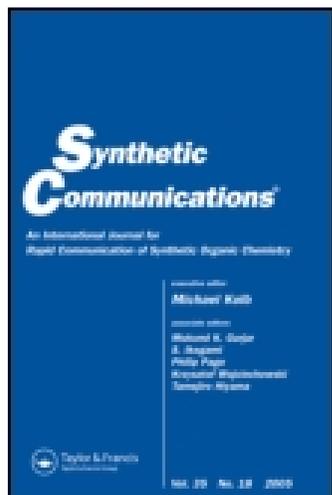


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Epoxidation of Protected (1,4,5)-Cyclohex-2-ene-triols and Their Acid Hydrolysis to Synthesize Quercitols from D-(–)-Quinic Acid

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Abstract: Highly stereoselective epoxidations have been achieved in both cyclohexylidene acetal and butane 2,3-bisacetal (BBA) protection of (1,4,5)-cyclohex-2-ene-triols. These epoxy derivatives are all derived from D-(–)-quinic acid and can be used for the synthesis of *muco*-, (+)-*epi*-, (+)-*vibo*-, (–)-*talo*-, and (–)-*gala*-quercitols.

Keywords: D-(–)-Quinic acid, epoxidation, quercitol

INTRODUCTION

Quercitol has been used as a generic term for deoxyinositol or cyclohexanepentol. The quercitol's family contains 16 stereoisomers^[1] that bear resemblance to the parent carbohydrates. Not only are they considered as potential inhibitors of glycosidases but they also possess other related biological activities.^[2] Therefore, their syntheses have brought a great deal of attention to the synthetic community.^[3] Recently, we have reported the synthesis of five quercitols, included *neo*-, (–)-*epi*-, (–)-*allo*-, (–)-*talo*-, and (+)-*gala*-quercitols, from dihydroxylation of intermediates **2**, **3**, and **5**, which were all derived from D-(–)-quinic acid (Figure 1).^[4] In that

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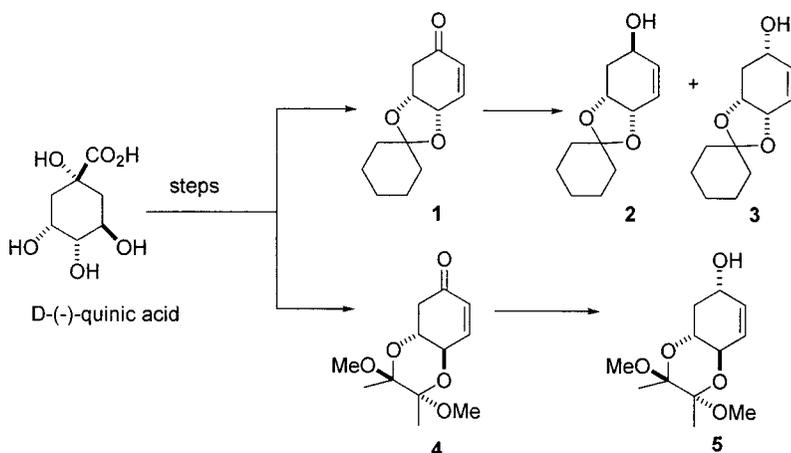
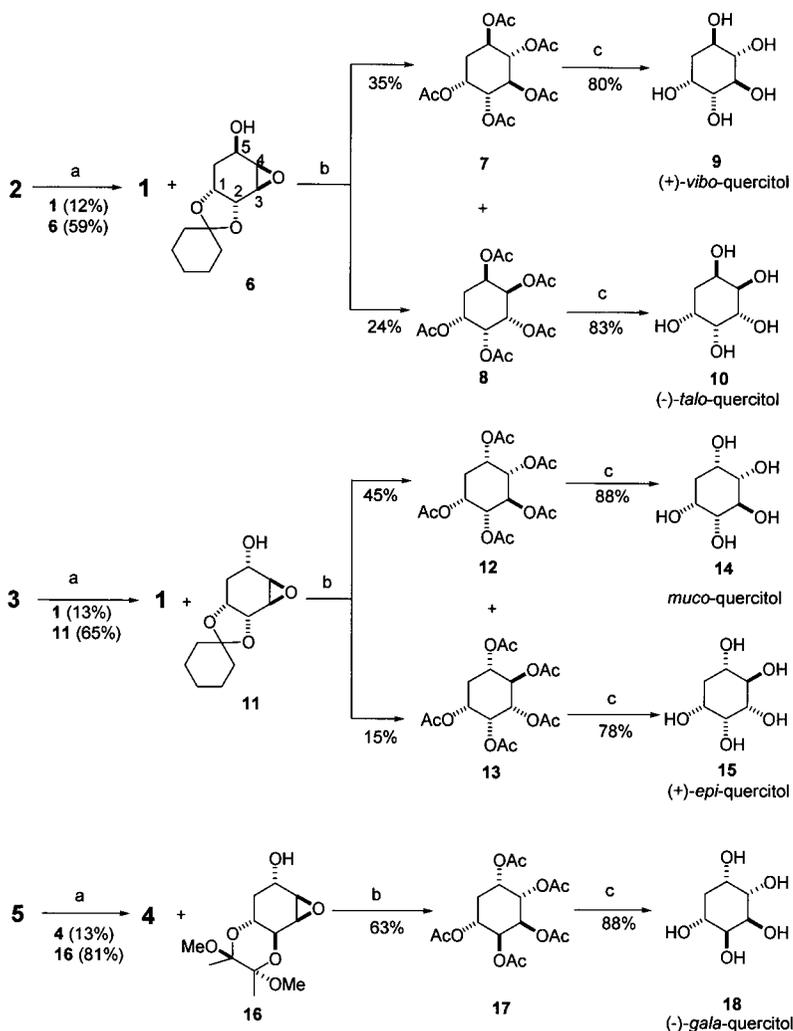


Figure 1. Compounds **2**, **3**, and **5** for epoxidation studies.

article, we had demonstrated that the stereochemistry of dihydroxylation of **2**, **3**, and **5** could be controlled by choosing appropriate protecting groups. When the isopropylidene group was used for protection racemic **2** instead of cyclohexyl acetal moiety, its epoxidation was highly stereoselective. The resulting epoxy derivative was later used for the synthesis of (\pm)-*vibo*- and (\pm)-*talo*-quercitols.^[5] It prompted us that we could further investigate the epoxidation of **3** and **5** to determine how the cyclohexylidene acetal or butane 2,3-bisacetal (BBA) groups were able to control the outcomes of their stereochemistry as in compound **2**. Therefore, compounds, **2**, **3**, and **5** were subjected to oxidation with *m*CPBA (1.2 eq) to provide epoxy compounds **6** (59%), **11** (65%), and **16** (81%), respectively (Scheme 1). During this course, either enone **1** or **4** was always formed in yields of 12–13%. Compounds **6**, **11**, and **16** were hydrolyzed under $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}/\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ (cat) condition, and then deacetylated to afford the *muco*-, (+)-*epi*-, (+)-*vibo*-, (–)-*talo*-, and (–)-*gala*-quercitols (vide infra).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

When **2** was oxidized with *m*CPBA (1.2 eq), the required epoxy **6** along with **1** were received in yields of 59% and 12% respectively. (A higher yield (94%) was obtained in isopropylidene protection of racemic **2** instead of cyclohexyl acetal group with sonication condition. See Ref. 5.) Effort had been made to isolate the other stereoisomer of **6** but failed. We suspected that enone **1** might be derived from this unstable minor stereoisomer or **6** after elimination.^[6] This kind of phenom also occurred for compounds **3** and **5** in their epoxidation (vide infra). Thus, we could not rule out the possibility of



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: (a) *m*CPBA (1.2 eq), NaHPO₄ · 12H₂O, CH₂Cl₂; (b) Ac₂O, H₂SO₄ (cat), reflux; (c) 7N NH₃/MeOH.

the formation of the other diastereoisomers during the epoxidation of compounds 2, 3, and 5, respectively. The stereochemistry of epoxy 6 was determined by no NOE (Nuclear Overhauser Enhancement) between H₂ and H₃. The acid hydrolysis of 6 with a catalytic amount of concentrated sulfuric acid in acetic anhydride under reflux condition^[5] afforded the (+)-vibo-quercitol pentaacetate (7)^[1,7] and (-)-talo-quercitol pentaacetate (8)^[1,8] in a ratio of 1.46:1. It was not surprising that the hydrolysis favored attacking at the less-hindered site at C4 over C3. Deacetylation of 7 and 8

provided the (+)-*vibo*-quercitol (**9**)^[1,5,9] and (-)-*talo*-quercitol (**10**),^[1,5,8,10] respectively. However, at least in our present results, the ratio between **7** and **8** were in contrast to those of Balci's method.^[5] The ratio of (\pm)-*vibo*-quercitol pentaacetate versus (\pm)-*talo*-quercitol pentaacetate from their preparation was 1:4, although *O*-isopropylidene group was employed instead of cyclohexylidene acetal group in **6** before acid hydrolysis.

When compound **3** underwent epoxidation, epoxy **11** along with enone **1** were isolated in yields of 65% and 13%, respectively. The stereochemistry of **11** could be unambiguously determined by its NOESY spectrum because of no observance of NOE between H₂ and H₃. The highly stereoselective epoxidation of **2** was claimed to be hydrogen-bond-directing effect.^[5] However, the epoxidation of **3** occurred at the opposite face to the C5-OH and cyclohexylidene acetal groups. We suggested that the reaction of **5** might not involve a directing effect from the hydrogen bond. Meanwhile, our result strongly supported the theory that the steric effect arising from cyclohexylidene acetal group controlled the outcome of stereochemistry. Whereas epoxy **11** was treated with the same manner as previous,^[5] pentaacetates **12** and **13** were isolated in yields of 45% and 15%, respectively. (For physical data for *muco*-quercitol pentaacetate and (+)-*epi*-quercitol pentaacetate, See Ref. 1.) Subsequently, compounds **12** and **13** were deacetylated by 7N NH₃ in methanol to provide the *muco*-quercitol (**14**)^[11] and (+)-*epi*-quercitol (**15**),^[1,12] respectively. Their spectroscopic data were all in accordance with the reported values.

The oxidation of **5** gave epoxy **16** as well as enone **4** in yields of 81% and 13%, respectively. The indicated stereochemistry of **16** was based on the observance of NOE between H₂ and H₃, and also H₃/H₄ and H_{6a}. The highly regioselective opening of oxirane ring of **16** occurred exclusively at C4, resulting in **17**^[1,13] as the sole product in 63% yield. This result was contrast to the cases in **6** and **11** in which low regioselectivity was obtained. The subsequent deacetylation of **17** gave the (-)-*gala*-quercitol (**18**).^[10b,12b,13,14] The overall results were summarized in Table 1.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we have successfully synthesized five quercitols in eight steps each from acid hydrolysis of epoxy **6**, **11**, and **16**, which were all derived from the highly stereoselective oxidation, of **2**, **3**, and **5**, respectively. It is worth noting that the epoxidation of **2** and **3** was highly stereoselective to the *anti* sense of the cyclohexylidene acetal group but not related to the stereochemistry of C5-OH. Therefore, the steric effect arising from the cyclohexylidene acetal group did play an important role to the results. Despite **5** being dihydroxylated to give moderate stereoselective products,^[4] to our surprise it was oxidized in high stereoselectivity to give **16** in which oxirane was the

Table 1. Physical data for quercitols and their corresponding pentaacetate derivatives

Compound	Pentaacetate	$[\alpha]_D$, Mp ($^{\circ}$ C) (literature)	Quercitol	$[\alpha]_D$, Mp ($^{\circ}$ C) (literature)
6	7	+20 (–22) ^a	9	+47.6, 183–185 (–50, 181) ^c
	8	–25.4, 184–187 (+28, 183) ^b	10	–65, 238–248 (+61, 248) ^d
11	12	172–174 (168) ^e	14	229–232 (230–232) ^g
	13	+16.2 (–14.5) ^f	15	+5, 188–190 (+7, 197–199) ^h
16	17	–22.4 (–24, 117) ^e	18	–53, 249–256 (–48, 258) ^e

^aRef. 1 for (–)-*vibo*-quercitol pentaacetate.

^bRef. 1 for (+)-*talo*-quercitol pentaacetate.

^cRef. 1 for (–)-*vibo*-quercitol.

^dRef. 1 for (+)-*talo*-quercitol.

^eRef. 1.

^fRef. 4 for (–)-*epi*-quercitol pentaacetate.

^gRef. 11a.

^hRef. 15b.

same face with its C2 stereochemistry. The acid-promoted ring opening of oxirane **6** and **11** had low regioselectivity that favored C4 over C3 and resulted in **7** and **12** as the major products, respectively. On the contrary, the ring opening attacked exclusively at C4 over C3 in **16** to give pentaacetate **17** as the only isolated molecule. Among these synthesized quercitols, to the best of our knowledge, the (+)-*vibo*- and (–)-*talo*-quercitols have never been prepared until now.

EXPERIMENTAL

General Procedure for Epoxidation

The reaction was conducted in 0.2 M of solution. To a stirred solution of **2**, for example, in CH₂Cl₂ was added 55% *m*CPBA (1.2 eq) and Na₂HPO₄ · 12H₂O (1.2 eq) at ambient temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC until completion. The resulting mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with NaHCO₃ (sat.). The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), concentrated, and purified by flash column chromatography.

(1R,2R,3R,4S,5R)-3,4-Epoxy-5-hydroxy-1,2-O-cyclohexylidene-1,2-dihydroxycyclohexane (6): ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.20–4.40 (m, 3H), 3.37 (d, $J = 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.20 (dd, $J = 4.5, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.17 (ddd, $J = 14.5, 6.3, 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.41–1.72 (m, 9H), 1.39 (br, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 109.8, 73.1, 69.6, 64.1, 55.9, 55.4, 37.4, 34.8, 27.2, 25.0, 24.0, 23.7. Mp 78–79°C.

(+)-Vibo-quercitol pentaacetate [(+)-penta-O-acetyl-1-deoxy-myoinositol] (7): $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{27} + 20$ (c 0.2, CHCl_3) [lit.^[11] –22 for (–)-vibo-quercitol pentaacetate]. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 5.39–5.49 (m, 2H), 5.20–5.31 (m, 1H) 5.16 (t, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.95 (dd, $J = 10.4, 3.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.29 (dt, $J = 14.3, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 6H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H), 1.74 (ddd, $J = 14.3, 11.6, 2.5$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 169.9 ($\times 2$), 169.8, 169.7, 73.2, 71.4, 69.6, 68.4, 66.8, 30.7, 20.9, 20.8, 20.6.

(–)-Talo-quercitol pentaacetate [(–)-penta-O-acetyl-1-deoxy-1-neo-inositol] (8): $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{24} - 25.4$ (c 0.3, CHCl_3) (lit.^[11] +28, lit.^[8] +24 for (+)-talo-quercitol pentaacetate). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 5.62 (br s, 1H), 5.52 (dd, $J = 6.3, 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 5.31 (dd, $J = 10.6, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.23 (ddd, $J = 11.3, 5.1, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.20 (dd, $J = 10.6, 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 1.90–2.20 (m + 5 $\times \text{CH}_3\text{CO}$, 17H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.1, 170.0, 169.9, 169.6, 69.6, 69.0, 67.7, 66.8, 66.1, 28.9, 20.9, 20.7, 20.6, 20.5. Mp 184–187°C. (lit.^[11] 183°C, lit.^[8] 172–178°C, lit.^[10c] 182–183°C). HRMS (FAB) calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_{10}$ ($\text{M}^+ + \text{H}$) 375.1291. Found 375.1281.

(+)-Vibo-quercitol [(+)-1-deoxy-myoinositol] (9): $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{26} + 47.6$ (c 0.2, H_2O) (lit.^[11] –50 for (–)-vibo-quercitol). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, D_2O): δ 3.96 (m, 1H), 3.67 (ddd, $J = 14.0, 9.3, 4.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.48 (dd, $J = 18.6, 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, $J = 9.8, 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.15 (t, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.00 (dt, $J = 14.0, 3.9$ Hz, 1H), 1.45 (ddd, $J = 14.4, 12.3, 2.5$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $\text{D}_2\text{O} + \text{CD}_3\text{OD}$): δ 78.3, 74.6, 73.6, 69.2, 36.0. Mp 183–185°C. (lit.^[11] 181°C). HRMS (FAB) calcd. for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_5$ ($\text{M}^+ + \text{H}$) 165.0763. Found 165.0754.

(–)-Talo-quercitol [(–)-1-deoxy-allo-inositol] (10): $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{24} - 65$ (c 0.5, H_2O) (lit.^[11] +61, lit.^[10a] +56.4, lit.^[8] +34 for (+)-talo-quercitol). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, D_2O): δ 3.82–4.05 (m, 3H), 3.52–3.57 (br. s, 2H), 1.78 (dd, $J = 10.0, 3.2$ Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $\text{D}_2\text{O} + \text{CD}_3\text{OD}$): δ 73.7, 71.4, 70.8, 68.8, 66.8, 33.2. Mp 238–248°C (lit.^[11] 248°C, lit.^[10c] 245–248°C). HRMS (FAB) calcd. for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_5$ ($\text{M}^+ + \text{H}$) 165.0763. Found 165.0764.

(1R,2R,3R,4R,5S)-3,4-Epoxy-5-hydroxy-1,2-O-cyclohexylidene-1,2-dihydroxycyclohexane (11): ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.36 (d, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.27–4.33 (m, 1H), 4.12–4.22 (m, 1H), 3.50 (d, $J = 10.9$ Hz, OH), 3.34

(d, $J = 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.09 (d, $J = 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 2.7 (dt, $J = 15.7, 2.6$ Hz, 1H), 1.84 (ddd, $J = 15.7, 4.1, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 1.52–1.72 (m, 8H), 1.31–1.46 (br, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 109.7, 71.5, 70.2, 64.2, 54.0, 52.2, 37.9, 34.7, 24.9, 24.8, 24.0, 23.6.

Muco-quercitol pentaacetate [*penta-O*-acetyl-3-deoxy-*epi*-inositol] (12): ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 5.65 (t, $J = 9.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.35 (dd, $J = 7.2, 3.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.99 (dd, $J = 9.4, 3.5$ Hz, 2H), 2.33 (dt, $J = 15.7, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.10 (s, 6H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 6H), 1.89 (dt, $J = 15.7, 3.6$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.0, 169.8, 169.6, 70.9, 67.6, 67.5, 28.7, 20.9, 20.7, 20.6. Mp 172–174°C. (lit.^[11] 168°C).

(+)-*Epi*-quercitol pentaacetate [(-)-*penta-O*-acetyl-2-deoxy-*epi*-inositol] (13): $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{26} + 16.2$ (c 1.1, CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 5.50–5.60 (m, 1H), 5.40 (t, $J = 10.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.85–5.10 (m, 3H), 2.20–2.30 (m, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.14 (dd, $J = 7.7, 6.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.1, 169.9, 169.8, 169.6, 169.5, 70.7, 69.3, 69.2, 68.7, 66.0, 29.4, 20.8, 20.7, 20.6, 20.5. HRMS (FAB) calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_{10}$ ($\text{M}^+ + \text{H}$) 375.1291. Found 375.1295.

Muco-quercitol [3-deoxy-*epi*-inositol] (14): ^1H NMR (300 MHz, D_2O): δ 3.96 (dd, $J = 6.6, 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.79 (t, $J = 9.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.41 (dd, $J = 9.3, 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.03 (dt, $J = 15.4, 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.64 (dt, $J = 15.4, 3.0$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $\text{D}_2\text{O} + \text{CD}_3\text{OD}$): δ 74.9 ($\times 2$), 71.5 ($\times 2$), 71.2, 32.6. Mp 229–232°C. (lit.^[10a] 230–232°C). HRMS (FAB) calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_{10}$ ($\text{M}^+ + \text{H}$) 375.1291. Found 375.1295.

(+)-*Epi*-quercitol [(+)-2-deoxy-*epi*-inositol] (15): $[\delta]_{\text{D}}^{25} + 5.2$ (c 0.3, H_2O) (lit.^[12] +7). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, D_2O): δ 3.88 (dd, $J = 2.9, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.60–3.75 (m, 1H), 3.35–3.40 (m, 2H), 3.31 (dd, $J = 10.2, 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 1.82–1.92 (m, 1H), 1.64 (dt, $J = 11.8, 5.9$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $\text{D}_2\text{O} + \text{CD}_3\text{OD}$): δ 75.2, 73.8, 72.7, 70.2, 67.4, 34.8. Mp 188–190°C. (lit.^[12] 197–199°C).

(1R,2R,3S,4R,5S)-3,4-Epoxy-5-hydroxy-1,2-[(2S,3S)-2,3-dimethoxybutane-2,3-diylidioxycyclohexane (16): ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 4.18 (ddd, $J = 10.2, 6.5, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.74 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.41 (ddd, $J = 12.5, 9.7, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.30–3.47 (m, 1H), 3.32 (s, 3H), 3.26 (d, $J = 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 1.95 (ddd, $J = 12.5, 6.5, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.70 (br, OH), 1.36 (dd, $J = 12.5, 10.2$ Hz, 1H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 100.3, 99.8, 68.7, 67.9, 66.3, 56.1 ($\times 2$), 48.0, 47.9, 30.7, 17.6. Mp 134–135°C. LRMS (FAB) m/z 259 ($\text{M}^+ - \text{H}$, 9%)

(-)-*Gala*-quercitol pentaacetate [(-)-*penta-O*-acetyl-2-deoxy-*allo*-inositol] (17): $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{24} - 22.4$ (c 0.6, CHCl_3) (lit.^[11] -24). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ

5.38 (dd, $J = 5.3, 3.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.20–5.30 (m, 3H), 5.11 (ddd, $J = 13.4, 8.8, 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.15–2.25 (m, 1H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 1.97–2.06 (m + 3 \times CH_3CO , 10H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 169.8, 169.4 ($\times 2$), 69.8, 68.2, 67.7, 66.7, 29.1, 20.9, 20.8, 20.7.

(–)-*Gala-quercitol* [(–)-2-deoxy-*allo*-inositol] (**18**): $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} - 53$ (c 0.3, H_2O) (lit.^[11] –48, lit.^[10b,14] –50). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, D_2O): δ 3.87–3.97 (m, 2H), 3.82 (t, $J = 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.70 (ddd, $J = 11.2, 9.0, 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.58 (dd, $J = 9.0, 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 1.90 (dt, $J = 11.6, 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.62 (dt, $J = 11.6, 11.2$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $\text{D}_2\text{O} + \text{CD}_3\text{OD}$): δ 73.1, 72.9, 72.6, 68.8, 67.3, 34.4. Mp 249–256°C, (lit.^[11] 258°C, lit.^[10b,14] 256–257°C). HRMS (FAB) calcd. for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_5$ ($\text{M}^+ + \text{H}$) 165.0763. Found 165.0771.

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