

COMPOUNDS WITH THE LABDANE SKELETON FROM HALIMIUM VISCOSUM

JULIO G. URONES,* ISIDRO S. MARCOS, PILAR BASABE, DAVID DIEZ, NARCISO M. GARRIDO, CONCEPCIÓN ALONSO, ISABEL M. OLIVA, ANNA M. LITHGOW, ROSALINA F. MORO, M^{*} JOSE SEXMERO and CARLOS LOPEZ

Departamento de Química Orgánica, Universidad de Salamanca, Plaza de los Caídos 1-5, 37008 Salamanca, Spain

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Abstract—The study of the chemical components of the neutral part of the extract of *Halimium viscosum*, chemotype Valparaíso, has been completed. Twelve labdanes have been isolated, nine are new natural compounds (two of them are *tetranor*-derivatives). Their structures were determined by spectroscopic methods and by chemical transformations from the major components present in this extract.

INTRODUCTION

The isolation and characterization of bicyclic diterpenes containing a C-17 carboxyl group [1] from the acid part of *Halimium viscosum* (Valparaiso), as well as a large group of tricyclic diterpenes belonging to the valparane or valparolane class [2-6] from its unsaponifiable part have been reported. Now, we report 12 bicyclic diterpenes also isolated from the unsaponifiable part that differ in the functionality at C-17: 1 and 3 have a methyl group, 8 a methylene and the rest possess an oxygenated function (acetoxymethylene in 5-7, 9 and 10, methoxycarbonyl in 11 and 12, formyl in 4 and a lactonic carboxyl in 2), but they mainly differ in the size and functionalization of the side chain. Compounds 2-5, 7 and 9-12 are new natural products.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The unsaponifiable part of the hexane extract of *H. viscosum* (Valparaiso) was chromatographed over silica gel, the less polar fraction afforded tricyclic diterpenes with the valparane or valparolane skeleton [2–6]. Twelve bicyclic diterpenes with a labdane skeleton were isolated from the polar fractions by column chromatography, either as hydroxy derivatives or as their acetates: 1–12, 1: (7,13*E*-labdadien-15-ol) [1, 7, 8], 2: (13,14,15,16-*tetranor*-7-labden-17,12-olide), 3–5: (12,16-diacetoxy-13,14,15,16-*tetranor*-7-labdene), 6: (15,17-diacetoxy-7-labdene) [9], 7, 8: (7 α ,15-diacetoxy-8(17),13*E*-labdadiene) [10], 9–11: (methyl 13*R*-hydroxy-14*S*,15-diacetoxy-7-labden-17-oate).

Compound 2 is an unsaturated lactone (IR: 1720, 1660, 1260 cm^{-1}) that shows in the ¹H NMR spec-

trum, in addition to the signals corresponding to three methyl groups ($\delta 0.88$, 0.85 and 0.73, 3H, s, ea), the signals corresponding to the grouping -CH=C-COOCH₂-CH₂[$\delta 7.26$, 1H, m; 4.42, 1H, ddd (J_1 = 11.2, J_2 = 4.4 and J_3 = 2.5 Hz); and 4.18, 1H, ddd (J_1 = 11.2, J_2 = 2.5 and J_3 = 2.5 Hz)]. The ¹³C NMR spectrum shows peaks corresponding to 16 carbon atoms: three methyl groups, six methylenes, three methines (one olefinic) and four quaternary carbon atoms (one olefinic and one carbonyl group). The physical data for 2 ([α]_D -17.0°) are identical to the physical data of 13,14,15,16*tetranor*-7-labden-17,12-olide which was obtained as an intermediate in the synthesis of drimanes from 14, the major component of the acid fraction of *H. viscosum* (Valparaiso) [11].

Compound 3 is an unsaturated acetate (IR: 3090, 1750, 1650, 1240 cm⁻¹) and its ¹H NMR spectrum shows signals of the following groupings: $-C(=CH_2)$ -CHOAc-CH₂OAc (§ 5.10, 1H, s; 5.01, 1H, s; 5.41, 1H, m; 4.27, 1H, m; 4.11, 1H, m); -CMe=CH (δ 1.69, 3H, s; 5.41, 1H, m) and signals of three methyl groups ($\delta 0.87$, 0.84 and 0.74, 3H, s, ea). The ¹³C NMR spectrum shows peaks corresponding to 24 carbon atoms: six methyl groups, eight methylenes (one olefinic), four methines (one olefinic) and six quaternary carbon atoms (four are sp²: two olefinic and two carbonyls). When comparing ¹³CNMR data of 3 with those of 1, a close relationship between both compounds is observed due to the signals of the bicyclic system that are almost identical [7]. So the grouping with the two acetoxyl groups and the terminal double bond must be located on the side chain. Some of the signals in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra are duplicated, meaning that a mixture of two stereoisomers is present. The structure of 3 can be assigned as the mixture of 14S and 14R,14,15-diacetoxy-7,13(16)labdadiene, taking into account the similarity of the chemical shift and multiplicity of the signal in the ¹H and

^{*}Author to whom correspondence should be addressed.



¹³C NMR spectra of previously described compounds [12, 13].

Compound 4 is an unsaturated carbonyl with an acetyl function (IR: 1750, 1690, 1640, 1240 cm⁻¹) that shows in the ¹H NMR spectrum, in addition to the signal corresponding to three methyl singlets ($\delta 0.77$, 0.86, 0.90, 3H, s, ea), the signals corresponding to the following groupings: -CH=C-CHO ($\delta 6.81$, 1H, m; 9.15, 1H, s) and

C(Me)=CH-CH₂OAc (δ 1.69, 3H, s; 5.42, 1H, t, J = 6.8 Hz; 4.61, 2H, d, J=6.8 Hz; 2.01, 3H, s). The ¹³C NMR spectrum shows the signals of 22 carbon atoms: five methyl groups, seven methylenes, five methines (two olefinic and one carbonyl) and five quaternary carbons (two olefinic and one acetoxyl). For a labdane diterpene with a primary allylic acetoxyl group on the side chain, the α,β -unsaturated formyl group could only

be located at C-17 with the double bond at C-7. The stereochemistry of the double bond on the side chain is established as *E* because of the chemical shift (δ^{1} H 1.64, δ^{13} C 16.4) of the methyl group [1]. The structure and absolute stereochemistry for 4 as 15-acetoxy-7,13*E*labdadien-17-al is confirmed upon reduction with LiAlH₄ that afforded the diol 13, the same diol obtained from 14 after reduction with LiAlH₄ [1].

Compound 5 is a diacetoxy-tetranor-labdene (IR: 1740, 1640, 1240 cm⁻¹). The ¹H NMR spectrum shows signals of three methyl singlets and also the following groupings: $-CH_2-CH_2OAc$ (δ 4.37, 2H, m; 2.07, 3H, s) and -CH =C-CH₂OAc (δ 5.86, 1H, m; 4.56, 1H, d, J = 12.2 Hz; 4.48, 1H, d, J = 12.2 Hz; 2.05, 3H, s). Compound 5 yielded, upon alkaline hydrolysis, diol 15 (13,14,15,16-tetranor-7-labden-12,17-diol) that was also obtained by synthesis from 14 [11].

Compound 6 was hydrolysed under alkaline conditions to give diol 16, that has been previously isolated from H. verticilatum [9].

The structure of 7 was established as 15,17-diacetoxy-7,13*E*-labdadiene when it was hydrolysed under alkaline conditions to give diol 13 that was previously obtained by reduction of 14 with LiAlH₄ [1].

Compounds 9 and 10 (Scheme 1) show in the IR spectra the absorption bands of hydroxyl and acetoxyl groups and a terminal double bond (3400, 3080, 1740, 1640, 1240, 890 cm⁻¹). The ¹H NMR spectra show signals of three methyl singlets and of the following groupings: $-CH=C-CH_2OAc$ (5.79, 1H, m; 4.63, 1H, d, J = 12.2 Hz; 4.34, 1H, d, J = 12.2 Hz for 9, and 5.80, 1H, m; 4.64, 1H, d, J = 12.2; 4.37, 1H, d, J = 12.2 Hz for 10) and C(Me)OH-CH=CH₂ (δ 1.26, 3H, s; 5.89, 1H, dd, J = 10.7, 17.6 Hz; 5.19, 1H, dd, J = 17.6, 1.5 Hz; 5.05, 1H, dd, J

= 10.7, 1.5 Hz for 9, and 1.26, 3H, s; 5.89, 1H, dd, J = 10.7, 17.1 Hz; 5.20, 1H, dd, J = 17.1, 1.5 Hz; 5.05, 1H, dd, J = 10.7, 1.5 Hz for 10). The ¹³C NMR spectra show peaks corresponding to 22 carbon atoms, each one: five methyl groups, eight methylenes (one olefinic), four methines (two olefinic) and five quaternary carbon atoms (two sp²), and one with an oxygen function (δ 73.4).

The mass spectra of 9 and 10 are very similar, except for the ratio of the peak fragments; in both cases, instead of the molecular parent ion, the $[M-18]^+$ fragment appears at m/z 330. The α,β -unsaturated acetoxymethylene group is similar to the already established functionality in 5, 7 and 8, that is located in the B ring of the labdane skeleton, and with the acetoxymethylene at C-17. Accordingly, the tertiary hydroxyl and the vinyl group must be on the side chain.

The structure and stereochemistry of 17-acetoxy-7,14-labdadien-13*R*- or 13*S*-ol for **9** and **10** is confirmed by enantioselective synthesis (Scheme 1).

When 7 was partially hydrolysed (K_2CO_3 , MeOH, 30 min, 60%) the monoacetyl derivative 17 was obtained and, after epoxidation by Sharpless methodology [L(+) DET] afforded epoxide 18. Treatment of the latter with TsCl provided the tosyl derivative 19 that by reaction with NaI in acetone gave the iodo derivative 20. Upon reduction of 20 with zinc dust in HOAc, 9 was obtained ($[\alpha]_D - 3.1^\circ$). Sharpless asymmetric epoxidation of 17 led to 13S,14S stereochemistry in the epoxy derivative obtained, 18 [14]. So, the configuration is 13S for 9, as in the reduction with Zn, the stereochemistry of the centre is maintained [15].

In a similar way, Sharpless oxidation of 17 using D(-) DET gave the epoxide 21 (13*R*,14*R*) from which tosylation afforded the tosyl derivative 22. Treatment of the



Scheme 1. (a) $K_2CO_3/MeOH/60$ min; (b) $L(+)DET/Ti(iPrO)_4/^BuOOH/CH_2Cl_2$; (c) $D(-)DET/Ti(iPrO)_4/^BuOOH/CH_2Cl_2$; (d) TsCl/pyridine; (e) NaI/acetone; (f) Zn/AcOH.

23	39.2	18.8	3 42.3) 33.0	1 49.8	0 23.9	5 129.5	133.3	1 52.4	37.0	21.8	40.2	1 64.0	1 62.5	1 2.3	15.8	1 67.7	33.0	3 21.8	13.7	170.8	21.1		
21	39.2	18.8	42.	33.(49.8	23.5	129.5	133.8	52.4	37.(21.1	40.1	61.4	62.7	61.4	16.5	67.7	33.0	21.5	13.7	170.8	21.1		
50	39.2	18.8	42.2	33.0	49.8	23.9	129.4	133.8	52.4	37.0	21.9	40.2	64.0	62.5	2.4	15.7	67.6	33.0	21.8	13.7	170.6	21.2		
18	39.1	18.8	42.2	33.0	49.8	23.9	129.4	133.8	52.4	37.0	21.7	40.3	61.2	62.9	61.2	16.9	67.9	33.0	21.8	13.8	170.9	21.1		
17	39.1	18.8	42.3	33.0	49.8	23.9	129.0	134.1	52.1	36.9	25.1	41.2	139.7	123.9	59.3	16.3	67.7	33.0	21.8	13.8	170.8	21.1		
16	39.8	18.9	42.5	33.0	50.3	23.8	125.4	138.4	53.1	37.0	24.3	39.3	30.9	39.0	61.2	19.9	66.0	33.1	21.8	13.7				
15	39.2	18.7	42.3	33.0	48.7	23.8	138.7	126.6	50.0	36.8	28.4	64.3					66.4	33.1	21.8	13.6				
13	39.3	18.8	42.4	33.0	50.1	23.8	125.6	139.8	51.9	36.7	25.2	41.2	140.3	123.7	59.2	16.4	66.0	33.1	21.9	13.7				
12	39.4	18.6	42.1	32.8	49.6	24.2	138.3	134.9	51.4	37.2	21.4	40.7	73.2	75.5	63.2	23.8	169.5	32.8	21.9	14.3	170.7	20.9	170.2	
11	39.3	18.6	42.1	33.1	49.5	24.2	138.9	134.7	51.5	37.1	21.3	40.4	73.1	76.6	63.3	22.5	169.5	32.8	21.8	14.2	170.7	21.0	170.5	
10	39.2	18.8	42.3	33.0	49.9	23.9	129.2	134.3	52.6	37.1	20.5	44.0	73.4	145.2	111.7	27.7	67.8	33.0	21.8	13.7	170.9	21.1		
6	39.2	18.8	42.3	33.0	49.9	23.9	129.0	134.3	52.7	37.1	20.6	44.2	73.4	145.0	111.9	27.8	67.8	33.1	21.8	13.7	170.9	21.1		
∞	39.5	19.4	42.2	33.3	48.9	21.1	76.4	142.5	51.3	37.8	29.1	38.8	45.2	18.6	61.4	16.6	12.1	33.1	21.4	13.7	70.1	21.2	70.4	
2	39.1	18.8	42.3	33.0	49.8	23.9	29.2	34.1	51.9	36.6	25.0	41.4	42.5 1	18.8	61.3	16.5	67.8 1	33.0	21.8	13.7	71.1 1	21.1	70.7	
و	39.2	18.8	42.3	33.0	48.9	23.8	28.7 1	34.3 1	52.8	36.9	23.8	38.9	30.7 1	35.4 1	62.9	19.6	67.7	33.1	21.8	13.6	71.1 1	21.1	70.7 1	
4	39.0	18.5	42.1	32.9	49.6	25.3	52.1 1	44.6 1	50.3	36.8	25.4	41.4	43.2	18.1	51.5	16.4	94.8	33.1	21.9	14.2	71.1 1	21.0	-	
3	35.3	18.9	42.4	33.2	50.3	23.8	22.7 1.	34.9 1-	55.0	37.0	25.9	35.4	15.4 14	73.9 1	54.7 (12.4	22.6 19	33.2	. 6.13	13.7	70.5 1	1.7	6.6	
2	18.9	8.6	12.0	34.8	0.61	2.8	12.8 12	6.6 1	9.8	12.0	5.2	8.5	14		J	11	5.6	12.9	1.5	3.4	11	. 4	16	
_	9.9 3	8.9 1	2.4 4	3.0 3	0.3 4	3.9 2	2.4 14	5.3 12	4.7 4	6.9 4	5.7 2	2.1 6	0.3	3.6	9.5	6.4	2.1 16	3.2 3	1.9 2	3.6 1				
С	U	2	ω 4	4 3.	5 5	6 2.	7 12.	8 13.	<u>ک</u>	10 3,	11 2.	12 4	13 14	14 12	15 5!	16 14	17 2.	18 3.	19 2.	20 1.	D <u>CO</u> Me	DCOMe	D <u>CO</u> Me	

Table 1. ¹³C NMR data of 1 4, 6 13, 15-18, 20, 21 and 23 (50.3 MHz, CDCl₃)

latter with NaI yielded 23, that by reduction with Zn-HOAc gave 10 ($[\alpha]_D - 15.9^\circ$).

Compounds 11 and 12 are two natural methyl esters that are identified as methyl 13R-hydroxy-14S, 15diacetoxy-7-labden-17-oate and methyl 13S-hydroxy-14R, 15-diacetoxy-7-labden-17-oate by comparison with authentic samples [12].

EXPERIMENTAL

Spectral analysis. NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker SP 200 MHz spectrometer, operating at 200 MHz for ¹H and 50.3 MHz for ¹³C, respectively. Chemical shifts are given in ppm and are referenced in CDCl₃ to the residual CHCl₃, 7.26 ppm for ¹H and 77.0 ppm for ¹³C, respectively, unless otherwise stated. Coupling constants are given in Hz. ¹³C NMR data are given in Table 1. Mps were determined in a Kofler type hot-stage apparatus and are uncorr. IR spectra were recorded in a BOMEM MB-100 FTIR spectrometer. Mass spectra were obtained in a VG TS 250 mass spectrometer by electron ionization with a potential of 70 eV.

Extraction and isolation. The extraction of the aerial parts of *H. viscosum* (Valparaiso) and fractioning of the neutral part was previously described [1, 5]. The more polar frs F (29.7%) and G (3.5%) [5] are the ones studied now.

Fr. F was chromatographed on a silica gel column and eluted with *n*-hexane-EtOAc mixt. of increasing polarity affording 3 main frs: I (hexane-EtOAc 9:1), II (hexane-EtOAc 4:1) and III (hexane-EtOAc 1:1).

From fr. I by CC over silica gel were isolated squalene, phytol and 1 (90 mg).

From fr. II were isolated sitosterol (3.1 g) by crystallization in MeOH and from the mother liquor by CC on silica gel/AgNO₃ (10%) eluting with hexane-EtOAc 85:15, 2 (250 mg).

From fr. III (previously acetylated with Ac_2O pyridine) by CC were isolated: 3 (hexane-EtOAc 98:2, 150 mg), 4 (hexane-EtOAc 9:1, 612 mg), 5 (hexane-EtOAc 4:1, 42 mg), 6 and 7 (hexane-EtOAc 7:3, 964 mg), 8 (hexane-EtOAc 1:1, 189 mg), 9 and 10 (hexane-EtOAc 1:1, 165 mg).

Compounds 6 and 7 were isolated by CC on silica $gel/AgNO_3(10\%)$ eluting with hexane-EtOAc 95:5 gave 6 (248 mg) and with hexane-EtOAc 9:1, 7 (520 mg).

Compounds 9 and 10 were isolated by PTLC eluting with benzene-EtOAc 7:3 (\times 3) giving 9 (15 mg) and 10 (28 mg).

Fr. G was acetylated with Ac_2O -pyridine and then by PTLC of the acetyl derivatives eluting with hexane-EtOAc 3:2, gave 11 (24 mg) and 12 (18 mg).

15-Hydroxy-7,13E-labdadiene (1). Oil. $[\alpha]_D + 5.0^{\circ}$ (CHCl₃; c 1.0). IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 3340 (broad), 1640, 1060, 1020, 1000 and 810. ¹H: δ 5.42 (1H, t, J = 6.8 Hz, H-14), 5.40 (1H, m, H-7), 4.15 (2H, d, J = 6.82 Hz, H-15), 1.69 (3H, s, H-17), 1.68 (3H, s, H-16), 0.87 (3H, s, H-19), 0.84 (3H, s, H-18), 0.74 (3H, s, H-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1. 13,14,15,16-tetranor-7-*Labden*-17,12-*olide* (2). Oil. [α]_D -17.0° (CHCl₃; c 1.1). IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 1720, 1640, 1400, 1270, 1250, 1230, 1120, 930, 740. ¹H: δ7.26 (1H, m, H-7), 4.42 (1H, ddd, J = 11.2, 4.4, 2.5 Hz, H_a-12), 4.18 (1H, ddd, J = 11.2, 2.4, 2.4 Hz, H_b-12), 0.88, 0.85, 0.73 (3H, s, each). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

14,15-Diacetoxy-7,13(16)-labdadiene (3). Oil. IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 3090, 1750, 1650, 1240, 1050 and 910. ¹H: δ 5.41 (2H, m, H-7, H-14), 5.10 (1H, s, H_a-16), 5.01 (1H, s, H_b-16), 4.27 (1H, m, H_a-15), 4.11 (1H, m, H_b-15), 2.09 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 2.05 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 1.69 (3H, s, H-17), 0.88 (3H, s, H-19), 0.85 (3H, s, H-18), 0.76 (3H, s, H-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

15-Acetoxy-7,13E-labdadien-17-al (4). Oil. $[\alpha]_D - 17.2^{\circ}$ (CHCl₃; c 2.4). IR ν_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 1750, 1690, 1640, 1460, 1370, 1240, 1030. ¹H: δ 9.15 (1H, s, H-17), 6.8 (1H, m, H-7), 5.42 (1H, t, J = 6.8 Hz, H-14), 4.61 (2H, d, J = 6.8 Hz, H-15), 2.01 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 1.69 (3H, s, H-16), 0.90 (3H, s, H-19), 0.86 (3H, s, H-18), 0.77 (3H, s, H-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

13,14,15,16-tetranor-12,17-*Diacetoxy*-7-*labdene* (5). Mp 135–136°. $[\alpha]_D$ – 35.6° (CHCl₃; c 1.1). IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 1740, 1240 and 1040. ¹H: δ 5.86 (1H, m, H-7), 4.56 and 4.48 (1H, d, each, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 4.07 (2H, m, H-12), 2.07 and 2.05 (3H, s, each, OOC-Me), 0.89, 0.87 and 0.77 (3H, s, each, H-19, H-18 and H-20).

15,17-Diacetoxy-7-labdene (6). Oil. $[\alpha]_D - 9.7^{\circ}$ (CHCl₃; c 0.8). IR ν_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 1740, 1470, 1380, 1240, 1030. ¹H: δ 5.78 (1H, m, H-7), 4.54 and 4.40 (1H, d, each, J = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 4.07 (2H, t, J = 6.8 Hz, H-15), 2.04 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 2.02 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 0.90 (3H, d, J = 6.1 Hz, H-16), 0.86 (3H, s, H-19), 0.84 (3H, s, H-18) and 0.74 (3H, s, H-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

15,17-Diacetoxy-7,13E-labdadiene (7). Oil. $[α]_D - 12.6^{\circ}$ (CHCl₃; c 1.1). IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 1740, 1680, 1450, 1370, 1240, 1030 and 960. ¹H: δ5.81 (1H, m, H-7), 5.33 (1H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, H-14), 4.57 (2H, d, J = 7.3 Hz, H-15), 4.55 and 4.46 (1H, d, each, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H-17), 2.06 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 2.05 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 1.69 (3H, s, H-16), 0.88 (3H, s, H-19), 0.86 (3H, s, H-18) and 0.75 (3H, s, H-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

7α,16-Diacetoxy-8(17),13E-labdadiene (8). Oil. $[α]_D$ - 30.9° (CHCl₃; c 1.1). IR v^{film}_{max} cm⁻¹: 1740, 1640, 1440, 1310, 1240. ¹H: δ5.40 (1H, m, H-7), 5.29 (1H, t, J = 7.4 Hz, H-14), 5.18 (1H, s, H_a-17), 4.76 (1H, s, H_b-17), 4.59 (2H, d, J = 7.3 Hz, H-15), 2.05 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 2.04 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 1.69 (3H, s, H-16), 0.83 (3H, s, H-19), 0.79 (3H, s, H-18) and 0.68 (3H, s, H-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

13(S)-Hydroxy-17-acetoxy-7,14-labdadiene (9). Oil. $[\alpha]_{D} - 3.1^{\circ}$ (CHCl₃; c 0.5). IR ν_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 3400, 3060, 1740, 1680, 1460, 1380, 1240, 1030, 910, 820. ¹H: δ 5.89 (1H, dd, J = 10.7 and 17.6 Hz, H-14), 5.79 (1H, m, H-7), 5.19 (1H, dd, J = 1.5 and 7.6 Hz, H_a-15), 5.05 (1H, dd, J = 1.5 and 10.7 Hz, H_b-15), 4.63 and 4.39 (1H, d, each, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H-17), 2.06 (3H, s, OOC-Me), 1.26 (3H, s, H-16), 0.88, 0.86 and 0.76 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1. EIMS m/z (rel. int.): 330 (15), 288 (20), 270 (60), 243 (15), 203 (100), 187 (80), 124 (70), 109 (99), 82 (95), 69 (55), 55 (53).

17-Acetoxy-13(R)-hydroxy-7,14-labdadiene (10). Oil. [α]_D -15.9° (CHCl₃; c 0.7). IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 3420, 1730, 1230, 1110, 910. ¹H: δ 5.89 (1H, dd, J = 10.7 and 17.1 Hz, H-14), 5.80 (1H, m, H-7), 5.20 (1H, dd, J = 17.1 and 1.5 Hz, H-15), 5.05 (1H, dd, J = 10.7 and 1.5 Hz, H-15), 4.64 (1H, d, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H-17), 4.37 (1H, d, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H-17), 2.06 (3H, s, Me-COO), 1.26 (3H, s, Me-16), 0.88, 0.86 and 0.76 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1. EIMS m/z (rel. int.): 330 (10), 288 (25), 270 (65), 243 (10), 203 (100), 187 (80), 124 (60), 109 (95), 82 (90), 69 (65), 55 (50).

Methyl 13R-hydroxy-14S,15-diacetoxy-7-labden-17oate (11). Oil. $[\alpha]_D$ – 41.5° (CHCl₃; c 0.8). IR ν^{film}_{max} cm⁻¹: 1750, 1720. 1650, 1470, 1380, 1250, 870. ¹H: δ6.7 (1H, m, H-7), 5.0 (1H, dd, $J_{BX} = 8.3$, $J_{AX} = 2.4$ Hz, H-14), 4.5 (1H, dd, $J_{AB} = 12.2$, $J_{AX} = 2.4$ Hz, H_a-15), 4.16 (1H, dd, $J_{AB} = 12.2$, $J_{BX} = 8.3$ Hz, H_b-15), 3.69 (3H, s, -COOMe), 2.17 and 2.03 (3H, s, each, Me-COO-), 1.14 (3H, s, H-16), 0.90, 0.86 and 0.82 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Methyl 13S-hydroxy-14R,15-diacetoxy-7-labden-17oate (12). Oil. $[\alpha]_D - 21.3^{\circ}$ (CHCl₃; c 2.7). IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 1750, 1720, 1650, 1470, 1250, 870. ¹H: δ 6.72 (1H, m, H-7), 5.06 (1H, dd, $J_{BX} = 8.3$, $J_{AX} = 2.4$ Hz, H-14), 4.52 (1H, dd, $J_{AB} = 12.2$, $J_{AX} = 2.4$ Hz, H₂-15), 4.17 (1H, dd, $J_{AB} = 12.2$, $J_{BX} = 8.3$ Hz, H_b-15), 3.66 (3H, s, -COOMe), 2.09 and 2.01 (3H, s, each, OCOMe), 1.19 (3H, s, Me-16), 0.89, 0.85 and 0.81 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Reduction of 4. LiAlH₄ (12 mg) was added to a stirred, ice-cooled soln of 4 (40 mg) in dry Et₂O (5 ml) and the mixt. was stirred for 30 min at room temp. under N₂. Then Et₂O (30 ml), some drops of H₂O and Na₂SO₄ (200 mg) were added, the mixt. was kept for 15 min. Following this, it was filtered and the solvent evapd off to give 13 (32 mg). Oil. $[\alpha]_D + 1.8^{\circ}$ (CHCl₃; c0.9). IR $v_{max}^{f,lm}$ cm⁻¹: 3330 (broad), 1650, 1090 and 990. ¹H: $\delta 5.76$ (1H, m, H-7), 5.44 (1H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, H-14), 4.17 (1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 4.15 (2H, d, J = 7.3 Hz, H-15), 3.99 (1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 1.69 (3H, s, Me-16), 0.88, 0.86 and 0.74 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Alkaline hydrolysis of 5. Compound 5 (15 mg) was treated with 2 ml NaOH in MeOH (10%) for 24 hr at room temp. Usual work-up gave 15 (13 mg). Mp 90° (CHCl₃). $[\alpha]_D - 20.9^\circ$ (CHCl₃; c 2.0). IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 3380, 1640, 1470, 1400, 1380, 1060, 1010. ¹H: δ 5.71 (1H, m, H-7), 4.28 and 3.84 (1H, d, each, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H-17), 3.77 (1H, ddd, J = 10.3, 10.3, 5.4 Hz, H_a-12), 3.66 (1H, ddd, J = 10.3, 8.4 and 5.8 Hz, H_b-12), 0.88 (3H, s, Me-19), 0.86 (3H, s, Me-18) and 0.76 (3H, s, Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Alkaline hydrolysis of 6. Upon subjecting 50 mg of 6 to the above treatment, 46 mg of 16 was obtained. Oil, $[\alpha]_D$ -8.4° (CHCl₃; c 0.4). IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 3340 (broad), 1640, 1440, 1360, 1090, 810. ¹H: δ 5.75 (1H, m, H-7), 4.14 (1H, d, J = 12.2 Hz, H_a-17), 3.98 (1H, d, J = 12.2 Hz, H_b-17), 3.69 (2H, m, H-15), 0.92 (3H, d, J = 6.4 Hz, H-16), 0.88 (3H, s, Mc-19), 0.86 (3H, s, Mc-18), 0.75 (3H, s, Mc-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Reduction of 14 with LiAlH₄. Upon subjecting 90 mg of 14 to the above treatment, 82 mg of 13 was obtained.

Partial hydrolysis of 7. Compound 7 (500 mg) was

treated with 5 ml K₂CO₃ in MeOH (5%) and the mixt. was stirred for 30 min at room temp., then H₂O was added and the mixt. was extracted with ether. Usual work-up gave 478 mg of crude that was chromatographed over silica gel giving 7 (76 mg, *n*-hexane–EtOAc, 7:3), 17 (264 mg, *n*-hexane–EtOAc, 3:2) and 13 (128 mg, *n*-hexane–EtOAc, 1:1). Compound 17, oil. IR v_{max}^{fim} cm⁻¹: 3380, 1740, 1240, 1020. ¹H: δ 5.80 (1H, *m*, H-7), 5.40 (1H, *t*, J = 6.8 Hz, H-14), 4.58 (1H, *d*, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H-17), 4.44 (1H, *d*, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H-17), 4.14 (2H, *d*, J = 6.8 Hz, H-15), 2.08 (3H, *s*, Me-COO–), 1.67 (3H, *s*, Me-16), 0.88, 0.86 and 0.75 (3H, *s*, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Sharpless epoxidation of 17. A 100-ml flask equipped with a Teflon-coated magnetic stirring bar was ovendried, then flushed with N_2 . The flask was charged with dry CH₂Cl₂ (8 ml) and cooled by stirring in a -23° bath. The following liquids were then added sequentially via syringe while stirring in the cooling bath: titanium tetraisopropoxide (0.15 ml, 0.5 mmol), L-(+)-diethyl tartrate [L-(+)-DET, 0.09 ml, 0.5 mmol]; the mixt. was stirred for 20 min before the next addition, 17 (180 mg) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (10 ml), the mixt, was kept for 20 min and, finally, t-butyl hydroperoxide (0.34 ml) was added. The resulting homogeneous soln was then stored (18 hr) in the freezer at -20° in a sealed reaction vessel. The flask was then placed in a -23° bath and 10% aq. tartaric acid soln (6 ml) was added while stirring; the aq. layer solidified. After 30 min, the cooling bath was removed and stirring was continued at room temp. until the aq. layer became clear. After sepn of the aq. layer, the organic layer was washed once with H₂O, dried with Na₂SO₄ and concd to give a yellow oil (178 mg); this was chromatographed on silica gel eluting with n-hexane-EtOAc (3:2) to afford 18 (140 mg). Oil, IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 3420, 1740, 1240, 1020. ¹H: δ 5.81 (1H, m, H-7), 4.55 (1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 4.44 $(1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 \text{ Hz}, \text{H-17}), 3.80 (1H, dd, J = 12.2, 4.9 \text{ Hz},$ H-15), 3.68 (1H, dd, J = 12.2, 6.4 Hz, H-15), 2.93 (1H, dd, J = 6.4 and 4.9 Hz, H-14), 2.05 (3H, s, Me-COO-), 1.28 (3H, s, Me-16), 0.87, 0.85 and 0.76 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Esterification of 18 with TsCl. TsCl (74 mg) was added portion-wise to a stirred and ice-cooled soln of 18 (140 mg) in dry pyridine (3 ml). The mixt. was left to stand overnight at $0-5^{\circ}$, then poured into ice-H₂O and extracted with Et₂O. The ether extract was washed with H₂O, CuSO₄ aq., NaHCO₃ aq. and brine, dried (Na₂SO₄) and coned *in vacuo* to give 19 (143 mg). Oil, IR v^{fine}m cm⁻¹: 1740, 1610, 1500, 1240, 1180, 980. ¹H: $\delta7.80$ (2H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.35 (2H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 5.80 (1H, *m*, H-7), 4.49 (1H, d, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H-17), 4.39 (1H, d, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H-17), 4.13 (1H, dd, J = 12.2 and 2.9 Hz, H-15), 4.07 (1H, dd, J = 12.2 and 2.9 Hz, H-15), 2.95 (1H, *t*, J = 2.9 Hz, H-14), 2.44 (3H, s, Me-Ar), 2.03 (3H, s, Me-COO-), 1.19 (3H, s, Me-16), 0.86, 0.84 and 0.74 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20).

Reaction of 19 with NaI. NaI (136 mg) was added to a soln of 19 (142 mg) in Me_2CO (7 ml) and the mixt. was stirred and heated under reflux for 7 hr. Then it was concd in vacuo, diluted with H_2O and extracted with Et_2O . The

ether soln was washed with H_2O , Na_2SO_3 aq., $NaHCO_3$ aq. and brine, dried (Na_2SO_4) and concd in vacuo to give **20** (112 mg). Oil, IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 1740, 1240, 1170, 950, 850. ¹H: δ 5.80 (1H, m, H-7), 4.53 (1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 4.42 (1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 3.33 (1H, dd, J = 4.9 and 8.8 Hz, H-14), 2.99 (2H, m, H-15), 2.04 (3H, s, Me-COO-), 1.25 (3H, s, Me-16), 0.86, 0.83 and 0.75 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Reduction of 20 with Zn-AcOH. Zn dust (62 mg) was added portion-wise to a stirred and ice-cooled soln of 20 (112 mg) in AcOH (3 ml). The mixt. was stirred for 30 min after the addition at room temp. Then it was diluted with Et_2O and filtered through Celite, the Et_2O soln was washed with H_2O , $Na_2S_2O_3$ aq., $NaHCO_3$ aq. and brine, dried (Na_2SO_4) and concd *in vacuo* to give 109 mg of crude. PTLC of the crude eluting (×2) with *n*-hexane-EtOAc (4:1) gave 9 (54 mg).

Sharpless reaction of 17. In the same manner as described above, 17 (80 mg) using D(-)DET (0.04 ml) yielded 21 (60 mg). Oil, IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 3420, 1740, 1240, 1030. ¹H: $\delta 5.82$ (1H, m, H-7), 4.56 (1H, d, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H_a -17), 4.42 (1H, d, $J_{AB} = 12.2$ Hz, H_b -17), 3.75 (2H, m, H-15), 2.95 (1H, dd, J = 6.4 and 4.9 Hz, H-14), 2.06 (3H, s, MeCO₂-), 1.24 (3H, s, Me-16), 0.88 and 0.76 (3H, s, each, Me-19 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Esterification of 21 with TsCl. Upon subjecting 21 (60 mg) to the above treatment 22 (61 mg) was obtained. IR v_{max}^{flim} cm⁻¹: 1740, 1610, 1505, 1240, 1180, 980. ¹H: δ 7.80 (2H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.36 (2H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 5.82 (1H, m, H-7), 4.50 (1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 4.40 (1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 4.14 (1H, dd, J = 12.2 and 3.0 Hz, H-15), 4.08 (1H, dd, J = 12.2 and 3.0 Hz, H-15), 2.98 (1H, t, J = 3.0 Hz, H-14), 2.45 (3H, s, Me-Ar), 2.04 (3H, s, Me-COO-), 1.15 (3H, s, Me-16), 0.87, 0.85 and 0.75 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Reaction of 22 with NaI. Upon subjecting 22 (61 mg) to the above treatment 23 (49 mg) was obtained. IR v_{max}^{film} cm⁻¹: 1740, 1240, 1010, 950. ¹H: δ 5.83 (1H, m, H-7), 4.55 (1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 4.43 (1H, d, J_{AB} = 12.2 Hz, H-17), 3.38 (1H, dd, J = 4.9 and 8.8 Hz, H-14), 3.02 (2H, m, H-15), 2.07 (3H, s, Me-COO-), 1.28 (3H, s, Me-16), 0.89, 0.87 and 0.77 (3H, s, each, Me-19, Me-18 and Me-20). ¹³C: δ Table 1.

Reduction of 23 with Zn-AcOH. Upon subjecting 23 (49 mg) to the above treatment 10 (19 mg) was obtained.

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