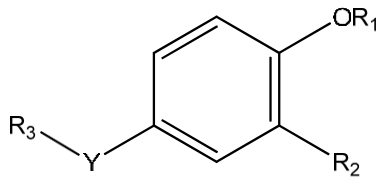
What is claimed is:

1. A cosmetic method of treating sensitive skin, the method comprising applying to the sensitive skin an a compound of Formula I:



(I)

wherein:

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of $C_1 – C_{20}$ alkyl, $C_2 – C_{20}$ alkenyl, $C_2 – C_{20}$ alkynyl, and $C_3 – C_8$ cycloalkyl or aryl;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, $C_1 – C_6$ alkyl, $C_2 – C_6$ alkenyl, $C_2 – C_6$ alkynyl, $C_3 – C_8$ cycloalkyl or aryl, $-OC_1 – C_6$ alkyl, $-OC_2 – C_6$ alkenyl, $-OC_2 – C_6$ alkynyl, $-OC_3 – C_8$ cycloalkyl or aryl, thiol, $-SC_1 – C_6$ alkyl, $-SC_2 – C_6$ alkenyl, $-SC_2 – C_6$ alkynyl, $-SC_3 – C_8$ cycloalkyl or aryl, $-NR_4C_1 – C_6$ alkyl, $-NR_4C_2 – C_6$ alkenyl, $-NR_4C_2 – C_6$ alkynyl, and $-NR_4C_3 – C_8$ cycloalkyl or aryl;

R_3 is selected from $–CO_2H$, $-CO_2R_4$ or an isosteric equivalent of a carboxy group, wherein R_4 is $C_1 – C_6$ alkyl, $C_2 – C_6$ alkenyl, $C_3 – C_8$ cycloalkyl or aryl; and

Y is $–(CH_2-CH_2)-$, -(CH=CH)-, or -(C≡C)-;

or a cosmetically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The cosmetic method of claim 1 wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of $C_5 – C_{16}$ alkyl, $C_5 – C_{16}$ alkenyl, and $C_5 – C_{16}$ alkynyl; R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, $-OC_1 – C_6$ alkyl, $-OC_2 – C_6$ alkenyl, $-OC_2 – C_6$ alkynyl, $-OC_3 – C_8$ cycloalkyl; R_3 is selected from $–CO_2H$, $-CO_2R_4$ wherein R_4 is $C_1 – C_6$ alkyl, or an isosteric equivalent of a carboxy group; and Y is $–(CH_2-CH_2)-$ or -(CH=CH)-.
3. The cosmetic method of claim 1 or 2 wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of $C_5 – C_{16}$ alkenyl; and R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or $-OC_1 – C_3$ alkyl.
4. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-3, wherein the compound of Formula I is selected from the group consisting of 3-(4-farnesyloxyphenyl)-propionic acid, 3-(4-farnesyloxy-3-

hydroxyphenyl)- propionic acid, 3-(4-farnesyloxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-propionic acid, ethyl esters thereof, and combinations of two or more thereof.

5. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-4, wherein the compound of Formula I is 3-(4-farnesyloxyphenyl)-propionic acid.
6. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-5, wherein the applying step comprises applying to the sensitive skin the compound of Formula I, and the compound of Formula I is contained in a botanical extract.
7. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-6, wherein said botanical extract is an extract of a plant of the genus *Acronychia*.
8. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-7, wherein said botanical extract is an extract of *Acronychia acidula*.
9. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-8, wherein said extract is a polar extract.
10. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-9, wherein the extract is present in an amount of about 0.1 to about 3 wt.% by total weight of the composition.
11. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-10, wherein the concentration of the compound of Formula I is present in an amount ranging from about 0.0001% to about 1% by total weight of the composition.
12. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-11, wherein, the sensitive skin comprises skin of a subject who has a reaction condition or a history of a reaction condition selected from the group consisting of erythema, edema, burning, pain, puritis, stinging, tingling, itching, tightness feeling, dry feeling, scaling, tactile roughness, peeling skin, flaky patches and combinations thereof when exposed to a retinoid.
13. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-12, wherein, the sensitive skin comprises skin of a subject who has a condition or a history of a condition selected from the group consisting of atopic dermatitis, rosacea, seborrheic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, psoriasis, dry skin, flaky skin.
14. The cosmetic method of any of claims 1-13, wherein the method of treating skin is a method of treating acne, wrinkles, and/or lightening skin in a subject who has a condition or a history of a condition selected from the group consisting of atopic dermatitis, rosacea, seborrheic dermatitis, psoriasis, dry skin, flaky skin.

15. A cosmetic method of treating acne, wrinkles and/or lightening skin in a subject having a reaction condition or a history of a reaction condition selected from the group consisting of erythema, edema, burning, pain, puritis, stinging, tingling, itching, tightness feeling, dry feeling, scaling, tactile roughness, peeling skin, flaky patches, and combinations thereof, the method comprising applying to the skin 3-(4-farnesyloxyphenyl)-propionic acid.
16. The cosmetic method of claim 15, wherein the applying step comprises applying to the sensitive skin a composition comprising a botanical extract is an extract of a plant of the genus *Acronychia*.
17. The cosmetic method of claim 15 or 16, wherein said botanical extract is an extract of *Acronychia acidula*.
18. The cosmetic method of any of claims 15-17, wherein said extract is a polar extract.
19. The cosmetic method of any of claims 15-18, wherein the extract is present in an amount of about 0.1 to about 3 wt.% by total weight of the composition.
20. The cosmetic method of any of claims 15-19, wherein the concentration of the compound of Formula I is present in an amount ranging from about 0.0001% to about 1% by total weight of the composition.