



SESQUITERPENE LACTONES AND A SECO-CARYOPHYLLENE DERIVATIVE FROM *MONTANOA KARWINSKII*

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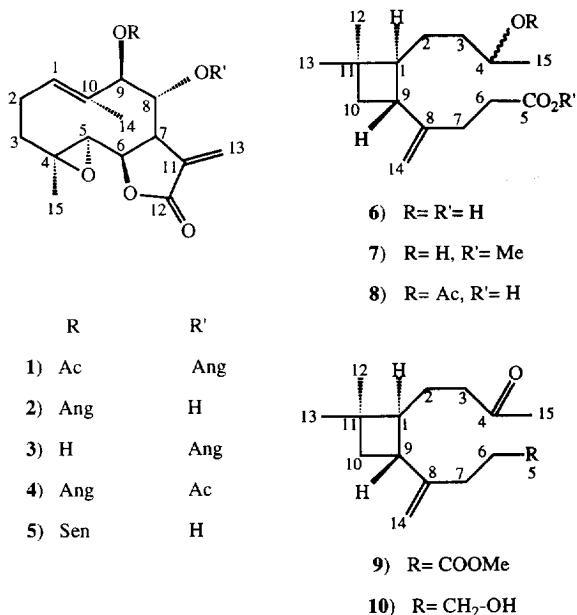
Abstract—Leaves of *Montanoa karwinskii* afforded in addition to known sterols, triterpenes and kaurane derivatives, four germacra-12,6 β -olides. Three were new compounds, karwinsinolides A, B and C. Their structures were established by spectral methods, mainly NMR. A new seco-caryophyllene derivative was also isolated.

INTRODUCTION

Montanoa karwinskii A.P. de Candolle is most closely related to *M. atriplicifolia* and *M. pteropoda* and placed by V. Funk in the series Hibiscifoliae, together with *M. hibiscifolia*, *M. hexagona* and *M. leucantha* [1]. In continuation of our studies on the chemistry of *Montanoa* species, we have analysed the herbaceous parts of *M. karwinskii*, which resulted in the isolation of 12,6-cis-lactonized germacrolides which seem to be characteristic of the genus. In addition, a new seco-caryophyllene derivative was isolated as well as common terpenoids. We now report the structures of the new lactones which we named karwinsinolides A (1), B (2) and C (3) and the new acid 4-hydroxy-4,5-seco-caryophyllen-5-oic acid (6). Their structures and stereochemistry were established by spectroscopic methods, mainly ^1H NMR. The molecular structure of karwinsinolide A (1), was confirmed by single crystal X-ray diffraction.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The petrol and dichloromethane extracts of the leaves of *Montanoa karwinskii* afforded caryophyllene oxide, β -carotene, the ubiquitous sitosterol and stigmasterol; common pentacyclic triterpenes β -amirin, taraxasterol, taraxasteryl acetate and tarasteryl fatty esters (mainly palmitate); the kaurane diterpenes ent-kaurenic acid, angeloyl and senecioyl grandifloric acids. In addition, four 12,6 β -germacrolides were obtained, the known 9 β -senecioyloxy-4 β ,5 α -epoxy-trans-germacra-1(10)-en-12,6 β -olide (5), previously isolated from *M. mollisima* [2], and three new closely related ones, karwinsinolides A (1), B (2) and C (3). A new sesquiterpenic acid characterized as 4-



hydroxy-4,5-seco-caryophyllen-5-oic acid (6) was also isolated. This is the third compound of this type isolated from a natural source.

Karwinsinolide A (1), C₂₂H₂₈O₇ (CIMS: [M + 1]⁺ at *m/z* 405), was isolated as a crystalline compound, mp 204–206°, and characterized as an α,β -unsaturated γ -lactone containing a saturated ester and an α,β -unsaturated one (IR absorption bands at 1777, 1737 and 1720 cm⁻¹). The ester substituents were assigned to an acetate and an angelate group based on the typical ^1H NMR signals (Table 1), together with the characteristic mass spectral peaks at *m/z* 43 for the acetate and 83 and 55 for the angelate moieties. Other peaks at *m/z* 344

Table 1. ^1H NMR spectral data for **1–4** (200 MHz, TMS as int. standard)

H	1		2		3		4	
	CDCl ₃	C ₆ D ₆	CDCl ₃	C ₆ D ₆	CDCl ₃	C ₆ D ₆	CDCl ₃	
1	5.75 br <i>d</i>	5.21	5.60 br <i>d</i>	5.57	5.82 br <i>d</i>	5.20	5.68 <i>obs</i>	
5	3.16 br <i>d</i>	2.96	3.00 br <i>d</i>	3.06	3.19 br <i>d</i>	2.94	3.14 br <i>d</i>	
6	4.06 <i>dd</i>	3.68	4.05 <i>dd</i>	3.69	4.05 <i>dd</i>	3.62	4.07 <i>dd</i>	
7	3.14 br <i>t</i>	2.63	3.11 br <i>t</i>	2.67	3.07 br <i>t</i>	2.42	3.18 br <i>t</i>	
8	5.43 <i>dd</i>	5.50	4.32 br <i>t</i> *	4.44	5.20 <i>dd</i>	5.20	5.42 <i>dd</i>	
9	5.02 br <i>d</i>	5.02	4.71 br <i>d</i> *	4.90	4.08 br <i>d</i>	3.60	4.98 br <i>d</i>	
13a	5.64 <i>d</i>	5.09	5.75 <i>d</i>	5.39	5.61 <i>d</i>	5.02	5.71 br <i>s</i>	
13b	6.31 <i>d</i>	6.19	6.39 <i>d</i>	6.33	6.29 br <i>s</i>	6.16	6.39 br <i>s</i>	
14	2.00 br <i>s</i>	1.58	2.01 br <i>s</i>	1.68	1.95 br <i>s</i>	1.77	2.04 br <i>s</i>	
15	1.31 <i>s</i>	0.77	1.30 <i>s</i>	0.80	1.31 <i>s</i>	0.74	1.32 <i>s</i>	
3'	6.10 <i>qq</i>	5.71	6.11 <i>qq</i>	5.70	6.13 <i>qq</i>	5.71	6.11 br <i>q</i>	
4'	1.93 <i>dq</i>	1.96	1.99 <i>dq</i>	2.02	1.97 <i>dq</i>	2.00	1.96 br <i>d</i>	
5'	1.79 <i>qq</i>	1.80	1.90 <i>dq</i>	1.90	1.86 <i>qq</i>	2.00	1.84 br <i>s</i>	
OAc	2.00 <i>s</i>	1.67	—	—	—	—	1.95 <i>s</i>	

J(Hz): 1,2 *ca* 12.0; 5,6 = 9.6; 6,7 = 5.5; 7,8 = 7.0; 7,13a = 7,13b = 1.1; 8,9 = 10.0; 3',4' = 7.0; 3',5' = 4',5' = 1.5.

*Broadening owing to presence of conformational equilibria.

[M – 60]⁺, 304 [M – 100]⁺ and 244 [M – 160]⁺ corresponded to the loss of the side-chain acids. The ^1H NMR spectrum of **1** (C₆D₆, Table 1) displayed the typical signals owing to the exomethylene protons conjugated with the γ -lactone as a pair of downfield finely split doublets at δ 5.09 (H-13a) and 6.19 (H-13b) and an upfield broadened doublet of doublets (apparent broad triplet) at δ 2.63 (*J* = 7.0, 5.5 Hz) owing to H-7. 2D COSY experiments indicated that the last signal was coupled with the exomethylene signals, as well as to a doublet of doublets at δ 3.68 (*J* = 9.6, 5.5 Hz) and a downfield doublet of doublets at δ 5.50 (*J* = 10.0, 7.0 Hz) assigning these signals to H-6 and H-8, respectively. The signal at δ 3.68 (H-6) was in turn coupled with a broadened doublet at δ 2.96 (*J* = 9.6 Hz), and the signal at δ 5.50 with a broad doublet at δ 5.02 (*J* = 10.0 Hz). Therefore, the signals at δ 2.96 and 5.02 must be assigned to H-5 and H-9, respectively. H-1 was located as a broadened doublet at δ 5.21 (*J* = *ca* 12.0 Hz) coupled with a broad singlet at δ 1.58 (H-14). The sharp singlet at δ 0.77 must be from the methyl group at C-4 (H-15) bearing a 4,5-epoxy group. The small *J*_{7,13} (1.1 Hz, CDCl₃) and the large *J*_{5,6} (9.6 Hz) and *J*_{6,7} (5.5 Hz) values are typical of 6,12 β -germacrolides [2]. Furthermore, the large coupling *J*_{7,8} (7.0 Hz) and *J*_{8,9} (10.0 Hz) suggested a *trans-trans* relationship of H-7, H-8 and H-9. The ^{13}C NMR (Table 2) spectrum of karwinsinolide A (**1**) clearly showed 22 carbon resonances. Multi-pulse APT experiments indicated the presence of five methyl groups, three methylenes, seven CH groups and seven non-protonated carbons. The relative position of the esters was established by NMR correlation with the acetate of **3** (see below).

The second more polar crystalline lactone was karwinsinolide B (**2**), C₂₀H₂₆O₆, [M]⁺ 362, mp 108–110°. The IR spectrum indicated in addition to the unsaturated γ -

Table 2. ^{13}C NMR spectral data for **1–4** (50 MHz, CDCl₃, chemical shifts referred to CDCl₃)

C	1	2	3	4	Multiplicity*
1	132.0	130.4	131.1	131.6	CH
2	24.7	24.6	24.7	24.7	CH ₂
3	37.1	37.1	37.1	37.0	CH ₂
4	60.3	60.5	60.3	60.3	C
5	61.3	61.5	61.4	61.3	CH
6	68.8	67.7	72.4	68.7	CH
7	44.1	46.3	44.2	44.0	CH
8	78.5	80.8	78.5	78.6	CH
9	77.2	80.1		77.2	CH
10	135.1	134.8	135.4	135.2	C
11	130.6	131.8	132.0	130.3	C
12	169.9	169.6		169.6	C
13	126.1	126.0	125.4	126.0	CH ₂
14	19.8	19.9	20.2	19.8	CH ₃
15	16.8	16.8	16.8	16.8	CH ₃
1'	166.6	167.3		166.8	C
2'	126.7	127.3	126.5	127.1	C
3'	140.0	139.0	140.9	139.1	CH
4'	15.6	15.9	15.8	15.8	CH ₃
5'	20.1	20.6	20.2	20.5	CH ₃
1''	168.3			166.8	C
2''	20.9			20.7	CH ₃

*The number of attached protons were determined from APT and/or DEPT experiments.

lactone and the ester carbonyl, the presence of a hydroxyl group (absorption at 3506 cm⁻¹). The ^1H NMR spectrum of **2** (Table 1) showed that an angelate was again present. As the H-8 signal (δ 4.32) in the spectrum of **2** was shifted upfield the hydroxyl group can be placed at C-8.

Table 3. ^1H NMR spectral data for **6**–**8** (200 MHz) and **9** (500 MHz) (CDCl_3 , TMS as int. standard)

H	6	7	8	9 (CDCl_3)	9 (C_6D_6)
1	1.88 <i>m</i>	1.87 <i>m</i>	1.88 <i>m</i>	1.87 <i>dt</i>	1.82 <i>dt</i>
2	1.39 <i>m</i>	1.40 <i>m</i>	1.40 <i>m</i>	1.63 <i>dt</i>	1.56 <i>m</i>
3	1.39 <i>m</i>	1.40 <i>m</i>	1.40 <i>m</i>	2.34 <i>br t</i>	1.95
4	3.75 <i>br sex</i>	3.75 <i>br sex</i>	4.85 <i>br sex</i>		
6	2.49 <i>br t*</i>	2.46 <i>m*</i>	2.50 <i>m*</i>	2.45 <i>br t*</i>	2.30 <i>m*</i>
7	2.30 <i>br t*</i>	2.28 <i>br t*</i>	2.30 <i>br t*</i>	2.28 <i>br t*</i>	2.30 <i>m*</i>
9	2.38 <i>br q</i>	2.37	2.36	2.39	2.24
10	1.80 <i>dd</i>	1.79 <i>dd</i>	1.79 <i>dd</i>	1.80 <i>dd</i>	1.66 <i>dd</i>
10'	1.46 <i>dd</i>	1.45 <i>dd</i>	1.45 <i>dd</i>	1.44 <i>dd</i>	1.38 <i>dd</i>
12	1.04 <i>s</i>	1.05 <i>s</i>	1.03 <i>s</i>	1.04 <i>s</i>	0.94 <i>s</i>
13	1.05 <i>s</i>	1.05 <i>s</i>	1.05 <i>s</i>	1.05 <i>s</i>	0.89 <i>s</i>
14	4.78 <i>br s</i>	4.76 <i>br s</i>	4.78	4.76	4.81
14'	4.71 <i>br s</i>	4.68 <i>br s</i>	4.71	4.69	4.71
15	1.18 <i>d</i>	1.17 <i>d</i>	1.19 <i>d</i>	2.11 <i>s</i>	1.66 <i>s</i>
OAc	—	—	2.03 <i>s</i>	—	—
COOMe	—	3.67 <i>s</i>	—	3.67 <i>s</i>	3.34 <i>s</i>

J (Hz): 1,9 = 9,10' = 10,10' = 10.0; 9,10 = 8.5; 1,2 = 2,3 = 6,7 = 7.0; 4,5 = 6.2.

*Not first-order pattern, with tendency to an A_2B_2 system.

The third crystalline lactone, karwinskiolide C (**3**), $\text{C}_{20}\text{C}_{26}\text{O}_6$ (CIMS $[\text{M} + 1]^+$, 363) mp 210–213°, also contained an angelate ester and a hydroxyl group (IR and ^1H NMR spectra). The ^1H NMR spectrum indicated that **3** had a 9 β -hydroxy group at C-9, as followed from the upfield shift of the H-9 doublet (δ 4.08) in the spectrum of **3** compared with those of **1** and **2**.

Acetylation of **2** furnished a monoacetate **4** whose ^1H NMR was very similar to, though not identical with, the NMR spectrum of **1**. However, the monoacetate obtained from **3** was identical to **1**, indicating that the acetate ester in karwinskiolide A (**1**) must be at C-9.

The results of a single crystal X-ray analysis (to be published elsewhere) confirmed the relative position of the ester groups, the *E*-configuration of the 1(10) double bond and the synclinal relationship of methyl groups C-4 and C-10 typical of *trans, trans*-germacrolides *cis*-lactonized to C-6.

The seco-caryophyllene-derivative **6** was isolated as a gummy material from the more polar chromatography fractions. The ^1H NMR spectrum of **6** (Table 3) clearly indicated the presence of two tertiary methyl singlets at δ 1.04 and 1.05 and a secondary methyl doublet at δ 1.18 (*J* = 6.2 Hz). Two one-proton broad singlets at 4.71 and 4.78 suggested the presence of an exomethylene group. A very flat signal at δ 4.3–5.1 in addition to IR absorptions at 2500–3500 (broad) and 1711 cm^{-1} indicated the presence of a carboxylic acid which was confirmed by esterification of **6** with diazomethane, giving the methyl ester **7**. A multiplet at δ 3.75 (pseudo-sextuplet) was assigned to a proton on a carbon bearing a hydroxyl group. Acetylation of **6** confirmed the above assumption since this signal moved downfield to δ 4.85 in the ^1H NMR spectrum of **8** (Table 3).

Table 4. ^{13}C NMR spectral data for **6**–**9** (50 MHz, CDCl_3 , chemical shifts referred to CDCl_3)

C	6	7	8	9
1	48.9	48.8	48.6	47.8
2	27.0	27.0	26.5	24.6
3	37.7	37.7	34.2	42.0
4	68.6	68.4	71.2	208.8
5	178.3	173.8	178.9	173.7
6	32.5	32.6	32.4	23.6
7	29.2	29.4	29.1	29.4
8	150.8	151.1	150.7	151.0
9	41.8	41.7	41.6	41.6
10	39.6	39.6	39.6	39.8
11	33.7	33.7	33.7	33.6
12	22.3	22.3	22.2	22.4
13	31.2	31.2	31.2	31.0
14	107.4	107.1	107.3	107.2
15	23.3	23.3	19.8	29.9
OAc	—	—	170.8	—
			21.4	
CO ₂ Me	—	51.5	—	51.6

2D COSY studies of **6** and derivatives **7** and **8** indicated that the signal at δ 3.75 in **6** was coupled with the methyl doublet. Therefore, the hydroxyl group must be placed α to the secondary methyl.

The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR (Table 4) spectral data of **6** suggested a sesquiterpenoid with a basic skeleton containing four methyl groups (one of them as an exomethylene) and a carboxylic acid. All these NMR spectral

features resembled those of a 4,5-seco-caryophyllene derivative, similar to compounds **9** and **10** isolated from *Helichrysum diosmitolium* (Inuleae) [3] and *Monactis macbridei* (Heliantheae) [4].

Pyridinium-dichromate oxidation of **7** produced the methyl-ketone **9** confirming the relative position of the secondary methyl group and the hydroxy group. Comparison of the ¹H NMR spectral data with values reported for compound **9** [3] revealed their structural identity. ¹H and ¹³C NMR (Table 4) assignments were confirmed by 2D COSY, 2D ¹H-¹³C correlation, inverse long-range ¹H-¹³C correlation and APT NMR methods.

EXPERIMENTAL

Montanoa karwinskii DC. was collected on 29 November 1990 on the Cuernavaca-Tepoztlán road, 14 km E of Cuernavaca in the state of Morelos, México. Voucher specimen No. 550 412 is deposited at the Herbarium of the Instituto de Biología, UNAM (MEXU) Air-dried leaves (285 g) were extracted at room temp. first, with petrol and then with CH₂Cl₂. Separation of the petrol extract residue (10 g) by CC on silica gel (200 g) using petrol and petrol-EtOAc mixtures of increasing polarity provided 136 frs of *ca* 200 ml each. Known compounds were identified by comparison of spectral data with those of authentic material and/or those reported in the literature. The less polar frs (8–20) gave β -carotene, and mixtures of triterpene esters containing lupeyl, tarasteryl and β -amirin fatty esters (palmitates mainly) and acetates. Frs 2–28 eluted with petrol-EtOAc (19:1) afforded caryophyllene oxide, *ent*-kaurenic acid, β -amirin, sitosterol and stigmasterol. Frs 37–40 eluted with petrol-EtOAc (9:1) contained a mixt. of angeloyl and senecioyl grandifloric acids. Frs 81–85 eluted with petrol-EtOAc (4:1) after prep. TLC (CH₂Cl₂-Me₂CO, 19:1) gave 25 mg of karwinsinolide A (**1**). Successive TLC purifications (CH₂Cl₂-Me₂CO, 19:1, 4 \times), (petrol-Me₂CO, 7:3, 8 \times) of frs 96–100 eluted from the CC with petrol-EtOAc (7:3), gave 32 mg karwinsinolide B (**2**) and 12 mg of **5**. Frs 104–110 eluted with petrol-EtOAc (3:2), gave after successive TLC purifications (petrol-EtOAc, 3:2, 5 \times and CH₂Cl₂-Me₂CO, 19:1, 4 \times), 15 mg of **2** and 19 mg of karwinsinolide C (**3**) as gummy materials.

The CH₂Cl₂ extract residue (8.3 g) was sepd by CC over silica gel (80 g) using mixts of petrol-EtOAc of increasing polarity, 93 fr. of *ca* 200 ml being collected. Upon further prep. TLC of the various combined frs, the lactones **1–3** were obtained as crystalline compounds. Prep. TLC (CH₂Cl₂-Me₂CO, 19:1) of frs 34–37 gave karwinsinolide A (**1**) (35 mg), mp 204–206° (CH₂Cl₂-Et₂O). Frs 57–60 provided 26 mg of karwinsinolide B (**2**), mp 108–110°. Frs 61–63 gave 38 mg of karwinsinolide C (**3**), mp 210–213°. Frs 64–87 (1.2 g) eluted with petrol-EtOAc (3:2 and 2:3) from the CC were combined and rechromatographed on silica gel providing 136 mg of the seco-caryophyllene derivative **6**. The same sesquiterpene **6** (25 mg) was obtained from the more polar frs of the petrol extract.

Karwinsinolide A (**1**). C₂₂H₂₈O₇, crystals, mp 204–206°. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 1777, 1737, 1720, 1646, 1601. EIMS (probe) 70 eV *m/z* (rel. int.): 404 [M]⁺ (not observed), 344 [M - HOAc]⁺ (1), 304 [M - C₅H₈O₂]⁺ (1), 244 [M - HOAc - C₅H₈O₂]⁺ (1), 83 [C₅H₇O]⁺ (100), 55 [C₄H₇]⁺ (88), 43 [C₂H₃O]⁺ (75). CIMS (*i*-Bu) *m/z* (rel. int.): 405 [M + 1]⁺ (6), 345 [M + 1 - HOAc]⁺ (24), 305 [M + 1 - C₅H₈O₂]⁺ (7), 245 [M + 1 - HOAc - C₅H₈O₂]⁺ (39), 227 [M + 1 - HOAc - C₅H₈O₂ - H₂O]⁺ (17), 83 (100).

Karwinsinolide B (**2**). C₂₀H₂₆O₆, crystals, mp 108–110°. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 3600, 3506, 1773, 1713, 1646. EIMS (probe) 70 eV *m/z* (rel. int.): 362 [M]⁺ (2), 279 [M - C₅H₇O]⁺ (6), 262 [M - C₅H₈O₂]⁺ (7), 245 [M - C₅H₇O₂ - H₂O]⁺ (6), 244 [M - C₅H₈O₂ - H₂O]⁺ (6), 228 [M - C₅H₈O₂ - H₂O - O]⁺ (4), 226 [M - C₅H₈O₂ - 2H₂O]⁺ (3), 217 [M - C₅H₇O₂ - H₂O - CO]⁺ (5), 83 [C₅H₇O]⁺ (100), 55 [C₅H₇]⁺ (26).

Karwinsinolide C (**3**). C₂₀H₂₆O₆, crystals, mp 210–213°. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 3540, 1775, 1715, 1640. EIMS (probe) 70 eV *m/z* (rel. int.): 362 [M]⁺ (not observed), 262 [M - C₅H₈O₂]⁺ (0.2), 83 [C₅H₇O]⁺ (59), 55 [C₅H₇]⁺ (100). CIMS (*i*-Bu) *m/z* (rel. int.): 363 [M + 1]⁺ (9), 345 [M + 1 - H₂O]⁺ (5), 263 [M + 1 - C₅H₈O₂]⁺ (12), 245 [M + 1 - H₂O - C₅H₈O₂]⁺ (37), 217 [M + 1 - H₂O - C₅H₈O₂ - CO]⁺ (14), 101 (23), 83 (100).

Karwinsinolide B acetate (**4**). Sample of **2** (18 mg) was acetylated with Ac₂O-pyridine as usual. TLC (petrol-EtOAc, 7:3, 4 \times) afforded 12 mg **4**, as oil. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 1776, 1743, 1713, 1646. EIMS (probe) 70 eV *m/z* (rel. int.): 404 [M]⁺ (not observed), 344 [M - HOAc]⁺ (0.6), 244 [M - HOAc - C₅H₈O₂]⁺ (0.4), 83 [C₅H₇O]⁺ (100), 55 [C₅H₇]⁺ (42), 43 [C₂H₃O]⁺ (46). ¹H NMR see Table 1.

4-Hydroxy-4,5-seco-caryophyllen-5-oic acid (**6**). Gum. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 3165 (broad), 1711, 1642. EIMS (probe) 70 eV *m/z* (rel. int.): 254 [M]⁺ (not observed), 239 [M - Me]⁺ (0.3), 236 [M - H₂O]⁺ (0.3), 221 [M - Me - H₂O]⁺ (3), 209 [M - CO₂H]⁺ (0.3), 194 [M - CO₂H - H₂O - Me]⁺ (3), 191 [M - CO₂H - H₂O]⁺ (0.3), 176 [M - CO₂H - H₂O - Me]⁺ (3), 110 (39), 95 (100), 81 (30), 55 (31).

Methyl-4-hydroxy-4,5-seco-caryophyllen-5-oate (**7**). Methylation of **6** (55 mg) with excess of CH₂N₂ in Et₂O provided 48 mg of the ester **7**, after TLC (CH₂Cl₂-Me₂CO, 19:1, 3 \times) purification, as an oil. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 3400, 1740, 1640. EIMS (probe) 70 eV *m/z* (rel. int.): 288 [M]⁺ (not observed), 253 [M - Me]⁺ (0.1), 250 [M - H₂O]⁺ (0.1), 235 [M - Me - H₂O]⁺ (1), 126 (29), 110 (49), 95 (100), 79 (46), 55 (39), 45 (82), 41 (90).

4-Acetoxy-4,5-seco-caryophyllen-5-oic acid (**8**). Acetylation of 45 mg of **6** with Ac₂O-pyridine gave after TLC (petrol-EtOAc, 7:3, 3 \times) purification 40 mg of the acetate **8** as an oil. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹: 2500–3500 (br), 1715, 1642. EIMS (probe) 70 eV *m/z* (rel. int.): 269 [M]⁺ (not observed), 236 [M - HOAc]⁺⁺ (2), 221 [M - HOAc - Me]⁺ (2), 110 (28), 95 (39), 55 (26), 43 (100).

Methyl-4-oxo-4,5-seco-caryophyllen-5-oate (**9**). Oxidation of **7** (22 mg) with pyridinium dichromate in CH₂Cl₂ afforded the methyl-ketone **9** as an oil. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{CHCl}_3}$ cm⁻¹:

1731, 1716, 1642. EIMS (probe) 70 eV m/z (rel. int.): 266 [M]⁺ (0.3), 251 [$M - Me$]⁺ (3), 223 [$M - MeCO$]⁺ (3), 208 [$M - MeCO - Me$]⁺ (20), 135 (28), 108 (56), 93 (55), 79 (30), 43 (100).

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