

# NORPINGUISONE METHYL ESTER AND NORPINGUISANOLIDE, PINGUISANE-TYPE NORIESQUITERPENOIDS FROM *PORELLA* *ELEGANTULA*

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**Key Word Index**—*Porella elegantula*, Jungermanniales, Hepaticae; norpinguisone methyl ester, norpinguisanolide; methyl 4-oxonorpinguisan-12-oate; pinguisane-type norsesquiterpene, superoxide release inhibitor

**Abstract**—Two new pinguisane-type norsesquiterpenoids were isolated from the liverwort *Porella elegantula*. Norpinguisone methyl ester, which showed 50% inhibition at 35  $\mu$ g/ml of the release of superoxide from guinea pig peritoneal macrophage, and norpinguisanolide were identified together with the previously known  $\alpha$ -pinguisene, norpinguisone and perrottetianal. The structures were established by 2D NMR spectroscopy and chemical evidence. The previously reported pinguisone methyl ester was shown to be methyl 4-oxonorpinguisan-12-oate.

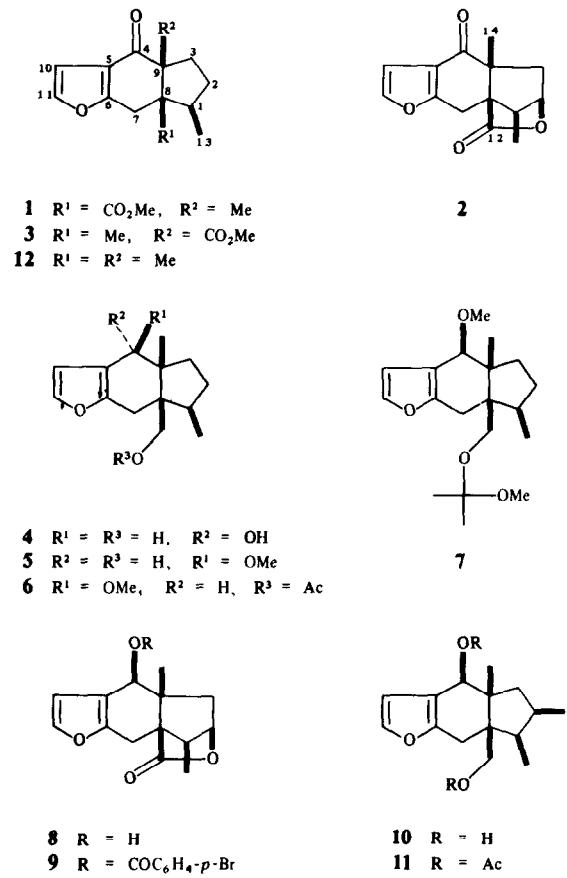
## INTRODUCTION

The *Porella* species (Jungermanniales) of liverworts produce various terpenoids [1] and in particular, elaborate a number of pinguisane-type sesquiterpenes [2-5]. Although the pinguisane-type sesquiterpenes consist of a unique structure fused with a furan ring, their physiological properties have not been studied [6, 7]. In pursuit of biologically interesting substances in the liverworts [8-11], we have re-investigated *Porella elegantula* [12] which is indigenous to New Zealand and have isolated two new pinguisane-type norsesquiterpenes, norpinguisone methyl ester (**1**), as superoxide release inhibitor, and norpinguisanolide (**2**). In this paper, we report the structures of the two new sesquiterpenes, and propose a revised structure for norpinguisone methyl ester (**3**) previously isolated from *Porella vernicosa* [2].

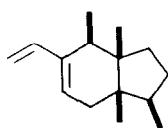
## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A combination of column chromatography on silica gel and Sephadex LH-20 of an ether extract of *P. elegantula* has resulted in the isolation of the two new norsesquiterpenoids, norpinguisone methyl ester (**1**) and norpinguisanolide (**2**), along with the previously known  $\alpha$ -pinguisene (**13**) [4], norpinguisone (**12**) [2] and perrottetianal (**14**) [13].

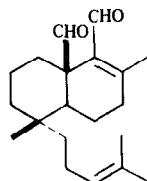
The IR,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and mass spectra of compound **1** were completely identical with those of the known norpinguisone methyl ester (**3**). However, analysis of the 2D long-range  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY of **1** for full assignment of its  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data (Table 1) did not support the conclusion that compound **1** had the same structure as **3**. Namely, the carbon signal for the ketone at  $\delta$  197.32 showed a distinct correlation with the proton signal due to a tertiary methyl group at  $\delta$  1.12, which was further correlated with the C-3 ( $\delta$  33.27), C-8 ( $\delta$  61.83) and C-9 ( $\delta$  58.46) signals through two or three bonds. These results implied that the assignments of the methoxycarbonyl group at C-14 and the tertiary methyl group at C-12 in **3** must be



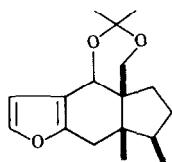
reversed for compound **1**. Moreover, additional evidence was obtained from the following chemical reactions. Reduction of **1** with lithium aluminum hydride (LAH) furnished a sole diol (**4**), the mass spectrum of which revealed intensive retro-Diels-Alder fragment ions at  $m/z$



13



14



15

110 and 109 typical to the pinguisanes [2]. The NOE was observed between the signal due to a proton ( $\delta$  4.34) geminal to the hydroxy group and the tertiary methyl signal, indicating that the LAH reduction occurred from a less hinder convex  $\beta$ -side and thus yielded an  $\alpha$ -oriented hydroxy group. Treatment of the diol (4) with 2,2-dimethoxypropane in the presence of *p*-toluenesulphonic acid afforded two products 5 and 7, neither of which corresponded to the acetonide (15). Compound 7 contained a dimethyl ketal group, which was presumably formed between the stereochemically hindered primary alcohol at C-12 and 2,2-dimethoxypropane [14], and was instantly converted to compound 5 on exposure to 1 N HCl. The acetate (6) available from 5 upon acetylation was subjected to difference NOE experiments and thereby the NOEs were observed as shown in Fig. 1. The NOEs for the signals due to the acetoxyethylene at C-12 were observed upon irradiation of the C-13 and C-14 methyl signals, and the doublet methylene signals of H-7, respectively. This suggested that the  $\text{CO}_2\text{Me}$  and Me groups in 1 must be located at C-8 and C-9, respectively, and that these groups took the same spatial arrangement as that of the Me-13 group. In addition, detection of the NOE between the signal ( $\delta$  3.95) due to a proton adjacent to the methoxyl group and the  $\beta$ -proton signal on the furan ring substantiated the C-4 position of the ketone function in 1. It should be emphasized that the configuration for the OMe group at C-4 in 6 was inverted to be  $\beta$  in the course of the methylation since there was no NOE between the proton signals at C-4 and the Me signal at C-14. An inversion of the configuration on C-4 was reasonably rationalized as being due to a  $\text{SN}_2$  type displacement of the oxonium ion formed between a secondary hydroxyl

group and 2,2-dimethoxypropane in the presence of an acid catalyst by methanol generated *in situ* from the reagent [15]. This unusual reaction was presumably attributable to the fact that both hydroxyl groups of the diol (5) were not in a position to form an acetonide. Consequently, the structure of norpinguisone methyl ester was represented as 1, and hence the structure of the previously reported [2] norpinguisone methyl ester (3) was revised to be methyl 4-oxonorpinguisan-12-oate.

Compound 2 had the molecular formula  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_4$  ( $\text{M}^+$  at  $m/z$  246 0890), and its IR and UV spectra displayed the presence of a conjugated carbonyl group (1680 and  $1605\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , 212 nm) and a  $\gamma$ -lactone moiety ( $1780\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra (Tables 1 and 2) indicated the presence of a fused furan ring [ $\delta$  6.69 ( $d$ ,  $J = 1.7\text{ Hz}$ ) and 7.42 ( $dd$ ,  $J = 1.7, 0.1\text{ Hz}$ )], one tertiary methyl ( $\delta$  1.24) and one secondary methyl [ $\delta$  1.03 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.4\text{ Hz}$ ) group as well as of two  $\text{CH}_2$ , one  $\text{CH}$ , two quarternary carbons, and one  $\text{CH}$  bearing an oxygen-function. These spectral features revealed that 2 belonged to a pinguisane-type norsesquiterpene with a  $\gamma$ -lactone unit. This was additionally supported by the observation of an intensive retro-Diels-Alder fragment ion at  $m/z$  108 typical to the norpinguisones 1 and 12, and a base peak at  $m/z$  192 derived from putative successive  $\beta$ -cleavages followed by aromatization (Fig. 2). Thus, compound 2 had a furano-cyclohexanone ring characteristic of 1. The 2D long-range  $^{13}\text{C}-^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of 2 was measured to clarify the location of the  $\gamma$ -lactone moiety. As shown in Table 3, the carbonyl signal at C-4 showed only correlation with the proton signal due to Me-14 which had further cross peaks with the C-3, C-8 and C-9 carbon signals. In addition, the signal due to a lactone carbonyl group showed a correlation with the H-2 and H-7 $\beta$  proton signals. These results suggested the presence of a 5-membered 12,2-olide and the tertiary methyl group at C-9. Reduction of 2 with LAH followed by acetylation yielded a triacetate (11) ( $1730$  and  $1740\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\delta$  2.06, 2.09 and 2.14). The results of difference NOE experiments are shown in Fig. 3. The NOEs for the AB type signals

Table 1  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data for compounds 1 and 2\*

C	1	2
1	39.87	47.23
2	29.53	82.61
3	33.27	39.38
4	197.32	195.34
5	116.75	118.15
6	163.21	161.43
7	25.14	19.66
8	61.83	59.96
9	58.46	50.36
10	107.09	107.36
11	144.44	144.09
12	173.16	175.35
13	15.58	10.07
14	20.64	21.93
$\text{CO}_2\text{Me}$	51.63	

\* All assignments were confirmed by the C-H and long-range C-H COSYs.

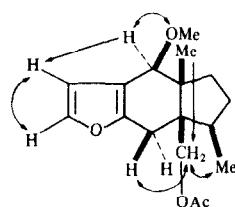
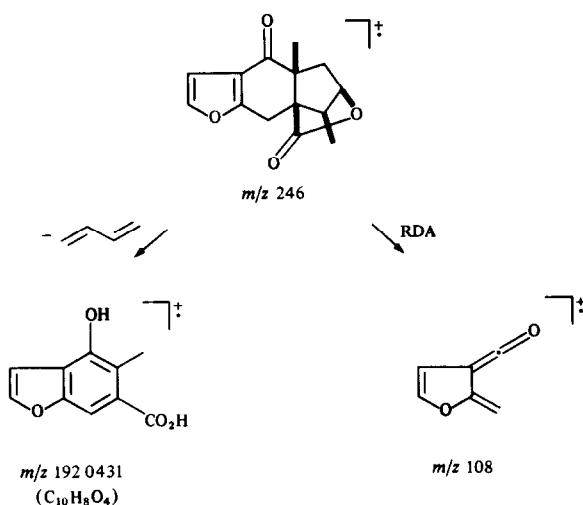
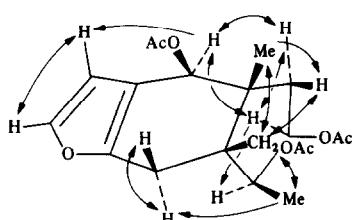


Fig. 1 The observed NOEs for compound 6 (indicated by arrows)

Table 2  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectral data for compounds **1**, **2**, **8**, and **11**

H	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>
1	2.10 ( <i>m</i> )	2.11 ( <i>q</i> , 6.4)	2.41 ( <i>q</i> , 6.6)	2.32 ( <i>dq</i> , 7.7, 7.3)
2 $\alpha$	1.81 ( <i>dddd</i> , 12.7, 9.8, 6.6, 3.0)*	4.61 ( <i>dd</i> , 1.9, 0.1)	4.64 ( <i>d</i> , 2.4)	5.38 ( <i>ddd</i> , 7.7, 7.7, 4.2)
2 $\beta$	1.55 ( <i>dddd</i> , 12.7, 9.5, 9.5, 3.4)			
3 $\alpha$	2.72 ( <i>ddd</i> , 13.2, 9.8, 3.4)	2.79 ( <i>dd</i> , 14.0, 1.9)	2.21 ( <i>dd</i> , 13.6, 2.4)	2.30 ( <i>dd</i> , 14.4, 7.7)
3 $\beta$	2.10 ( <i>m</i> )	1.83 ( <i>dd</i> , 14.0, 0.1)	1.81 ( <i>d</i> , 13.6)	1.58 ( <i>dd</i> , 14.4, 4.2)
4			4.71 ( <i>t</i> , 1.9)	5.56 ( <i>t</i> , 1.5)
7 $\alpha$	3.28 ( <i>d</i> , 18.8)	2.92 ( <i>d</i> , 18.5)	2.61 ( <i>ddd</i> , 18.2, 1.9, 1.0)	2.61 ( <i>dd</i> , 17.5, 1.5)
7 $\beta$	3.53 ( <i>d</i> , 18.8)	3.48 ( <i>dd</i> , 18.5, 0.1)	3.18 ( <i>ddd</i> , 18.2, 1.9, 1.0)	2.74 ( <i>dd</i> , 17.5, 1.5)
10	6.64 ( <i>d</i> , 2.0)	6.69 ( <i>d</i> , 1.7)	6.41 ( <i>d</i> , 1.9)	6.18 ( <i>d</i> , 1.8)
11	7.35 ( <i>d</i> , 2.0)	7.42 ( <i>dd</i> , 1.7, 0.1)	7.35 ( <i>dt</i> , 1.9, 1.0)	7.26 ( <i>d</i> , 1.8)
12				4.16 ( <i>d</i> , 14.4)
13	0.91 ( <i>d</i> , 6.8)	1.03 ( <i>d</i> , 6.4)	1.03 ( <i>d</i> , 6.6)	0.96 ( <i>d</i> , 7.3)
14	1.12 ( <i>s</i> )	1.24 ( <i>s</i> )	0.97 ( <i>s</i> )	1.10 ( <i>s</i> )
CO <sub>2</sub> Me	3.77 ( <i>s</i> )			
Ac				2.06, 2.09 and 2.14 (each <i>s</i> )

\*Coupling constants (*J* in Hz) are given in parentheses.

Fig. 2 Mass spectral fragmentation of compound **2**.Fig. 3 The observed NOEs for compound **11** (indicated by arrows)Table 3. C-H correlation in the long-range C-H COSY of compound **2**

C	Correlated H
1	Me-13, H-3 $\beta$ , H-7 $\beta$
2	Me-13, H-3 $\beta$
3	Me-14
4	Me-14
5	H-10, H-11, H-7 $\alpha$ , H-7 $\beta$
6	H-10, H-11, H-7 $\alpha$ , H-7 $\beta$
7	
8	Me-13, Me-14, H-2, H-7 $\alpha$ , H-7 $\beta$
9	Me-14, H-3 $\alpha$ , H-2, H-7 $\alpha$
10	H-11
11	H-10
12	H-2, H-7 $\beta$
13	
14	H-3 $\alpha$ , H-3 $\beta$

due to the acetoxyethylene appeared at  $\delta$ 4.16 and 4.25 and were observed upon irradiation of the signals due to the Me-13, Me-14, H-3 $\beta$  and H-7 $\beta$ , respectively, indicating that the CH<sub>2</sub>OAc was located at C-8 and took the same spatial arrangement as those of the Me-13 and Me-14. Furthermore, this was supported from the observation of the NOEs between the triplet signals due to a proton attached to the carbon bearing an acetoxy group at C-4 and the signals due to H-2, H-3 $\alpha$  and H-10 that the OAc group at C-4 in **11** took a  $\beta$ -orientation and thus the ketone function in **2** was placed at C-4. The evidence revealed that the structure of norpinguisanolide was shown as **2** including its relative stereochemistry. The absolute configuration of **2** was examined by the CD

spectrum of the *p*-bromobenzoate derivative (**9**) of **2**, which was obtained from sodium borohydride reduction followed by *p*-bromobenzoylation. The  $\beta$ -configuration of the hydroxy group at C-4 in **8** was confirmed by a NOESY experiment. The CD spectrum of **9** had a first negative Cotton effect ( $\Delta\epsilon = -2.5$ ) at 250 nm arising from the interaction between the bromobenzoyl group at C-4 and the furan chromophore [16] indicating the C-14 was represented as *S*. Thus, the absolute stereochemistry of norpinguisanolide was depicted as **2**. The five-membered-ring lactone moiety existing in **2** is surrounded by the two methyl groups and placed under a stereo-chemically hindered environment. In fact, we failed in ring opening of the  $\gamma$ -lactone by the usual basic conditions, since **2** was resistant to alkaline hydrolysis.

Norpunguisone methyl ester (**1**) exhibited 50% inhibition at 35  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  of the release of superoxide from the guinea pig peritoneal macrophage induced by formyl methionyl leucyl phenylalanine (FMLP) [17], whereas norpinguisanolide (**2**) had no activity even at a high concentration as 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ . Recently, it has been made clear [18, 19] that superoxide plays an important role in various diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and myocardial ischemia, and superoxide release inhibitors could be effective for preventing or curing such a disease. The relationship between the structure of the pinguisane-type sesquiterpene and its activity is now under investigation.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Mps uncorr  $^1\text{H}$  (400 and 90 MHz) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz)  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS as int standard. CC silica gel (Merck, 70–230 mesh and Wakogel C-300) TLC precoated silica gel plates  $\text{F}_{254}$  (Merck, 0.25 mm). Spots were visualized by UV (254 nm) and  $\text{CeSO}_4$ –30%  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .

**Plant material** The liverwort, *Porella elegantula* were collected in New Zealand in November, 1986 and identified by Dr E. O. Campbell. A voucher specimen has been deposited at the Herbarium of Institute of Pharmacognosy, Tokushima Bunri University.

**Extraction and isolation** Air-dried and powdered plants (37 g) were extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (310 ml) at room temp for 12 days. The resultant  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  extract was evapd *in vacuo* to give a crude extract (1.32 g), which was divided by CC on silica gel using a *n*-hexane–EtOAc gradient into 8 fractions (frs 1, 2 (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 9:1), frs 3, 4 (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 4:1), frs 5, 6 (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 3:2), fr 7 (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 2:3), fr 8 (EtOAc, 100%). Fr 1 afforded  $\alpha$ -pinguisene (**13**) (107 mg). Fr 2 (186 mg) was chromatographed by CC on silica gel (*n*-hexane–EtOAc, 1:1) to afford norpinguisone (**12**) (53 mg). Frs 3, 4 (321 mg) was chromatographed on Sephadex LH-20 (40 ml) eluting with *n*-hexane– $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (4:1), followed by CC on silica gel (C-300) ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ –EtOAc, 100% → 1:1) to give norpinguisone methyl ester (**1**) (145 mg) and perrottetianol A (**14**) (67 mg). Fr 6 (116 mg) was purified by Sephadex LH-20 (MeOH– $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 7:3) to give norpinguisanolide (**2**) (87 mg).

**Norpunguisone methyl ester (**1**)** Colourless oil,  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -60.2$  ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ , *c* 0.91), MS *m/z* (rel int) 262 (1206) [ $\text{M}^+$ ] (calc 262 (1205 for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_4$ ) (27), 203 (39), 108 (100), 80 (37), UV  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{EtOH}}$  nm (*ε*) 208 (9500), 268 (4700), IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  1724 (ester), 1640 (conj C=O), 1620 (C=C),  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR see Tables 2 and 1.

**Reduction of **1** with  $\text{LiAlH}_4$**  To a suspension of powdered  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  (53 mg, 1.39 mmol) in dry  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (2 ml) was added dropwise a soln of **1** (18 mg, 0.07 mmol) in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (0.5 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temp for 1 hr and then under reflux for 30 min. After cooling to 0° excess EtOAc, 5

drops of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and 1 drop of 1 N HCl were added successively and then the ppt was filtered *in vacuo* and washed well with EtOAc. The filtrate was washed successively with 1 N HCl, 5%  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  soln and brine, and dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . The evapn of solvent afforded an oil, which was purified by CC on silica gel ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ –EtOAc, 3:1) to yield the diol (**4**) (10.9 mg) as a colourless oil, IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  3340 (OH), 1502 (furan), MS *m/z* (rel int) 218 [ $\text{M} - 18$ ] (46), 110 (100), 109 (95),  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (90 MHz)  $\delta$  1.04 (3H, *d*, *J* = 6.8 Hz, Me-13), 1.18 (3H, *s*, Me-14), 2.45 (1H, *d*, *J* = 17.6 Hz, H-7), 2.78 (1H, *d*, *J* = 17.6 Hz, H-7), 3.57 (1H, *d*, *J* = 11.0 Hz, H-12), 3.86 (1H, *d*, *J* = 11.0 Hz, H-12), 4.34 (1H, *br s*, H-4), 6.36 (1H, *d*, *J* = 20 Hz, H-10), 7.24 (1H, *d*, *J* = 20 Hz, H-11).

**Treatment of **4** with 2,2-dimethoxypropane** A mixture of **4** (10.9 mg) and 2,2-dimethoxypropane (2 ml) was stirred in the presence of *p*-toluenesulphonic acid (5 pieces) at room temp overnight.  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  was added and stirring was continued for 30 min. After filtering and washing with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , the evapn of the filtrate gave an oil (9.6 mg), which was purified by CC on silica gel ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ –EtOAc, 4:1) to furnish compounds **5** (2.7 mg) and **7** (3.5 mg). **5** MS *m/z* (rel int) 218 [ $\text{M} - 32$ ] (32), 124 (100),  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (90 MHz)  $\delta$  1.10 (3H, *d*, *J* = 6.3 Hz, Me-13), 1.23 (3H, *s*, Me-14), 2.36 (1H, *d*, *J* = 19.5 Hz, H-7), 2.84 (1H, *d*, *J* = 19.5 Hz, H-7), 3.43 (1H, *d*, *J* = 12.0 Hz, H-12), 3.47 (3H, *s*, OMe), 3.67 (1H, *d*, *J* = 12.0 Hz, H-12), 3.88 (1H, *s*, H-4), 6.35 (1H, *d*, *J* = 2.3 Hz, H-10), 7.26 (1H, *d*, *J* = 2.3 Hz, H-11), **7**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (90 MHz)  $\delta$  1.01 (3H, *d*, *J* = 6.8 Hz, Me-13), 1.07 (3H, *s*, Me-14), 1.30 (6H, *s*), 2.54 (2H, *br s*, H-7), 3.13 (3H, *s*, OMe), 3.26 (1H, *d*, *J* = 7.0 Hz, H-12), 3.38 (1H, *d*, *J* = 7.0 Hz, H-12), 3.50 (3H, *s*, OMe), 3.82 (1H, *br s*, H-4), 6.34 (1H, *d*, *J* = 1.8 Hz, H-10), 7.26 (1H, *d*, *J* = 1.8 Hz, H-11).

**Acetylation of **5**** A mixture of **5** (2.7 mg),  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$  and pyridine (0.3 ml) was allowed to stand overnight at room temp. The usual work-up afforded the acetate (**6**) (2.8 mg) as colourless oil,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz)  $\delta$  0.95 (3H, *s*, Me-14), 0.99 (3H, *d*, *J* = 6.4 Hz, Me-13), 2.06 (3H, *s*, OAc), 2.54 (2H, *d*, *J* = 2.8 Hz, H-7), 3.60 (3H, *s*, OMe), 3.95 (1H, *t*, *J* = 2.8 Hz, H-4), 6.39 (1H, *d*, *J* = 2.2 Hz, H-10), 7.25 (1H, *d*, *J* = 2.2 Hz, H-11).

**Acid treatment of **7**** To a soln of **7** (2.0 mg) in MeOH (1 ml) was added 3 drops of 1 N HCl and the mixture was allowed to stand at room temp for 10 min. The usual work-up afforded an oil (1 mg), the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum and TLC behaviour of which were identical with those of compound **5**.

**Norpunguisanolide (**2**)** Colourless plates (from *n*-hexane), mp 132–134.0°,  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -125.0$  ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ , *c* 0.47). MS *m/z* (rel int) 246 (890) [ $\text{M}^+$ ] (calc 246 (892 for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_4$ ) (98), 192 (0431 (calc 192 (04323 for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_8\text{O}_4$ ) (100), 108 (70), UV  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{EtOH}}$  nm (*ε*) 212 (13 100), 263 (8700), IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  3410 (furan), 1780 ( $\gamma$ -lactone), 1680 (conj C=O), 1605 (C=C), 1515 and 904 (furan),  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR see Tables 2 and 1.

**Reduction of **2** with  $\text{NaBH}_4$**  To a soln of **2** (12.9 mg) in MeOH (3 ml) was added  $\text{NaBH}_4$  (30 mg) and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temp for 2 hr. EtOAc (25 ml) and 1 N HCl (10 ml) were added successively and stirring was continued for 5 min. The upper layer was washed with brine, and dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . The evapn of solvent *in vacuo* yielded compound **8** (10.8 mg) as an oil,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR see Table 2.

**Reduction of **2** with  $\text{LiAlH}_4$**  To a suspension of  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  (25 mg) in dry  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (2 ml) was added a soln of **2** (4.8 mg) in dry  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (0.5 ml) at room temp and then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 1 hr. The work-up similar to that for **1** afforded the diol (**10**) (2.0 mg) as an oil, IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  3600 (OH), 3350 (OH),  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (90 MHz)  $\delta$  0.94 (3H, *d*, *J* = 7.0 Hz, Me-13), 0.95 (3H, *s*, Me-14), 1.67 (1H, *dd*, *J* = 13.6, 4.3 Hz, H-3 $\beta$ ), 2.54 (1H, *dd*, *J* = 13.6, 6.6 Hz, H-3 $\alpha$ ), 3.44 (1H, *d*, *J* = 11.4, H-12), 3.67 (1H, *d*, *J* = 11.4 Hz, H-12), 4.25 (2H, *m*, H-2 and 4), 6.31 (1H, *d*, *J* = 1.8 Hz, H-10), 7.26 (1H, *d*, *J* = 1.8 Hz, H-11).

**Acetylation of 10** A mixture of **10** (2.0 mg),  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$  (3 drops) and pyridine (5 drops) was allowed to stand at room temp overnight. The usual work up afforded the triacetate (**11**) (2.1 mg) as an oil, IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  1740, 1730 (OAc), 1230, MS  $m/z$  (rel. int.). 318 [ $\text{M} - 60$ ]<sup>+</sup> (15), 161 (39), 110 (62), 43 (100). <sup>1</sup>H NMR see Table 2.

**p-Bromobenzoylation of 8** A mixture of **8** (14.5 mg), *p*-bromobenzoyl chloride (60 mg) and pyridine (2 ml) was allowed to stand at room temp overnight. The usual work-up afforded an oil, which was purified by CC on silica gel ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 100%) to give the compound **9** as crystals, Colourless prisms (from  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ ), mp 114–115°, UV  $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{EtOH}}$  nm ( $\epsilon$ ) 208 (2290), 248 (17500), CD ( $\text{EtOH}$ )  $\Delta\epsilon$  250 nm –2.5,  $\Delta\epsilon$  227 nm –1.9, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (90 MHz)  $\delta$  1.08 (3H, *d*, *J* = 6.6 Hz, Me-13), 1.16 (3H, *s*, Me-14), 1.80 (1H, *d*, *J* = 14.2 Hz, H-3 $\beta$ ), 2.34 (1H, *dd*, *J* = 14.2, 2.2 Hz, H-3 $\alpha$ ), 2.62 (1H, *q*, *J* = 6.6 Hz, H-1), 2.66 (1H, *dd*, *J* = 18.6, 1.8 Hz, H-7 $\alpha$ ), 3.34 (1H, *dd*, *J* = 18.6, 1.8 Hz, H-7 $\beta$ ), 4.65 (1H, *d*, *J* = 2.2 Hz, H-2), 6.16 (1H, *d*, *J* = 1.9 Hz, H-10), 6.21 (1H, *t*, *J* = 1.8 Hz, H-4), 7.32 (1H, *d*, *J* = 1.9 Hz, H-11), 7.62 and 7.95 (each 2H, *d*, *J* = 8.6 Hz)

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