated to the preparation of **18**, isomer of **19**. Influence of the regioisomeric position of the more active caffeoyl and coumaroyl residues was yet possible.

25 Bioassays were first scored for mortality data, summarized as median lethal time 50% (LT_{50}) resulting from a survival analysis 26 (i.e. the median time necessary for killing 50% of the insect population). All concentrations were analysed separately in a parametric 27 survival analysis with a log-normal fit, taking the "compound" as a factor (nominal, 9 levels). Dose 0.5 mM gave the most discriminating analysis (likelihood ratio test with a $\chi 2$ of 262.1, p=4.9 e⁻³⁹), and we will only discuss this dose level. One may 28 summarize the activity (toxicity) of the eight tested compounds as follows, by decreasing activities (mean LT50, in days, and 29 30 confidence interval under log-normal model, see supporting information). Results are summarized in Figure 5 (3a, 18, 20 giving a 31 mean LT_{50} superior to 20 days are not represented). Three compounds, **3b**, **3c** and **16** appeared more toxic than **1** at 0.5 mM while 32 results obtained for 17, like previously tested 2a, includes median lethal time 50% (LT₅₀) for 1. This confirms the correlation between 33 the structural requirements of at least one caffeoyl or p-coumaroyl residue to compete with 1 as diferulate 3a also led to weak 34 mortality. Moreover, in general, the activity range of acetylated compounds displayed more apparent toxicity than phenolic compounds.²⁴ For example at a 0.5 mM dose level, 1.29 days [1.12-1.48] was measured for acetylated 3c in comparison with 1.84 35 36 days [1.29-2.62] for the deacetylated derivative 2a, whereas 1.28 days [1.15-1.42] was found for acetylated 3b vs 2.43 days [1,71-37 3.48] for the deacetylated derivative 2b. 16 and 17 are also more active than 19 and 20 respectively. If only one deacetylated caffeoyl 38 residue is present in C-5 position, combined with a p-coumaroyl (18) or a feruloyl residue (20), median LT_{50} at 0.5 mM overpasses 20

days. Notably, this drops down to 5.65 days for 19, regioisomer of 18. When acetylation is maintained, the structural requirement of a
 dihydroxycinammoyl over a hydroxycinnamoyl residue seems minimized (same mortality range for 3b, 3c and 16).

3 Growth over nymphal development was analysed afterwards by a set of two one-way ANOVA (Table 1), comparing either the 4 dose effects per compound (capital lettering) or the compound effect, dose per dose (small lettering). As four independent 5 experiments (Experiments 1-4) were needed to score all compounds, a standard normalisation of data by the results of the control 6 condition (diet alone) was performed. Using this normalisation for weights resulted in a quite reproducible scoring of growth 7 inhibition for the control natural molecule 1 used for every experimental batch: a two way ANOVA for dose/experiment, with 8 interactions, resulted in a very significant "dose" effect (p<0.001), and a non-significant interaction (p=0.23). The effect of 1 was 9 therefore represented in Table 1 by the global results of the 4 batches used for this molecule. These growth inhibition analyses 10 confirmed that 3c is the most active compound as at 125μ M, total inhibition had occurred over 7 days. A concentration of 250μ M 11 was required to reach the same activity for 3b and 16 and 1mM for 1. Albeit acetylated, "diferulate" 3a showed no inhibitory effect 12 below 1mM. Results obtained for deacetylated heterodiesters 18 and 19, in comparison to respective homodiesters dicaffeate 2a and 13 dicoumarate 2b (found more active than 1 in our first study at 125µM and 500µM respectively) showed the benefit of 14 homosubstitution on toxicity to surpass the activity of 1. If only one dihydroxycinnamoyl residue is present in C-5 position, growth 15 inhibition was limited (positive control at day 7 at 1mM for 18 and 20). No survivor at day 7 was however observed for 1mM of 19, 16 regioisomer of 18. The same dose for total inhibition was required for compound 17 featuring an acetylated feruloyl residue. The 17 most striking phenotypical effect, observed with 3b, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 compound intoxication, was a statistically significant growth 18 impairment of the surviving pea aphids at all doses in comparison of those in the control experiment, with an increased growth 19 inhibition with increased doses (Table 1). As a result from all the "compound" factor ANOVAS (dose by dose), that read vertically in 20 Table 1, one might rank the global toxicity index of compounds as: $3c > 3b \approx 16 > 19 > 17 \approx 1 > 18 \approx 20 > 3a$.

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22 **Table 1:** Growth inhibition assay over nymphal development (7 days) of the pea aphid Acyrthosiphon pisum. Results are shown 23 as means (% of control growth) \pm SE, with ANOVA and mean comparisons (Tukey-Kramer HSD test) over lines (dose effect, capital 24 lettering, \rightarrow) and over columns (molecule effect, small lettering, ψ).

| | control Dose (mM) | | | | Anova | | Experiment | |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|-----|
| Compound | 0 | 0.125 | 0.25 | 0.5 | 1 | F-ratio | р | - |
| 1† | $1.00{\pm}0.04$ | $0.97{\pm}0.04$ | $0.68 {\pm} 0.03$ | 0.36 ± 0.04 | 0‡ | 58.3 | 1.6 e-18 | 1-4 |
| | ?A,a? | A,b | C,bc | C,c | - | | | |
| 3 a | $1.00{\pm}0.04$ | 0.97 ± 0.06 | 1.07 ± 0.07 | 1.08 ± 0.08 | $1.00{\pm}0.07$ | 1.4 | 0.23 (ns) | 1 |
| | A,a | A,a | A,a | A,a | A,a | | | |
| 3b | $1.00{\pm}0.04$ | $0.60{\pm}0.04$ | 0^{\ddagger} | 0‡ | 0‡ | 51.8 | 3.3 e-9 | 2 |
| | A,a | A,b | - | - | - | | | |
| 3c | $1.00{\pm}0.03$ | 0^{\ddagger} | 0^{\ddagger} | 0^{\ddagger} | 0^{\ddagger} | | na [§] | 1 |
| | А | - | - | - | - | nas | | |
| 16 | $1.00{\pm}0.04$ | 0.56 ± 0.05 | 0^{\ddagger} | 0^{\ddagger} | 0^{\ddagger} | 40.4 | 7.8 e-8 | 2 |
| | A,a | A,b | - | - | - | | | 3 |
| 17 | $1.00{\pm}0.04$ | 0.69 ± 0.04 | 0.68 ± 0.04 | 0.61 ± 0.04 | 0‡ | 19.0 | 4.4 e-9 | 2 |
| | A,a | A,b | C,b | BC,b | - | | | 2 |
| 18 | $1.00{\pm}0.04$ | 0.85 ± 0.04 | 0.85 ± 0.03 | $0.64{\pm}0.04$ | $0.28{\pm}0.02$ | 27.8 | 1.8 e-15 | 4 |
| | A,a | AB,ab | BC,ab | B,c | B,d | | | |
| 19 | $1.00{\pm}0.06$ | $0.75 {\pm} 0.05$ | 0.46 ± 0.06 | 0.38 ± 0.05 | 0‡ | 68.5 | 2.3 e-23 | 4 |
| | A,a | BC,b | D,c | C,c | - | | | |
| 20 | $1.00{\pm}0.04$ | $0.90{\pm}0.04$ | 0.71 ± 0.05 | $0.70{\pm}0.04$ | $0.56{\pm}0.05$ | 16.0 | 1.6 e-10 | 3 |
| | A,a | AB,a | C,b | B,b | B,b | | | |
| Anova | na§ | 12.0 | 27.6 | 26.5 | 22.8 | | | |
| F-ratio | ina | 12.0 | 27.0 | 20.0 | 22.0 | | | |
| р | na [§] | 1.6 e-12 | 7.2 e-19 | 2.9 e-20 | 1.1 e-10 | | | |

25 † 1 was the repeated control condition for all experiments; presented data are that of all grouped experiments. See text for inter-26 experiment statistics.

27 $\ddagger 0$ is no survivor at day 7

28 § not applicable

29 **Experimental**

30 General

1 Reagents and solvents were supplied by Aldrich, Acros, Lancaster, Alfa Aesar, Fluka or TCI and purchased at the highest 2 commercial quality to be used without further purification. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 300 (¹H: 300 MHz; ¹³C: 75 3 MHz), Bruker 400 (¹H: 400 MHz; ¹³C: 100 MHz), or Bruker 500 (¹H: 500 MHz; ¹³C: 125 MHz) spectrometers, at 295-298K, using 4 $CDCl_3$, CD_3OD or D_2O as solvents. The chemical shifts (δ ppm) are referenced to the solvent residual peak and coupling constants J 5 in Hz are reported in the standard fashion. The following abbreviations are used to explain the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t 6 = triplet, q = quartet, quint. = quintuplet, sext. = sextuplet, hept. = heptuplet, m = multiplet, br = broad; Ar is used for Aromatic and 7 for the assignment of ${}^{13}C$ carbon signals : C_q = quaternary carbon. Electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectrometry (MS) experiments 8 were performed on a Thermo Finnigan LCQ Advantage mass. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Finnigan 9 Mat 95xL mass spectrometer using electrospray. Analytical thin-layer chromatography was carried out on silica gel Merck 60 D254 10 (0.25 mm). Flash chromatography was performed on Merck Si 60 silica gel (40-63 µm). Infra-red (IR) spectra were recorded with a 11 IRAffinity-1 Shimadzu spectrometer using Attenuated Total Reflectance (ATRMiracle), and the wavenumbers are expressed in cm⁻¹. 12 Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin Elmer 241 or Jasco P1010 polarimeter with a 10 cm cell (concentration c expressed in 13 g/100 mL). Melting points were measured using Büchi apparatus B-540. All data for chlorogenic acids or related derivatives 14 presented in this paper use the recommended IUPAC numbering system. The assignment of NMR signals has been made according to 15 the numbering shown in the general structures below (Figure 6).³⁷



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17 **Figure 6** : Numbering for CQA and deoxy analogs

18 Synthetic procedures

19 General procedures for the preparation of monoesters **5-7a** and **b**.

Conditions A : To a solution of triol 4^{24} in DMF / pyridine (v/v 3/2, c = 0.4M) under nitrogen, was added the appropriate acetylated hydroxycinnamoyl chloride (1.5 equiv.) and the mixture was heated at 45°C under stirring until a maximum of conversion was reached. Methanol was added and after 15min under stirring, the resulting mixture was concentrated, diluted with EtOAc, washed with 1M HCl then with a saturated NaHCO₃ solution then with brine. The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, concentrated and purified by flash chromatography on silica using the appropriate eluent.

Conditions B: Same procedure as above replacing solvents by dichloromethane / pyridine (v/v 5/1, c = 0.1M) and adding DMAP (20% mol.). The acetylated hydroxycinnamoyl chloride was added at a temperature between -18°C and 0°C then the mixture was stirred cooling up to room temperature until a maximum of conversion was reached. The work-up and isolation procedures are identical.

29 **5a** (EtOAc / petroleum ether = 1/1 to 3/1, second fraction, light yellow oil, 15%)), $\lceil \alpha \rceil_{D}^{25} - 5.8$ (c 0.89 in CH₂Cl₂); IR(ATR) 2934, 1763, 1736, 1707, 1638, 1601, 1508, 1456 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 298K, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 7.08 -30 7.05 (m, 2H, HAr), 7.00 (d, 1H, Jortho 8.6 Hz, HAr), 6.31 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 5.51 (tt, 1H, ³J 11.2 Hz, ³J 4.4 Hz, H₅), 4.43 31 (s, 1H, OH₁), 4.32 (m, 1H, H₃), 3.98 (m, 1H, OH₃), 3.82 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 3.74 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.47 – 2.29 (m, 2H, H₄ and H₆), 2.27 32 33 (s, 3H, OCOCH₃), 2.04 – 1.99 (m, 2H, 2xH₂), 1.91 (dd, 1H, ²J 12.6 Hz, ³J 11.2 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.65 (ddd, 1H, ²J 12.7 Hz, ³J 11.5 Hz, ³J 3.0 34 Hz, H_{4a}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 298K, CDCl₃) δ = 174.7 (<u>C</u>OOCH₃), 168.8 (O<u>C</u>OCH₃), 166.0 (CH=CH<u>C</u>O), 151.4 (C_{q Ar}), 144.3 (CH=CHCO), 141.4 (Cq Ar), 133.3 (Cq Ar), 123.2 (CHAr), 121.2 (CHAr), 118.3 (CH=CHCO), 111.3 (CHAr), 76.2 (C1), 67.4 (C3), 66.7 35 36 (C₅), 55.9 (OCH₃), 53.0 (COOCH₃), 39.7 (C₆), 38.1 (C₄), 38.0 (C₂), 20.6 (OCOCH₃); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₂₀H₂₄NaO₉ [M + Na⁺]: 37 431.1313, found: 431.1332.

5b (EtOAc / petroleum ether = 1/1 to 3/1, light yellow oil, 33%), $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} + 3.3$ (*c* 0.81 in CH₃OH); IR(ATR) 3443, 2951, 2926, 38 1763, 1732, 1705, 1634, 1599, 1510, 1454 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 298K, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (d, 1H, ³J 15.9 Hz, CH=CHCO), 7.12 – 39 7.04 (m, 3H, H_{Ar}), 6.37 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 5.44 (m, 1H, ³J 3.9 Hz, H₃), 4.38 (tt, 1H, ³J 10.2 Hz, ³J 4.1 Hz, H₅), 3.87 (s, 40 41 3H, OCH₃), 3.82 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 2.32 (s, 3H, OCOCH₃), 2.26 (m, 1H, H₄), 2.15 – 2.07 (m, 2H, H₂ and H₆), 2.02 (m, 1H, H₂), 1.90 42 $(dd, 1H, {}^{2}J 12.9 Hz, {}^{3}J 10.1 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.71 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J 13.6 Hz, {}^{3}J 10.3 Hz, {}^{3}J 3.4 Hz, H_{4a}); {}^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, 298K, CDCl_3) \delta = 0.000 MHz$ 43 175.8 (COOCH₃), 168.9 (OCOCH₃), 166.1 (CH=CHCO), 151.5 (Cq_{AT}), 144.7 (CH=CHCO), 141.6 (Cq_{AT}), 133.4 (Cq_{AT}), 123.4 (CH_{AT}), 44 121.6 (CH_{Ar}), 118.4 (CH=<u>C</u>HCO), 111.3 (CH_{Ar}), 75.2 (C₁), 69.5 (C₃), 63.5 (C₅), 56.1 (O<u>C</u>H₃), 53.4 (COO<u>C</u>H₃), 43.1 (C₆), 38.5 (C₄), 45 37.1 (C₂), 20.7 (OCO<u>C</u>H₃); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₂₀H₂₄NaO₉ [M + Na⁺]: 431.1313, found: 431.1298.

6a (EtOAc / petroleum ether = 1/1 to 3/1, light yellow oil, 19%), $[\alpha]_{12}^{25} + 3.6$ (c 1.03 in CH₂Cl₂); IR(ATR) 1765, 1736, 1709, 1638, 1 2 1506, 1435 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 298K, CDCl₃) δ 7.63 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 7.51 and 7.01 (2d, 2x2H, ³J 8.0 Hz, 3 H_{Ar}), 6.33 (d, 1H, ³*J* 16.0 Hz, CH=C<u>H</u>CO), 5.53 (tt, 1H, ²*J* 11.3 Hz, ³*J* 4.4 Hz, H₅), 4.33 (m, 1H, ³*J* 3.3 Hz, H₃), 3.84 (s, 1H, O<u>H</u>), 3.78 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 2.36 (m, 2H, H₄ and H₆), 2.29, (s, 3H, OCOCH₃), 2.00 (m, 2H, H₂), 1.90 (dd, 1H, ${}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J$ 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, ${}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J$ 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, ${}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J$ 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{2}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{3}J \approx {}^{3}J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.67 (ddd, 1H, {}^{3}J \approx {}^{3}J 4 1H, ²J 13.6 Hz, ³J 10.3 Hz, ³J 3.4 Hz, H_{4a}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 298K, CDCl₃) with traces of **6b** or **6c** δ 175.0 (COOCH₃), 169.3 5 (OCOCH₃), 166.1 (CH=CHCO), 152.2 (Cq Ar), 144.0 (CH=CHCO), 132.1 (Cq Ar), 129.3 (CHAr), 122.2 (CHAr), 118.3 (CH=CHCO), 6 76.3 (C1), 67.5 (C3), 66.6 (C5), 53.2 (COOCH3), 39.8 (C6), 38.2 (C4), 38.0 (C2), 21.2 (OCOCH3); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C19H22NaO8 7 8 [M + Na⁺]: 401.1207, found: 401.1196.

9 **6b** (EtOAc / petroleum ether = 1/1 to 3/1, light yellow oil, 28%), $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} + 27.8$ (*c* 0.97, CH₂Cl₂); IR(ATR) 3406, 2947, 1759, 1724, 1680, 1634, 1601, 1508, 1446 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) δ = 7.65 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, C<u>H</u>=CHCO), 7.52 and 7.11 (2d, 7.11) (10 11 2x2H, ³J 8.0 Hz, H_{Ar}), 6.37 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 5.42 (m, 1H, ³J 3.9 Hz, H₃), 4.36 (tt, 1H, ³J 10.1 Hz, ³J 4.0 Hz, H₅), 3.80 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 2.30 (s, 3H, OCOCH₃), 2.22 (m, 1H, H₄), 2.16 – 2.00 (m, 3H, 2xH₂ and H₆), 1.90 (dd, 1H, ²J 13.0 Hz, ³J 9.9 Hz, 12 H_{6a}), 1.71 (ddd, 1H, ²J 13.6 Hz, ³J 10.2 Hz, ³J 3.4 Hz, H₄); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) δ = 175.8 (<u>C</u>OOCH₃), 169.3 13 14 (OCOCH3), 166.2 (CH=CHCO), 152.2 (Cq Ar), 144.2 (CH=CHCO), 132.1 (Cq Ar), 129.4 (CHAr), 122.2 (CHAr), 118.4 (CH=CHCO), 15 75.2 (C1), 69.5 (C3), 63.4 (C5), 53.3 (COOCH3), 43.0 (C6), 38.4 (C4), 37.1 (C2), 21.3 (OCOCH3); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C19H22NaO8 16 [M + Na⁺]: 401.1207, found: 401.1197.

7a (diethyl ether/ dichoromethane = 1/10 to 1/4, light yellow oil, 11%), $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} + 6.5$ (c 1.22 in CH₂Cl₂); IR(ATR) 1770, 1736, 1711, 17 18 1639, 1504 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 296K, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 2H, H_{Ar}), 7.19 (d, 1H, Jortho 8.3 Hz, HAr), 6.32 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 5.51 (tt, ³J 11.4 Hz, ³J 4.4 Hz, 1H, H₅), 4.32 (s, 1H, H₃), 4.32 and 3.88 (2m, 19 20 2H, OH₁ and OH₃), 3.77 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 2.39-2.27 (m, 8H, H₄, H₆ and 2xOCOCH₃), 2.00 (m, 2H, 2xH₂), 1.88 (dd, 1H, ²J ≈³J 11.5 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.65 (ddd, 1H, ²J 13.6 Hz, ³J 10.2 Hz, ³J 3.4 Hz, H₄); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 297K, CDCl₃) δ 174.9 (<u>C</u>OOCH₃), 168.2 and 21 22 168.1 (2xOCOCH₃), 165.9 (CH=CHCO), 143.6 (Cq Ar), 143.1 (CH=CHCO), 142.5 and 133.3 (Cq Ar), 126.5, 124.0 and 122.8 (CHAr), 23 119.3 (CH=CHCO), 76.3 (C1), 67.5 (C3), 66.8 (C5), 53.2 (COOCH3), 39.7 (C6), 38.1 (C4), 38.0 (C2), 20.71 (2xOCOCH3); HRMS 24 (ESI): calcd for $C_{21}H_{24}NaO_{10}[M + Na^+]$: 459.1262, found: 459.1251.

25 **7b** (diethyl ether/ dichoromethane = 1/10 to 1/4, light yellow oil, 34%) $[\alpha]_{2}^{25} + 24.7$ (c 0.93 in CH₂Cl₂); IR(ATR) 1773, 1732, 1707, 1639, 1504 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 296K, CDCl₃) probably contaminated with 7a and 7c δ 7.60 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 26 27 7.41 - 7.34 (m, 2H, H_{Ar}), 7.20 (d, 1H, J_{ortho} 8.3 Hz, H_{Ar}), 6.36 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 5.40 (m, 1H, ³J 3.9 Hz, H₃), 4.34 (m, 28 1H, H₅), 3.78 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 3.23 (m, 1H, OH-1 or OH-5), 2.29 and 2.28 (2s, 6H, 2xOCOCH₃), 2.22 - 1.98 (m, 4H, H₂, H₄ and/or H₆), 1.89 (dd, 1H, ²J 12.9 Hz, ³J 10.0 Hz, H_{6a}), 1.69 (ddd, 1H, ²J 13.6 Hz, ³J 10.2 Hz, ³J 3.3 Hz, H_{4a}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 297K, 29 30 CDCl₃) δ 175.7 (COOCH₃), 168.2 and 168.1 (2xOCOCH₃), 165.9 (CH=CHCO), 143.5 (Cq Ar), 143.3 (CH=CHCO), 142.4 (Cq Ar), 133.2 (C_{q Ar}), 126.5 (CH_{Ar}), 124.0 (CH_{Ar}), 122.9 (CH_{Ar}), 119.4 (CH=<u>C</u>HCO), 75.1 (C₁), 69.5 (C₃), 63.2 (C₅), 53.1 (COO<u>C</u>H₃), 42.8 31 32 (C₆), 38.2 (C₄), 36.9 (C₂), 20.7 (2xOCO<u>C</u>H₃); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₂₁H₂₄NaO₁₀ [M + Na⁺]: 459.1262, found: 459.1253.

General procedures for the preparation of diesters 9-13. Conditions A : Same procedure as Conditions A for the synthesis of monoesters using 2 equiv. of the appropriate acetylated hydroxycinnamoyl chloride 8a, b or c. Conditions B : Same procedure as Conditions C for the synthesis of monoesters with an addition at 0°C and a reaction at room temperature. Conditions C : Same procedure as Conditions B for the synthesis of monoesters using 2 equiv. of the appropriate acetylated hydroxycinnamoyl chloride 8a, b or c.

38 **9** (EtOAc/ Pentane = 1/1 to 2/1, white solid, 43%), mp: 86 - 87 °C, $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$ -74.7 (c 0.95 in CH₂Cl₂); IR(ATR) 1765, 1732, 1709, 39 1638, 1601, 1506 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 and 7.62 (2d, 2H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 7.55 (d, 2H, Jortho 8.3 40 Hz, H_{Ar}), 7.14 - 7.04 (m, 5H, H_{Ar}), 6.42 and 6.34 (2d, ²H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 5.58 - 5.50 (m, 2H, H₃ and H₅), 3.86 (s, 3H, 41 OCH₃), 3.77 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 2.32 and 2.30 (2s, 6H, 2xOCOCH₃), 2.37 – 2.04 (m, 5H, H₂, H₆ and H₄), 1.89 (ddd, 1H, ²J 13.6 Hz, 42 ³J 10.3 Hz, ³J 3.4 Hz, H₄); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) δ 175.1 (<u>C</u>OOCH₃), 169.3 and 168.9 (2xO<u>C</u>OCH₃), 166.2 and 165.9 43 (2xCH=CHCO), 152.2 and 151.5 (Cq Ar), 144.5 and 144.3 (CH=CHCO), 141.6, 133.3 and 132.2 (Cq Ar), 129.7, 129.5, 123.4, 122.4, 44 122.2 and 121.4 (CHAr), 118.4 and 118.3 (CH=CHCO), 111.3 (CHAr), 74.8 (COOCH3), 68.9 and 66.9 (C3, C5), 56.0 (OCH3), 53.2 45 $(COO\underline{CH}_3)$, 39.9 and 36.8 (C₂, C₆), 35.1 (C₄), 21.3 and 20.8 (2xOCO\underline{CH}_3); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₃₁H₃₂NaO₁₂ [M + Na⁺]: 46 619.1786, found: 619.1777.

47 **10** (EtOAc/ Pentane = 1/2 to 1/1, white solid, 75%), mp 87 - 89 °C, $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ - 79.7 (*c* 1.04, CH₂Cl₂); IR(ATR) 1762, 1736, 1705, 48 1636, 1601, 1506 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 and 7.62 (2d, 2H, ³*J* 16.0 Hz, C<u>H</u>=CHCO), 7.52 (d, 2H, *J*_{ortho} 8.3 49 Hz, H_{Ar}), 7.10 (m, 4H, H_{Ar}), 7.03 (d, 1H, *J*_{ortho} 8.3 Hz, H_{Ar}), 6.41 and 6.33 (2d, ²H, ³*J* 16.0 Hz, CH=C<u>H</u>CO), 5.58 - 5.47 (m, 2H, H₃ 49 and H₅), 3.85 (s, 3H, OC<u>H₃</u>), 3.76 (s, 3H, COOC<u>H₃</u>), 2.30 and 2.29 (2s, 6H, 2xOCOC<u>H₃</u>), 2.37 - 2.03 (m, 5H, H₂, H₆ and H₄), 1.87 49 (ddd, 1H, ²*J* 13.6 Hz, ³*J* 10.3 Hz, ³*J* 3.4 Hz, H₄); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) δ 175.0 (<u>C</u>OOCH₃), 169.2 and 168.8 1 (2xOCOCH₃), 166.1 and 165.9 (2xCH=CHCO), 152.2 and 151.4 (C_{q Ar}), 144.6 and 144.0 (2xCH=CHCO), 141.5, 133.3 and 132.0 (C_q 2 $_{Ar}$), 129.3(2), 123.2, 122.2(2) and 121.6 (CH_{Ar}), 118.3 and 118.1 (CH=CHCO), 111.1 (CH_{Ar}), 74.8 (C₁), 68.9 and 66.8 (C₃, C₅), 56.0 3 (OCH₃), 53.1 (COOCH₃), 39.8 and 36.8 (C₂, C₆), 35.1 (C₄), 21.2 and 20.7 (2xOCOCH₃); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₃₁H₃₃O₁₂ [M + H⁺]: 4 597.1967, found: 597.1944.

5 11 (EtOAc/ Pentane = 1/1 to 2/1, white solid, 62%), mp 87 - 89 °C, $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$ - 67.5 (c 1.05, CH₂Cl₂); IR(ATR) 1767, 1734, 1709, 6 1638, 1504 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) with CH₂Cl₂ & 7.70 and 7.61 (2d, 2H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 7.57, 7.40, 7.26 (3m, 6H, H_{Ar}), 7.14 (d, 1H, Jortho 8.4 Hz, H_{Ar}), 6.44 and 6.35 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 5.59 - 5.51 (m, 2H, H₃ and H₅), 3.77 (s, 7 3H, COOCH₃), 2.34 – 2.05 (m, 14H, 3xOCOCH₃, H₄, H₆ and H₂), 1.90 (ddd, 1H, ²J 13.6 Hz, ³J 10.3 Hz, ³J 3.4 Hz, H₄); ¹³C NMR 8 9 (100 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) with CH₂Cl₂ δ 175.1 (<u>C</u>OOCH₃), 169.2, 168.3 and 168.0 (3xO<u>C</u>OCH₃), 166.1 and 165.6 (2xCH=CH<u>C</u>O), 10 152.2 (Cq Ar), 144.3 (CH=CHCO), 143.7 (Cq Ar), 143.2 (CH=CHCO), 142.6, 133.3 and 132.2 (Cq Ar), 129.4(2), 126.5, 124.1, 122.9 and 11 122.2 (CHAr), 119.3 and 118.4 (2xCH=CHCO), 74.8 (C1), 68.9 and 67.0 (C3, C5), 53.2 (COOCH3), 39.9 and 36.8 (C2, C6), 35.1 (C4), 12 21.24, 20.75 and 20.7 (3xOCOCH₃); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₃₂H₃₂NaO₁₃ [M + Na⁺]: 647.1735, found: 647.1707.

13 **12** (EtOAc/ Pentane = 1/2 to 1/1, white solid, 69%), mp 87 - 89 °C, $[\alpha]_{p}^{25}$ -75.0 (c 1.04, CH₂Cl₂); IR(ATR) 1767, 1738, 1707, 1638, 14 1504 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) δ 7.63 and 7.62 (2d, 2H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 7.52 (d, 2H, Jortho 8.4 Hz, HAr), 7.41-15 7.36 (m, 2H, H_{Ar}), 7.20 and 7.10 (2d, 1H+2H, J_{ortho} = 8.4 Hz, H_{Ar}), 6.40 and 6.33 (2d, 2H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=C<u>H</u>CO), 5.56 - 5.45 (m, 2H, H₃ and H₅), 3.75 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 3.24 (m, 1H, OH-1), 2.29, 2.29, and 2.27 (3s, 9H, 3xOCOCH₃), 2.27 - 2.05 (m, 5H, H₄, H₆ 16 17 and H₂), 1.88 (ddd, 1H, ²J 13.6 Hz, ³J 10.3 Hz, ³J 3.4 Hz, H_{4a}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 295K, CDCl₃) & 175.0 (<u>C</u>OOCH₃), 169.2, 168.1 and 168.0 (3xOCOCH3), 165.9 (2xCH=CHCO), 152.2 (Cq Ar), 144.0 (CH=CHCO), 143.6 (Cq Ar), 143.4 (CH=CHCO), 142.4, 133.3 18 19 and 132.0 (Cq Ar), 129.3(2), 126.5, 124.0, 123.0, and 122.2(2) (CHAr), 119.4 and 118.2 (2xCH=CHCO), 74.7 (C1), 68.9 and 66.8 (C3, 20 C₅), 53.1 (COO<u>C</u>H₃), 39.8 and 36.8 (C₂, C₆), 35.0 (C₄), 21.2, 20.7 and 20.6 (3xOCO<u>C</u>H₃); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₃₂H₃₂NaO₁₃ [M + 21 Na⁺]: 647.1735, found: 647.1704.

22 **13** (diethyl ether / dichloromethane = 1/15 to 1/6, white solid, 54-62%), mp 80 - 82 °C, $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$ - 83.5 (c 1.04, CH2Cl2); IR(ATR) 23 1767, 1709, 1639, 1506 cm-1; 1H NMR (400 MHz, 296K, CDCl₃) & 7.64 and 7.58 (2d, 2H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 7.39 - 7.34 (m, 24 2H, H_{Ar}), 7.19 (d, 1H, Jortho = 8.4 Hz, H_{Ar}), 7.11 – 7.01 (m, 3H, H_{Ar}), 6.40 and 6.32 (d, 1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, CH=CHCO), 5.56 – 5.47 (m, 25 2H, H₃ and H₅), 3.85 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.75 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 3.30 (s, 1H, OH), 2.30, 2.28 and 2.27 (3s, 9H, 3x OCOCH₃), 2.27-1.92 (m, 5H, H₄, H₂ and H₆), 1.86 (ddd, 1H, ²J 13.6 Hz, ³J 10.4, ³J 3.5 Hz, H₄); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 297K, CDCl₃) & 175.0 (COOCH₃), 26 27 168.8, 168.1 and 168.0 (3xOCOCH₃), 166.1 and 165.6 (2xCH=CHCO), 151.4 (Cq Ar), 144.6 (CH=CHCO), 143.6 (Cq Ar), 143.2 (CH=CHCO), 142.5, 141.5, 133.3 and 133.1 (Cq Ar), 126.4, 124.0, 123.2, 122.8 and 121.5 (CH_{Ar}), 119.1 and 118.4 (2xCH=CHCO), 28 29 111.2 (CH_{Ar}), 74.7 (C₁), 68.8 and 66.9 (C₃, C₅), 56.0 (CH₃), 53.1 (COOCH₃), 39.7 and 36.7 (C₂, C₆), 35.0 (C₄), 20.7 (3xOCOCH₃); 30 HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₃₃H₃₄NaO₁₄ [M + Na+]: 677.1841, found: 677.1830.

General procedure for the cleavage of methyl ester. LiI (10 equiv.) was added to a solution of the methyl ester (1 equiv.) in EtOAc (0.14M) then the mixture was heated under reflux for 5h. After cooling down to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc, and 1M HCl added. After extraction, the organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, concentrated to give the crude residue, usually characterized such as and used directly in the next step.

15 (60 mg, quantitative crude yield, light yellow oil); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 295K, CD₃OD) δ 7.70 (d, 2H, ³J 16.0 Hz, C<u>H</u>=CHCO), 35 7.63-7.60 and 7.51-7.49 (2m, 5H, ArH + CH=CHCO), 7.24 and 7.13 (2d, 1+2H, J 8 HZ, H_{Ar}), 6.52 and 6.45 (2d, 2H, ³J 16.0 Hz, 36 37 CH=CHCO), 5.47 (m, 2H, H₃ and H₅), 2.42 (dd, 1H, ²J 13.7 Hz, ³J 3.8 Hz, H₂,H₄ or H₆), 2.36 – 2.20 (m, 1H, H₂,H₄ or H₆), 2.28, 2.27 38 (2s, 9H, 3xOCOCH₃), 2.11 – 2.00 (m, 3H, H₂,H₄ and/or H₆), 1.94 (dd, 1H, ²J 13.7 Hz, ³J 6.4 Hz, H₂,H₄ or H₆); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 295K, CD3OD) & 177.3 (COOH), 170.8, 169.8, and 169.6 (3xOCOCH3), 167.7 and 167.2 (2xCH=CHCO), 153.7 (Cq Ar), 145.2 39 40 (CH=CHCO), 145.1 (Cq Ar), 144.5 (CH=CHCO), 144.0, 134.5 and 133.4 (Cq Ar), 130.4 (2), 127.7, 125.1, 124.1 and 123.4 (CHAr), 120.1 (2xCH=CHCO), 119.4 (2xCH=CHCO), 75.0 (C1), 70.1 and 69.2 (C3, C5), 39.9, 38.7, 35.9 (C2, C4, C6), 20.9, 20.5(2) 41 42 $(3xOCOCH_3)$; HRMS (ESI): calcd for $C_{31}H_{30}NaO_{13}$ [M + Na⁺]: 663.1579, found: 663.1581.

43 **16** (63 mg, quantitative crude yield, light yellow oil), $[\alpha]_{D}^{2}$ - 80.3 (c 1.15 in MeOH) IR(ATR) 2930, 1765, 1705, 1635, 1504 cm⁻¹; 44 ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 295K, CD₃OD) δ 7.68-7.62 (m, 4H, H_{Ar}+ 2xC<u>H</u>=CHCO), 7.49, 7.24 and 7,13 (3m, 2+1+2H, ArH), 6.52 and 45 6.45 (2d, 2x1H, ³J 16.0 Hz, 2xCH=CHCO), 5.47 (m, 2H, H₃ and H₅), 2.42 (dd, 1H, ²J 13.7 Hz, ³J 3.8 Hz, H₂,H₄ or H₆), 2.34 – 2.30 46 (m, 1H, H₂,H₄ or H₆), 2.28, 2.27 (2s, 9H, 3xOCOCH₃), 2.12 - 2.00 (m, 3H, H₂,H₄ and/or H₆), 1.94 (dd, 1H, ²J 13.7 Hz, ³J 6.4 Hz, 47 H₂,H₄ or H₆); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 295K, CD₃OD) δ 177.4 (<u>C</u>OOH), 170.8, 169.8, and 169.7 (3xO<u>C</u>OCH₃), 167.5 (2xCH=CH<u>C</u>O), 153.8 (Cq Ar), 145.3 (CH=CHCO), 145.1 (Cq Ar), 144.4 (CH=CHCO), 144.0 (Cq Ar), 134.6 and 133.4 (Cq Ar), 130.5 (2), 127.6, 125.1, 48 49 124.1 and 123.3(2) (CHAr), 120.5 and 119.1 (2xCH=CHCO), 75.1 (C1), 70.3 and 69.0 (C3, C5), 40.0, 38.6, 35.9 (C2, C4, C6), 20.9, 50 20.5 (2) (3xOCOCH₃); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₃₁H₃₀NaO₁₃ [M + Na⁺]: 633.1579, found: 663.1554.

1 17 (180 mg, 91% crude yield, light yellow oil), $[\alpha]_{26}^{26}$ - 106.8 (c 0.99 in MeOH); IR(ATR) 3356, 3337, 2941, 2833, 1765, 1707, 2 1636, 1601, 1508 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 298K, CD₃OD) δ 7.66 and 7.59 (2d, 2H, ³J 16.0 Hz, 2xCH=CHCO), 7.49 – 7.43, 7.29 – 3 7.12 and 7.03 (3m, 2H+3H+1H, H_{Ar}), 6.52 and 6.43 (2d, 2H, ³J 16.0 Hz, 2xCH=CHCO), 5.47 (m, 2H, H₃ and H₅), 3.80 (s, 3H, 4 OCH3), 2.41 (dd, 1H, ²J 13.7 Hz, ³J 3.8 Hz, H2, H4 or H6), 2.36 - 2.20 (m, 1H, H2, H4 or H6), 2.27, 2.26, and 2.25 (3s, 9H, 5 3xOCOCH₃), 2.05 (m, 3H, H₂, H₄ and/or H₆), 1.94 (dd, 1H, ²J 13.7 Hz, ³J 6.4 Hz, H₂, H₄ or H₆); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 295K, CD₃OD) δ 177.3 (<u>COOCH</u>₃), 170.4, 169.8, and 169.7 (<u>OCOCH</u>₃), 167.7 (<u>CH</u>=CHCO), 167.2 (<u>CH</u>=CHCO), 152.8 (C_q _{Ar}), 145.6 (<u>CH</u>=CHCO), 6 145.1 (Cq Ar), 144.4 (<u>C</u>H=CHCO), 143.9 (Cq Ar), 142.8 (Cq Ar), 134.7 (Cq Ar), 134.5(Cq Ar), 127.7 (CHAr), 125.1 (CHAr), 124.2 (CHAr), 7 8 124.1 (CH_{Ar}), 122.4 (CH_{Ar}), 120.1 (CH=<u>C</u>HCO), 119.5 (CH=<u>C</u>HCO), 112.6 (CH_{Ar}), 75.0 (C₁), 70.1 (C₃ or C₅), 69.1 (C₃ or C₅), 56.5 9 (PhOCH₃), 39.9 (C₂ or C₄ or C₆), 38.7 (C₂ or C₄ or C₆), 35.89 (C₂ or C₄ or C₆), 20.8, 20.7, and 20.50 (OCOCH₃); HRMS (ESI): calcd 10 for $C_{32}H_{32}NaO_{14}[M + Na^+]$: 663.1684, found: 663.1678.

General procedure for the deprotection of aromatic acetates. To a solution of the acetylated compound **14**, **15** or **16** in acetone (1.5 mL for 100 mg) was added a 3M HCl aqueous solution (0.5 mL) and the mixture was refluxed for 4h till completion. After cooling down to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with a saturated NaCl aqueous solution. The organic layer was dried then concentrated to give the deprotected heterodiester of 4-deoxy quinic acid **18**, **19** or **20**. A rapid purification by semi-preparative HPLC was run before insecticidal assays.

16 **18** (light yellow oil, quantitative crude yield), $[\alpha]_{D}^{32} - 70.2$ (*c* 1.16 in MeOH), IR(ATR) 3308, 2945, 2833, 1690, 1632, 1605, 1514 17 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 295K, CD₃OD) δ 7.66 and 7.54 (2d, 2x1H, ³*J* 16.0 Hz, 2xC<u>H</u>=CHCO), 7.47-6.78 (m, 7H, H_{Ar}), 6.35 and 18 6.23 (2d, 2x1H, ³*J* 16.0 Hz, 2xCH=C<u>H</u>CO), 5.45 (m, 2H, H₃ and H₅), 2.43-2.29 and 2.11-1.90 (2m, 2H+4H, H₂,H₄ and H₆); ¹³C NMR 19 (100 MHz, 295K, CD₃OD) δ 177.5 (<u>C</u>OOH), 168.6 (CH=CH<u>C</u>O), 168.3 (CH=CH<u>C</u>O), 161.2(2) and 149.5 (C_{q Ar}), 147.1 and 146.7 20 (<u>C</u>H=CHCO), 131.2 (2xCH_{Ar}), 127.8 and 127.2 (C_{q Ar}), 123.1 116.8(2) and 116.5 (CH_{Ar}), 115.5 (CH=<u>C</u>HCO), 115.2 (CH=<u>C</u>HCO), 21 75.1 (C₁), 70.0 and 68.7 (C₃, C₅), 40.0, 38.7 and 36.0 (C₂, C₄,C₆); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₂₅H₂₄NaO₁₀ [M + Na⁺]: 507.1262, found: 22 507.1250.

2319 (light yellow oil, quantitative crude yield), $[α]_{D}^{32}$ - 61.4 (*c* 0.96 in CH₃OH), IR(ATR) 3320, 2359, 1688, 1603, 1514 cm⁻¹; ¹H24NMR (400 MHz, 298K, CD₃OD) δ 7.60 and 7.58 (2d, 2H, ³*J* 15.9 Hz, 2xC<u>H</u>=CHCO), 7.46 (m, 2H, H_{Ar}), 7.07-6.78 (m, 5H, H_{Ar}),256.29 and 6.28 (2d, 2H, ³*J* 15.9 Hz, 2xCH=C<u>H</u>CO), 5.45 (m, 2H, H₃ and H₅), 2.40-2.30 and 2.06-1.89 (2m, 2H+ 4H, H₂,H₄,H₆); ¹³C26NMR (100 MHz, 298K, CD₃OD) δ 177.6 (COOH), 168.6 and 168.3 (CH=CHCO), 161.3(2) and 149.5 (Cq Ar), 147.0 and 146.727(2xCH=CHCO), 131.2 and 131.0 (2xCH_{Ar}), 127.8 and 127.2 (Cq Ar), 123.0, 116.8(2), 116.5 and 115.5 (CH_{Ar}), 115.2 and 115.128(2xCH=CHCO), 75.1 (C₁), 70.0 and 68.8 (C₃,C₅), 40.1, 38.8 and 36.0 (C₂,C₄,C₆); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C_{25H24}NaO₁₀ [M + Na⁺]:29507.1262, found: 507.1252.

20 (light yellow oil, quantitative crude yield), $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$ - 77.6 (*c* 0.98 in MeOH), IR(ATR) 3393, 2950, 2360, 1680, 1654, 1629, 1603 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, 298K, CD₃OD) δ 7.64 and 7.53 (2d, 2H, ³*J* 15.9 Hz, 2xC<u>H</u>=CHCO), 7.19-6.78 (m, 7H, H_{Ar}), 6.38 and 6.22 (2d, 2H, ³*J* 15.9 Hz, 2xCH=C<u>H</u>CO), 5.45 (m, 2H, H₃ and H₅), 3.89 (s, 3H, OC<u>H₃</u>), 2.42-2.27 and 2.11-1.91 (2m, 2H+ 4H, H₂,H₄,H₆); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, 298K, CD₃OD) δ 177.4 (<u>C</u>OOH), 168.5 and 168.3 (2xCH=CH<u>C</u>O), 150.4, 149.5, 149.3 (C_q Ar), 147.1 and 146.9 (2x<u>C</u>H=CHCO), 146.7, 127.8, 127.7 (C_q Ar), 124.1, 123.1, 116.5 and 116.4 (CH_{Ar}), 115.9 and 115.20 (CH=<u>C</u>HCO), 115.18 and 111.6 (CH_{Ar}), 75.1 (C₁), 70.0 and 68.7 (C₃,C₅), 56.4 (O<u>C</u>H₃), 40.0, 38.7 and 36.0 (C₂,C₄,C₆); HRMS (ESI): calcd for C₂₆H₂₆NaO₁₁ [M + Na⁺]: 537.1367, found: 537.1366.

37 UPLC-MS QTOF Investigation / Mass spectrometry analysis

A UPLC apparatus (U3000, Thermo Fisher Scientific) was used, coupled with a high-resolution hybrid QTOF (Impact II, Bruker) mass spectrometer. For the chromatographic resolution, a biphenyl column (Restek®, 5 cm * 3 mm; 2.7 μ m) with a mobile phase of (A) ultra-pure water (Milli-Q grade) + 0.1% formic acid and (B) Acetonitrile/Methanol (40/60) (optima MS grade, Thermo Fisher Scientific) + 0.1% formic acid as a mobile phase, at a flow of 800 μ L/min for a 200 nL volume of injection. Mass Spectrometry detection was performed using negative mode electrospray ionisation (source temperature : 200°C; Capillary voltage 3000 V, nebulisation gas pressure : 45 Psi ; Mass range 50 – 1000 Da); UV detection at 250 and 380 nm.

44 Mortality data and growth inhibition assay

The natural compound 1 (3,5-dicaffeoyl quinic acid), was extracted with ethanol/water (70/30) from lyophilized non-tuberized roots of sweet potato *Ipomea batatas* and purified by semi-preparative HPLC on a Hibar® 250 mm x 25 mm column filled with Lichrospher® 100 RP18e 5 μ M stationary phase. The compound was eluted with an acidified water/methanol gradient.²² Compounds were administrated pure by weighing after HPLC purification, solubilized at 1 mM in a standard AP3 artificial diet for the pea aphid *Acyrthosiphon pisum*.³⁸ and diluted 3 times to obtain the experimental dose range (125 μ M-1mM). Toxicity was evaluated by scoring survival daily over the whole nymphal life of the pea aphid (7 days), starting from neonate aphids born on faba bean leaves. Growth was also measured by weighing adult aphids on an analytical microbalance (Mettler AE163) at the closest 10 µg, as fully described previously for testing peptide toxicity.³⁹ Aphid weights were analysed by ANOVA followed by Tukey-Kramer HSD test for comparing multiple means (treating separately either the dose factor for every compound, or the compound factor, at each dose; see Table 1). All analyses were made with JMP software, v11 (SAS Institute Cary USA, MacOS version).

Four separate experiments were needed to test all eight compounds, 3a-3c and 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and the original 1 compound was
 used/repeated in each test.

8 Conclusions

9 New heterodiesters of 4-deoxy quinic acid were prepared through various combinations of two sequential monoesterifications 10 with acetylated feruloyl, p-coumaroyl or caffeoyl chloride. Five di-(hydroxycinnamoyl)-4-deoxy quinic acids, featuring either 11 acetylated or free phenol groups could thus be added to three previously described acetylated homodiesters for a novel insecticidal 12 assay to investigate the influence of these structural modifications on aphicidal activity. Much effort was put into the structural 13 elucidation of different isolated intermediates to ascertain the biological response of structural isomers. An interesting difference was 14 observed for two regioisomeric deacetylated 3,5-caffeoylcoumaroyl-4-deoxy quinic acids albeit a lower toxicity than natural 3, 5-15 dicaffeoylquinic acid. Both mortality data and growth inhibition were analysed and four compounds were found to exhibit higher 16 aphicidal activities than the reference compound. The acetylation of phenol groups proved to be advantageous to the activity of 17 homodiesters while the presence of at least one caffeoyl moiety on quinic nucleus seems required for significant toxicity.

18 **Conflicts of interest**

19 There are no conflict to declare.

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Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) available: [Table S1 Preparation of monoesters 5a/5b, 6a/6b, 7a/7b; Table S2 Second esterification towards heterodiesters; ¹H NMR spectra for couples of monoesters 5a/5b, 6a/6b, 7a/7b; ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra for compounds 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7a, 7b, 9-14, 15-20; UPLC-MS QTOF Investigation / Mass spectrometry analysis; Table S3 Survival analysis (LT50 = Lethal time for 50% death of population)].

28

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