(1R,2R)-2-Acetoxy-9-methyl-9-azabicyclo[4.2.1]nonane methiodide (14) was prepared in the same way as was 4. Pure 14 was isolated by filtration (75% yield): mp 215-217 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $(D_2O) \delta 1.74 (m, 1 H), 1.88 (m, 1 H), 1.9-2.2 (m, 5 H), 2.09 (s, 3 H)$ H, CH<sub>3</sub>CO), 2.39 (m, 1 H), 2.48 (m, 1 H), 2.60 (m, 1 H), 3.20 (s, 3 H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.28 (s, 3 H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.97 (br s, 1 H, H-6), 4.02 (br s, 1 H, H-1), 5.34 (m, 1 H, H-2). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>INO<sub>2</sub>: C, 42.5; H, 6.5; N, 4.1. Found: C, 42.2; H, 6.5; N, 4.0.

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Supplementary Material Available: IR spectral data for compounds 27, 31-39, 41, and 42 and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectral data for 1, 3-14, 27, 33-39, 41, and 42 (4 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

## Formation of Cyclopentenethiones via Cyclization of $\beta$ -Thioallyl Cations

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Reaction of 2,2-diaryl-3-[2',2'-dimethyl-1'-(trimethylsilyl)-3'-butenylidene]thiiranes 1a and 1b with BF3-Et2O resulted in facile formation of stable cyclopentenethiones 3a and 3b, by a new type of cyclization via the initially generated thioallyl cations. The mechanism of this Lewis acid promoted isomerization of allene episulfides la and 1b is rationalized by taking into account the conformation of the thioallyl cation and the effect of the aromatic substituents. The structure of 3a, a novel example of a crystalline aliphatic conjugated thione, has been determined by X-ray crystallographic analysis.

In contrast to the wide chemistry associated with oxyallyl ions and their versatile utility in organic synthesis,<sup>2</sup> the nature of sulfur-analogous reactive species, i.e., thioallyl intermediates, has not been fully investigated and its potential synthetic utility is undeveloped.<sup>3</sup>

We have recently described the thermal isomerization reactions of several types of substituted allene episulfides,<sup>4</sup> the substituent effects of which reveal the intrinsic nature of the thically intermediate. The direct observation of the thically cation from protonation of tetramethylallene episulfide with fluorosulfuric acid by low-temperature NMR spectroscopy and its interesting acid-promoted dimerization reactions have been reported.<sup>5</sup> In the case of sterically hindered aryl-substituted allene episulfides, an acid-catalyzed cyclization of the thioallyl intermediate onto the aromatic ring gave benzothiophene or indenethiol

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derivatives.<sup>4b</sup> However, no definite examples of inter- or intramolecular trapping reactions of the thioallyl cation

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are known in contrast to the facile cycloaddition reactions of oxyallyl ions with a variety of dipolarophiles.<sup>2n</sup> We have investigated a Lewis acid promoted cyclization of allylsubstituted allene episulfides  $1^6$  and now present a novel and effective intramolecular trapping reaction of the intermediary thioallyl cation resulting in a formation of stable cyclopentenethiones 3.

When allene episulfide 1a was treated with 0.5 molar equiv of BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O in chloroform at -5 °C, the color of the solution changed immediately to dark red. Chromatography of the evaporated reaction mixture afforded cyclopentenethione 3a in 35% yield as stable reddish-purple crystals together with the isomeric allene episulfide 4a (52%). Lowering the temperature of the reaction of 1a with BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (-20 °C in chloroform) afforded two other types of cyclization products 5a (10%) and 6a (15%) besides 3a (14%) and 4a (36%) (Scheme I).

This branching of the reaction pathways is attributable to kinetic stabilization of the initially formed thioallyl cation 2a', which allows the direct attack of the sulfur atom on the olefinic carbons of the dimethylallyl group (paths a and b) leading to 5a and 6a. At higher temperature, cyclization occurs only via the rotated thioallyl cation 2a''to give 3a and 4a. Since 4a was reluctant to undergo

<sup>(6)</sup> Episulfides 1a and 1b were readily synthesized by the reaction of thioketene  $10^{10}$  with the diaryl carbenes generated from the corresponding diazo compounds in good yields. The configuration of the dimethylallyl and trimethylsilyl groups was ascertained by comparison with that of the analogously substituted 2-alkylidene-1,3,4-thiadiazolines 11 as shown below; the latter were the major cycloaddition products in the reactions of the thioketene 10 with dialkyldiazomethanes.



Table I. BF<sub>3</sub>•Et<sub>2</sub>O Promoted Intramolecular Cyclization Reactions of Allyl-Substituted Allene Episulfides

substrate	solvent	condtns	products (yields, <sup>a</sup> %)
la	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	-5 °C, 10 h	<b>3a</b> (35), <b>4a</b> (52)
	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	-20 °C, 10 h	<b>3a</b> (14), <b>4a</b> (36), <b>5a</b> (10), <b>6a</b> (15)
1 <b>b</b>	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	-20 °C, 10 h	3b (68), 7b (18)
	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	-5 °C, 10 h	3b (53), 7b (14)
	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	rt, <sup>b</sup> 1 h	3b (66), 7b (6)

<sup>a</sup> Isolated yields. <sup>b</sup>Room temperature.



Figure 1. ORTEP drawing of cyclopentenethione 3a. Selected bond lengths (angstroms) and angles (degrees): S(1)-C(1), 1.632 (4); C(1)-C(2), 1.465 (5); C(2)-C(3), 1.352 (6); C(3)-C(4), 1.506 (6); C(1)-C(5), 1.545 (5); Z(1)-C(1)-C(2), 127.4 (3); Z(1)-C(1)-C(5), 124.1 (3); Z(1)-C(2)-C(3), 108.0 (3); Z(2)-C(3)-C(4), 112.4 (4); Z(3)-C(4)-C(5), 103.1 (3); Z(1)-C(-2)-C(4), 100.3 (3); Z(2)-C(1)-C(5), 108.5 (3).

further molecular transformation by the action of  $BF_3 Et_2 O$ even at room temperature, the cyclization of the thioallyl cation 2a from once isomerized allene episulfide 4a is evidently irreversible.

Replacing the two phenyl groups of 1a by a fluorenyl group (1b) resulted in selective formation of thione 3b and thiol 7b. These products arose from the thioallyl cation by cyclization at the cationic termini, apparently without any formation of the isomeric allene episulfide 4b or its other cyclization products (Scheme II). The yields of 3b and 7b fluctuated slightly with the reaction conditions as shown in Table I, but in all cases, 3b was obtained predominantly over 7b. Considering the similar electronic effects in allene episulfides 1a and 1b, the preferential formation of 3b and 7b in the latter case might be explained by relief of steric hindrance between the aromatic substituents and the dimethylallyl group in the thioallyl cation 2b'', which favors the cyclization of 2b'' to 8b bypassing the allene episulfide 4b. The formation of cyclopentenethione 3b and cyclopentenethiol 7b can be rationalized by isomerization of the strained bicyclic thione 8b. The oxygen analogue of 8b has been isolated by Grimaldi in the peracid oxidation of the allyl-substituted allenes via the allene oxide-oxyallyl tautomerization.<sup>2k</sup> Under these Lewis acidic conditions, it is likely that the acid-catalyzed opening of the intermediate 8b affords 3b and 7b as illustrated in Scheme II.

The purple color and characteristic low-field <sup>13</sup>C NMR signals of **3a** [ $\lambda_{max} = 550 \text{ nm}$  ( $\epsilon = 45$ ),  $\delta = 255.7 \text{ ppm}$ ] and **3b** [ $\lambda_{max} = 544 \text{ nm}$  ( $\epsilon = 20$ ),  $\delta = 253.5 \text{ ppm}$ ] are considered to be associated with their conjugated thiocarbonyl unit.<sup>7</sup> The final molecular structure of **3a** was determined by X-ray crystallographical analysis, and an ORTEP view of the

<sup>(7)</sup> Duus, F. In Comprehensive Organic Chemistry; Pergamon Press: Oxford, 1979; Vol. 3, pp 373-377.

structure of 3a with the atom numbering scheme is shown in Figure 1 along with salient intramolecular material parameters (monoclinic,  $P2_1/n$ , R = 0.066, and  $R_w = 0.068$ ). The structure shows the effective steric protection of the reactive thiocarbonyl group afforded by the two neighboring phenyl groups and the bulky trimethylsilyl group. The structure of **3a** is of great interest as a rare example of a crystalline aliphatic conjugated thione. The C=S bond length is 1.632 (4) Å, which is very close to the known value in diphenylcyclopropenethione (1.634 Å)<sup>8</sup> but slightly shorter than that in 4,4'-dihydroxythiobenzophenone (1.647 Å).<sup>9</sup> Effective conjugation of the coplanar thiocarbonyl and the endocyclic double bond, as shown in Figure 1, is consistent with the longer wavelength absorption maxima of 3a as compared with those of common aliphatic thiones ( $\lambda_{max} = 490-500 \text{ nm}$ ).<sup>7</sup>

The acid-promoted cyclization of allyl-substituted allene episulfides thus described is of particular note, not only as the first example of trapping of thioallyl cations at the allylic termini but also for the potential utility of the vinylsilane moiety of **3a** and **3b** for further functionalization.

## **Experimental Section**

**General.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained on Bruker AM500 or JEOL FX-90Q spectrometers. Mass spectra were recorded at 20 eV, while high-resolution mass analysis was performed at 70 eV. The purity of all title compounds was judged to be >95% by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and/or <sup>13</sup>C NMR determinations. All the experiments were carried out in freshly distilled solvents under a nitrogen or argon atmosphere unless otherwise noted, and BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O was purified by distillation over CaH<sub>2</sub> before use. Melting points were uncorrected.

2-[2<sup>7</sup>,2<sup>7</sup>-Dimethyl-1'-(trimethylsilyl)-3'-butenylidene]-3,3diphenylthiirane (1a). To a dichloroethane solution (6 mL) of thioketene 10<sup>6</sup> (500 mg, 2.53 mmol)<sup>10</sup> was added a solution of diphenyldiazomethane (800 mg, 4.12 mmol) in 2 mL of dichloroethane at room temperature. After being heated at 70 °C for 12 h, the reaction mixture was evaporated, and the residual oil was submitted to column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>/hexane) to afford 276 mg (30%) of 1a as a pale yellow oil. 1a: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.35 (s, 9 H), 1.11 (s, 6 H), 4.89 (dd, J = 10, 2 Hz, 1 H), 4.91 (dd, J = 18, 2 Hz, 1 H), 5.85 (dd, J = 18, 10 Hz, 1 H), 7.1-7.5 (m, 10 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.2 (q), 28.8 (q), 45.2 (s), 52.1 (s), 111.7 (t), 127.3 (d), 128.1 (d), 128.5 (s), 129.0 (d), 139.4 (s), 141.4 (s), 148.0 (d); UV (cyclohexane)  $\lambda_{max}$  384 nm ( $\epsilon$  = 1160); MS, m/z 364 (M<sup>+</sup>, 14), 295 (69), 291 (11), 198 (28), 73 (100); exact mass found m/z 364.1686, calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>SiS 364.1681.

Spiro[fluorene-9,3'-[2'-[2",2"-dimethyl-1"-(trimethylsilyl)-3"-butenylidene]thiirane]] (1b). To a chloroform solution (2 mL) of 10 (100 mg, 0.51 mmol) and 9-diazofluorene (110 mg, 0.57 mmol) was added a catalytic amount of copper(I) chloride (ca. 0.5 mg) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 12 h until the evolution of nitrogen gas ceased. After filtration of the catalyst and evaporation of the solvent, the residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography with hexane to give 66 mg (36%) of 1b as a pale yellow oil. In contrast to the case of 1a, no 1b was obtained by the thermal reaction of 10 with 9-diazofluorene. 1b: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) & 0.40 (s, 9 H), 0.81 (s, 6 H), 4.60 (d, J = 10 Hz, 1 H), 4.68 (d, J = 18 Hz, 1 H), 5.63 (dd, J = 10, 18 Hz, 2 H), 7.2–7.7 (m, 8 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.2 (q), 27.7 (q), 44.8 (s), 48.3 (s), 111.2 (t), 120.3 (d), 122.5 (d), 127.7 (d), 128.3 (d), 129.0 (s), 135.1 (s), 140.6 (s), 145.7 (s), 147.5 (d); UV (cyclohexane)  $\lambda_{max}$  340 (sh,  $\epsilon$  = 440) and 288 ( $\epsilon$  = 1280) nm; MS, m/z 362 (M<sup>+</sup>, 11), 330 (11), 293 (14), 73 (100), 69 (37); exact mass found m/z 362.1505, calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>SiS 362.1523.

3-Isopropyl-5,5-diphenyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)-2-cyclopentenethione (3a) and 2-(1',1'-Dimethylallyl)-3-(diphenylmethylene)-2-(trimethylsilyl)thiirane (4a). To a solution of 1a (240 mg, 0.66 mmol) in chloroform (2 mL) was added 40  $\mu$ L (0.32 mmol) of BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O at -5 °C, and the mixture was stirred for 10 h at this temperature. Condensation under reduced pressure produced a dark brown oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane to afford cyclopentenethione **3a** (84 mg, 35%) as a reddish-purple oil and allene episulfide 4a (125 mg, 52%) as a pale yellow oil. **3a** was further purified by slow and careful recrystallization from hexane to give single crystals fit for X-ray structure analysis. 3a: reddish-purple prisms, mp 95-98 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.35 (s, 9 H), 1.25 (d, J = 7 Hz, 6 H), 3.38 (sept, J = 7 Hz, 1 H), 3.53 (s, 2 H), 7.0–7.3 (br s, 10 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.9 (q), 21.5 (q), 30.9 (d), 52.8 (t), 71.4 (s), 126.2 (d), 127.8 (d), 128.5 (d), 146.1 (s), 150.0 (s), 191.3 (s), 255.7 (s); UV (cyclohexane)  $\lambda_{max}$  550 nm ( $\epsilon$  = 45); MS, m/z 364 (M<sup>+</sup>, 79), 349 (28), 321 (65), 291 (24), 259 (21), 73 (100); exact mass found m/z364.1684, calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>SiS 364.1681. 4a: pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.28 (s, 9 H), 0.95 (s, 3 H), 1.00 (s, 3 H), 4.85 (dd, J = 10, 1 Hz, 1 H), 4.87 (dd, J = 18, 1 Hz, 1 H), 5.6 (dd, J = 10, 118 Hz, 1 H), 7.1-7.7 (m, 10 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.2 (q), 24.8 (q), 25.2 (q), 42.9 (s), 51.7 (s), 111.7 (t), 126.9 (d), 127.2 (d), 128.1 (d), 128.2 (d), 129.0 (d), 130.0 (s), 136.4 (s), 140.6 (s), 141.1 (s), 145.6 (d); UV (cyclohexane)  $\lambda_{\rm max}$  290 ( $\epsilon$  14 300) and 380 (70) nm; MS, m/z 364 (M<sup>+</sup>, 26), 295 (67), 291 (11), 73 (100); exact mass found m/z 364.1655, calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>SiS 364.1681.

1-(Trimethylsilyl)-2-(diphenylmethylene)-6,6-dimethyl-3-thiabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane (5a) and 3-(Diphenylmethylene)-4-(trimethylsilyl)-5,5-dimethyl-2-thiabicyclo-[2.1.1]hexane (6a). To a -20 °C chloroform solution (2 mL) of 1a (280 mg, 0.77 mmol) was added 48 μL (0.39 mmol) of BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O, and the mixture was stirred for 12 h at this temperature. After concentration under reduced pressure, the residual oil was subjected to chromatography on silica gel with hexane to give bicyclic sulfides 5a (28 mg, 10%) and 6a (42 mg, 15%) along with 3a (39 mg, 14%) and 4a (102 mg, 36%). 5a: colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.22 (s, 9 H), 1.16 (s, 3 H), 1.16 (s, 3 H), 2.14 (m, 1 H), 2.46 (dd, J = 10, 14 Hz, 1 H), 2.81 (dd, J = 5, 14 Hz, 1 H), 6.9–7.3 (m, 10 H); MS, m/z 364 (M<sup>+</sup>, 6), 349 (4), 184 (100), 73 (49); exact mass found m/z 364.1694, calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>SiS 364.1681. 6a: colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -0.25 (s, 9 H), 1.23 (s, 3 H), 1.43 (s, 3 H), 2.03 (dd, J = 2, 8 Hz, 1 H), 2.86 (dd, J = 2, 11 Hz, 1 H),3.16 (dd, J = 8, 11 Hz, 1 H), 7.1–7.3 (m, 10 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.8 (q), 18.2 (q), 25.0 (q), 31.7 (t), 31.8 (s), 38.6 (s), 45.7 (d), 126.4 (d), 126.8 (d), 128.0 (d), 128.2 (d), 129.3 (d), 130.0 (d), 132.1 (s), 142.8 (s), 146.1 (s), 147.3 (s); MS, m/z 364 (M<sup>+</sup>, 35), 167 (31), 73 (100); exact mass found m/z 364.1644, calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>SiS 364.1681.

Spiro[1-isopropyl-3-thioxo-2-(trimethylsilyl)-1-cyclopentene-4,9'-fluorene] (3b) and Spiro[1-isopropenyl-3mercapto-2-(trimethylsilyl)-2-cyclopentene-4,9'-fluorene] (7b). A typical example of the reaction of 1b with  $BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$  is as follows. To a chloroform solution (2 mL) of 1b (240 mg, 0.66 mol) was added 40 µL (0.32 mmol) of BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O at -5 °C, and the mixture was stirred for 12 h at this temperature. After evaporation of the reaction mixture, the residual oil was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane to give thione 3b (163 mg, 68%) and thiol 7b (44 mg, 18%) as reddish-purple crystals and a pale yellow oil, respectively. 3b: reddish-purple crystals, mp 93-95 °C (from hexane); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.34 (s, 9 H), 1.30 (d, J = 7 Hz, 6 H), 4.00 (sept, J = 7 Hz, 1 H), 7.0–7.8 (m, 8 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.8 (q), 21.5 (q), 31.3 (d), 46.5 (t), 73.7 (s), 120.1 (d), 122.1 (d), 127.7 (d), 127.8 (d), 141.1 (s), 150.4 (s), 151.0 (s), 194.1 (s), 253.5 (s); UV (cyclohexane)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  544 nm ( $\epsilon$  = 20); MS, m/z 362 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 347 (57), 319 (43),  $\overline{73}$  (47); exact mass found m/z 362.1545, calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>SiS 362.1525. 7b: pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $(\text{CDCl}_3) \delta 0.23$  (s, 9 H), 1.80 (s, 3 H), 1.82 (s, 1 H), 2.28 (dd, J = 7, 13 Hz, 1 H), 2.60 (dd, J = 13, 9 Hz, 1 H), 3.85 (dd, J = 7, 9 Hz, 1 H), 4.87 (s, 1 H), 4.92 (s, 1 H), 7.2–7.7 (m, 8 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $(CDCl_3) \delta -0.75 (q), 20.7 (q), 43.7 (t), 57.6 (d), 71.0 (s), 111.6 (t),$ 119.76 (d), 119.80 (d), 123.1 (d), 124.6 (d), 127.75 (d), 127.85 (d), 127.92 (d), 128.0 (d), 140.1 (s), 140.9 (s), 142.3 (s), 146.5 (s), 149.5 (s), 149.7 (s), 150.8 (s); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) 2550 cm<sup>-1</sup> (SH); MS, m/z 362 (M<sup>+</sup>, 91), 347 (15), 289 (16), 256 (31), 178 (19), 73 (100); exact mass found m/z 362.1498, calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>SiS 362.1525.

Molecular Structure Analysis of 3a. The X-ray crystallographical analysis of thione 3a was carried out by using an

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Final residuals of R = 0.066 and Rw = 0.068 were obtained, where  $w = 1/(0.00651|F_0|^2 - 0.333|F_0| + 5.3893).$ 

Supplementary Material Available: Complete tables of bond lengths, angles, and thermal parameters for 3a with a table of its crystallographic parameters, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra for 1a,b, 3a,b, 4a, 6a, and 7b, and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum for 5a (34 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

## Trichothecene Synthesis Using Organoiron Complexes: Diastereoselective Total Syntheses of $(\pm)$ -Trichodiene, $(\pm)$ -12,13-Epoxytrichothec-9-ene, and (±)-Trichodermol

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Reactions of tricarbonyl(4-methoxy-1-methylcyclohexadienylium)iron hexafluorophosphate (8) with a number of tin enolates are reported. The reaction of 8 with 2-methyl-1-[(tributylstannyl)oxy]cyclopentene and with 3-(dimethylphenylsilyl)-2-methyl-1-[(tributylstannyl)oxy]cyclopentene proceeds regiospecifically by addition to C1 of the dienyl ligand and diastereoselectively to give complexes 23A and 28A, respectively, as the major products. Complex 23A was converted in four steps to  $(\pm)$ -trichodiene and in nine steps to  $(\pm)$ -12,13-epoxytrichothec-9-ene. Complex 28A was converted in 12 steps to  $(\pm)$ -trichodermol.

## Introduction

Previous work in our laboratory has been aimed at the synthesis of various structural analogues of trichothecenes.<sup>1</sup> These compounds are naturally occurring sesquiterpenes that show diverse biological activity<sup>2</sup> and that are of sufficient structural complexity to pose an interesting challenge for total synthesis.<sup>3</sup> Examples are trichodermol (1) and its acetate trichodermin (2), verrucarol (3), anguidine (4), and calonectrin (5), as well as the biogenetic precursor trichodiene (7). Total syntheses of these have already been reported by other groups.<sup>3</sup> Our own work in this area has focused on the use of the cyclohexadienyliron complex 8 as an A-ring precursor for these compounds, based on the observation that stabilized enolate nucleophiles add to 8 exclusively at the methyl-substituted dienyl terminus to give diene complexes of general structure 9.

A particular example of this reaction is the conversion of 8 to 10, which is obtained as an equimolar mixture of two diastereomers in greater than 98% yield, one of which has been converted<sup>1</sup> to the trichothecene analogues 11 and 12. The latter compound has similarities to calonectrin, and the presence of the 3-hydroxy group makes it of potential interest from the point of view of biological activity. However, while complex 8 lends itself very well to the synthesis of analogues via this route, we considered it imperative to demonstrate that this novel chemistry can



be used to construct natural products of predefined structure with high efficiency.

Raphael's group<sup>4</sup> reported the first total synthesis of trichodermin, and while the strategy was elegant in its

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