

1 **Direct observation of hydrangea blue-complex**
2 **composed of delphinidin 3-O-glucoside, Al³⁺ and 5-**
3 **O-caffeoylquinic acid by ESI Mass Spectrometry**

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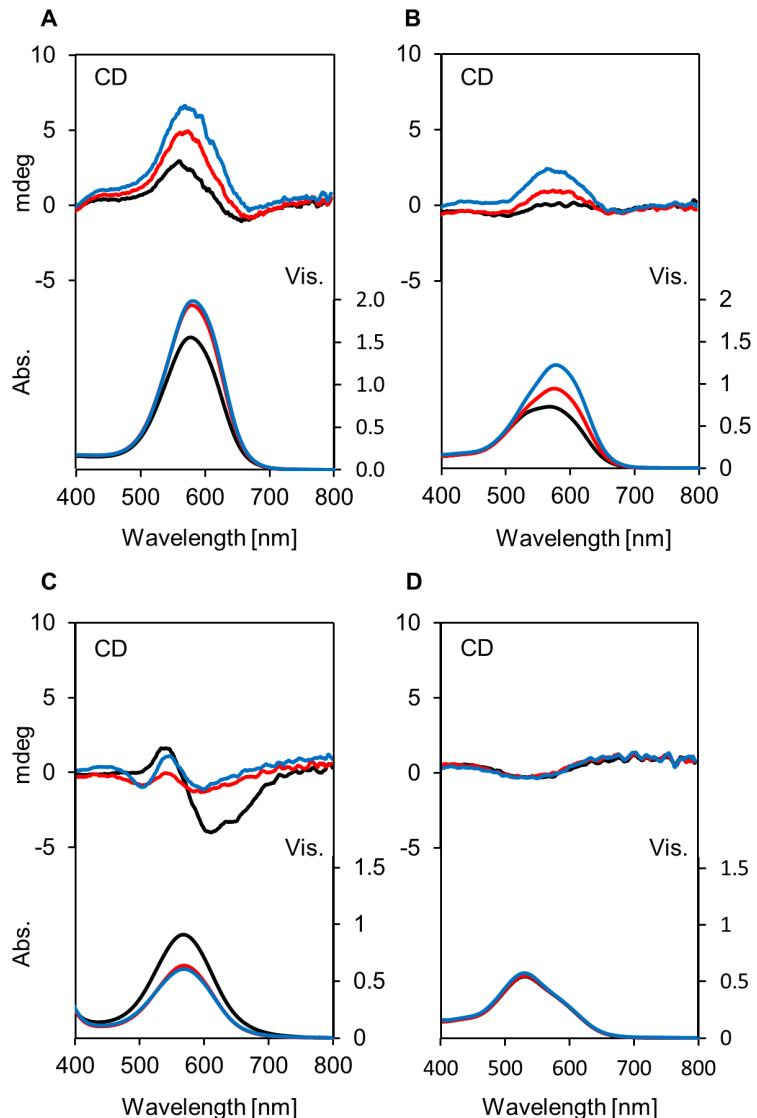
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11 **1. Supplemental figures**



12 **Figure S1.** Visible and CD spectra of reproduced solutions by mixing **1** (Dp3G, 0.1 mM) and Al³⁺ (1
13 eq.) with 1-3 eq. of co-pigment, 5pCQ (2), or 3CQ (4) in buffered solutions of 2 mM. —: 1 eq., —: 2
14 eq., —: 3 eq. (A) With 5pCQ (2) at pH 4.0. (B) With 5pCQ (2) at pH 3.2. (C) With 3CQ at pH 4.0. (D)
15 With 3CQ at pH 3.2.

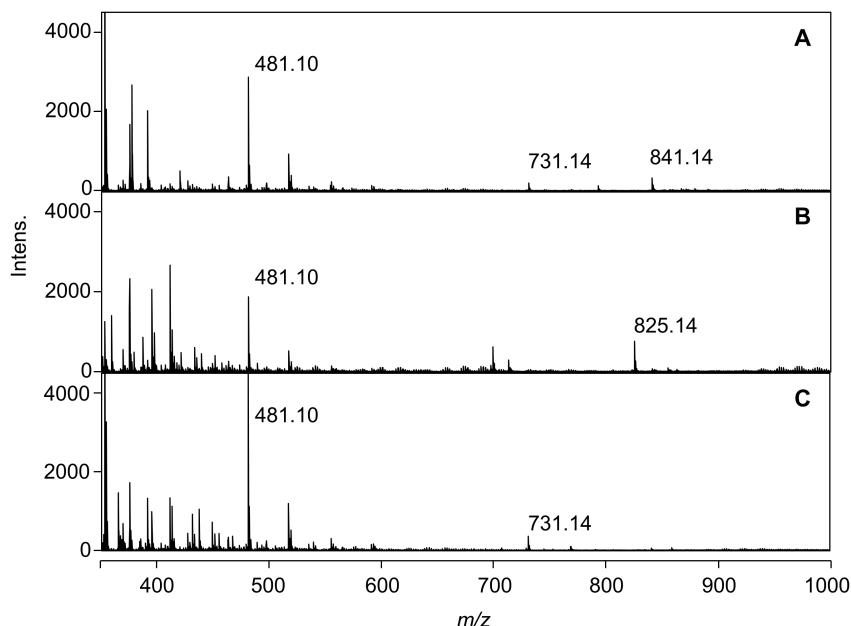


Figure S2. Negative detection ESI-TOF-MS spectra of reproduced solutions by mixing **1** (Dp3G, 0.1 mM) and Al^{3+} (1 eq.) with 2 eq. of co-pigment, 5CQ (2), 5pCQ (3), or 3CQ (4) in buffered solutions at pH 4.0 (2 mM). (A) 5CQ (2). (B) 5pCQ (3). (C) 3CQ (4).

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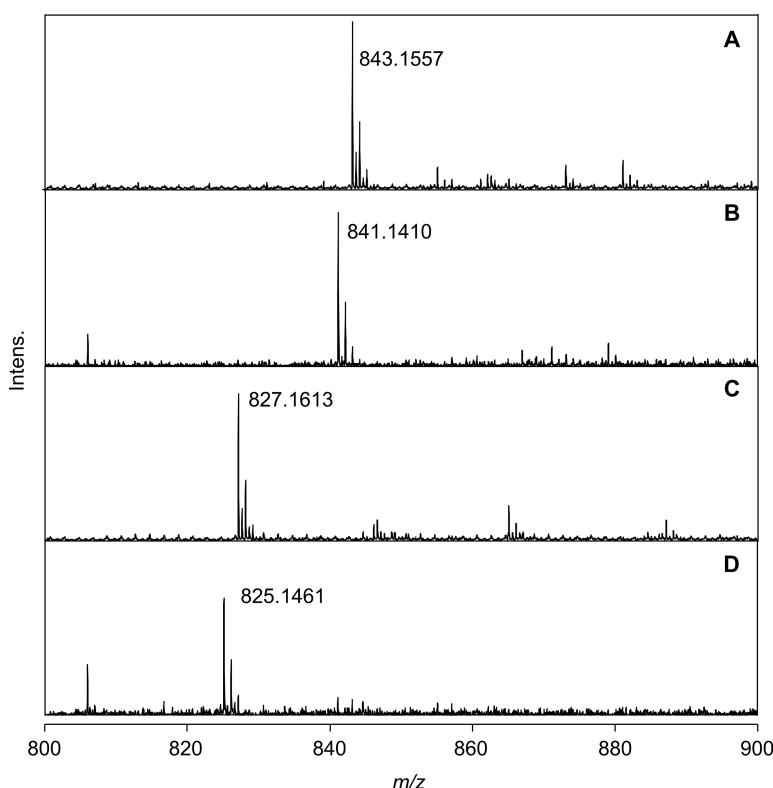
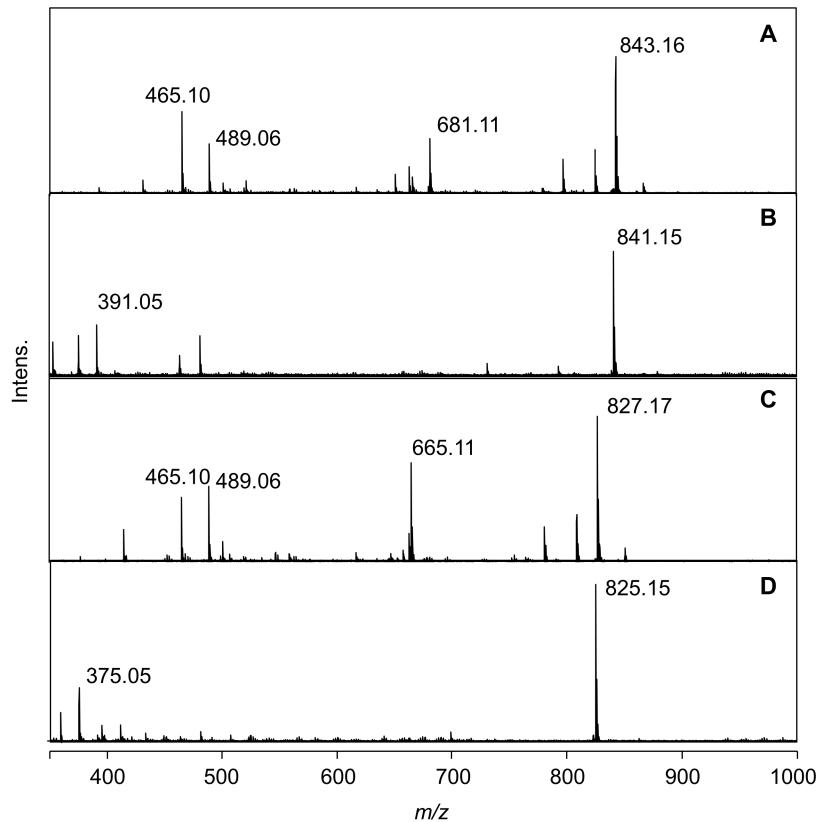


Figure S3. High resolution ESI-TOF-MS spectra of reproduced solutions by mixing **1** (Dp3G, 0.1 mM) and Al^{3+} (1 eq.) with 2 eq. of co-pigment, 5CQ (2), 5pCQ (3) in buffered solutions at pH 4.0. (A) Positive mode, 5CQ (2), calcd. for $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_{21}\text{Al} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 843.1559, found 843.1557. (B) Negative mode, 5CQ (2), calcd. for $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_{21}\text{Al} [\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 841.1413, found 841.1410. (C) Positive mode, 5pCQ (3), calcd. for $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{36}\text{O}_{20}\text{Al} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 827.1610, found 827.1613. (D) Negative mode, 5pCQ (3), calcd. for $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_{20}\text{Al} [\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ 825.1464, found 825.1461.

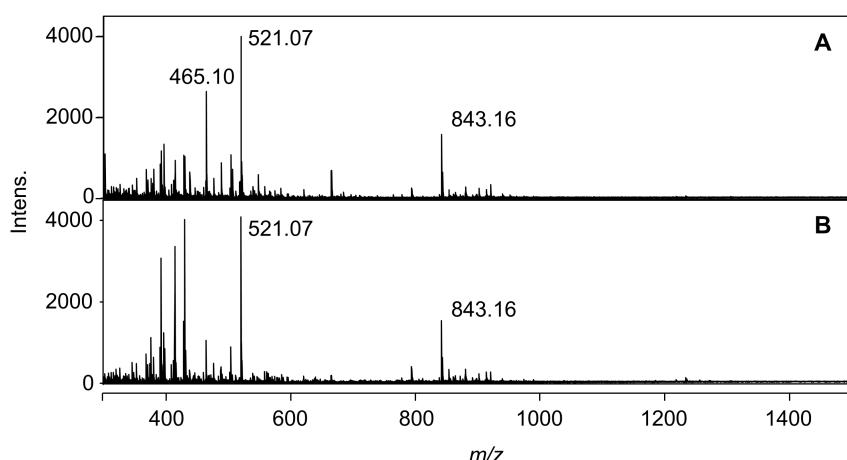
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27 **Figure S4.** ESI-TOF-MS/MS spectra of the blue complex reproduced by mixing **1** (Dp3G, 0.1 mM)
 28 and Al^{3+} (1 eq.) with 2 eq. of co-pigment, 5CQ (**2**) or 5pCQ (**3**) in buffered solutions at pH 4.0 (2 mM). (A)
 29 Dp3G-Al-5CQ (positive mode, collision energy: 20 eV). (B) Dp3G-Al-5CQ (negative mode, collision
 30 energy: 30 eV). (C) Dp3G-Al-5pCQ (positive mode, collision energy: 20 eV). (D) Dp3G-Al-5pCQ
 31 (negative mode, collision energy: 30 eV).

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33 **Figure S5.** Positive detection ESI-TOF-MS spectra of reproduced solutions by mixing **1** (Dp3G, 0.1
 34 mM) and Al^{3+} (1 eq.) with 1 and 3 eq. of co-pigment, 5CQ (**2**) in buffered solutions at pH 4.0 (2 mM).
 35 (A) 1 eq., (B) 3 eq.

36 **2. Elemental analysis of blue hydrangea cell sap**

37 Metal contents in cell sap from hydrangea sepal was performed by Inductively coupled plasma-
 38 optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES) analysis after wet ashing. 100 μ L cell sap was collected into
 39 a PTFE tube, then added 2.5 mL HNO_3 (d=1.38, for metal analysis grade, WAKO) and heated at 105 °C
 40 for 2 hours in Digi-PREP Cube (SCP Science). Next 200 μ L 30% H_2O_2 (WAKO) was added and heated
 41 at 160 °C for 16 hours. After cooling the solution was messed up to 20 mL and filtered with cellulose
 42 acetate filter (0.45 μ m, TOYO Roshi). ICP-OES analysis was performed with Vista-PRO (VARIAN).
 43 The concentration of each metal was determined with calibration curves from standard solution (ICP
 44 multi-element standard solution IV, Merck). The result is summarized in Table S1.

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46 **Table S1.** Metal contents in cell sap from blue hydrangea sepal.

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Metal	Conc. [mM]
Na	0.93
Mg	5.2
Al	2.9
K	30.0
Ca	2.4

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