

Three New Diterpenes, 1,3-Dioxototarol, Isototarolenone, and 1-Oxo-3 β -hydroxytotarol, from the Roots of *Juniperus chinensis* LINN.

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Six totarol derivatives were isolated from the extract of the root of *Juniperus chinensis* LINN. Three known components were identified as totarol, totarolone, and 7-oxototarol. The structures of three new totarol derivatives, 1,3-dioxototarol, isototarolenone, and 1-oxo-3 β -hydroxytotarol, were elucidated on the basis of spectral data and chemical transformation.

Keywords *Juniperus chinensis*; root; 1,3-dioxototarol; isototarolenone; 1-oxo-3 β -hydroxytotarol

Juniperus chinensis LINN. (Cupressaceae) is a common ornamental tree¹⁾ which contains biflavones, terpenes, and benzoquinones in its leaves²⁾ and heartwood.³⁾ There are ten species of *Juniperus* indigenous to Taiwan, among which *J. squamata* and *J. formosana* grow at an altitude of 2000—3000 m above sea level. We have conducted chemical studies of these two plants, and isolated twelve known compounds in addition to five new sesquiterpenes from *J. squamata*⁴⁾ and fifteen known compounds together with six new compounds from *J. formosana*.⁵⁾ In a continuation of our investigation in this area, we have investigated the methanol extract of the root of *J. chinensis* LINN. One new sesquiterpene (8 α ,12-dihydroxycedrane)⁶⁾ and one new diterpene (7 β -hydroxysandaracopimaric acid)⁷⁾ were described in a previous report. We have now reinvestigated the same extract from the root of *J. chinensis* LINN. and isolated six totarol derivatives. Three known derivatives were identified as totarol (**1a**),⁵⁾ totarolone (**1b**)⁸⁾ and 7-oxototarol (**2**).⁴⁾ In this paper we described in detail the structure elucidation of the other three new totarol derivatives, 1,3-dioxototarol (**1c**), isototarolenone (**3a**), and 1-oxo-3 β -hydroxytotarol (**1d**).

1,3-Dioxototarol (**1c**) was obtained as needles from ethyl acetate and hexane, mp 231—232 °C. It was deduced to have the molecular formula C₂₀H₂₆O₃ on the basis of its elemental analysis and mass spectrum (MS) [M⁺ peak at 314 (21%)]. It shows infrared (IR) absorption bands at 3447 (—OH), 3030, 1579, 1481 cm⁻¹ (aromatic absorption), 1715, 1693 (two carbonyl), and 1380, 1370 (*gem*-dimethyl absorption). The proton nuclear magnetic resonance (¹H-NMR) spectrum (Table I) of 1,3-dioxototarol (**1c**) revealed that **1c** has an isopropyl group attached to a phenyl group [δ 1.33 (6H, d, *J*=6.9 Hz), 3.24 (1H, sep., *J*=6.9 Hz)], three singlet methyl groups (δ 1.24, 1.24, 1.34), two *ortho* phenyl protons [δ 6.59 and 7.28 (each 1H, d, *J*=8.7 Hz)], two geminal protons [δ 3.38, 3.75 (each 1H, d, *J*=18.2 Hz)] lying between two carbonyl groups, two benzylic protons [δ 2.67, 3.02 (each 1H, m)], and two geminal protons [δ 1.67, 2.00 (each 1H, m)], and a methine proton [δ 2.21 (dd, *J*=11.7, 2.0 Hz)]. Irradiation of the methine doublet of doublets at δ 2.21 (H-5) simplified the multiplets at δ 1.67 and 2.00, and irradiation of the multiplet at δ 1.67 caused (i) the doublet of doublets at δ 2.21 (H-5) to collapse to a doublet (*J*=2.0 Hz), and (ii)

the multiplets at δ 2.00 (H-6), 2.67 and 3.02 (H-7) to become simpler. The result clearly indicated the presence of a —CHCH₂CH₂— moiety. The carbon-13 nuclear magnetic resonance (¹³C-NMR) spectrum of **1c** exhibits signals due to six aromatic carbons [δ 129.1, 114.2 (3° C; C-11, C-12), 131.5, 134.1, 153.1, 129.5 (40° C; C-8, C-9, C-13, C-14)], five methyl carbons [δ 20.3, 20.3, 22.7, 20.1, 28.7 (1° C; C-16, C-17, C-18, C-19, C-20)], three methylene carbons [δ 52.2, 19.8, 28.8 (2° C; C-2, C-6, C-7)], two methine carbons [δ 45.8, 27.6 (3° C; C-5, C-15)], two quaternary carbons [δ 47.2, 52.7 (4° C; C-4, C-10)], and two carbonyl carbons [δ 205.8, 210.8 (4° C; C-1, C-3)]. From the above physical evidence, the structure of **1c** can be assigned as a derivative of totarol (**1a**),⁵⁾ and differentiated by the presence of two extra carbonyl groups. The two carbonyl carbons exhibited signals at lower field than δ 200 ppm in the ¹³C-NMR spectrum. The results revealed that two carbonyl carbons are isolated. One of them is located at C-1, since the chemical shift of H-11 (δ 7.28) in **1c** is lower than that of the corresponding proton (δ 6.98) in totarol (**1a**). The deshielding effect of a C-1 carbonyl group on H-11 has been observed between hinokiol (**4a**)⁴⁾ and 1-oxohinokiol (**4b**),⁹⁾ amounting to 0.37 ppm. The methylene protons of **1c** appeared at δ 3.38 and 3.75 with a larger coupling constant, indicating that they could be assigned to a methylene group between two carbonyl groups. By comparison of the ¹H-NMR data (Table I) of **1c** and **5a** (1,3-dioxototarol methyl ether),¹⁰⁾ the structure of **1c** can be assigned as 1,3-dioxototarol. The acetylation of **1c** with acetic anhydride in pyridine at room temperature for 40 h afforded **5b** (45%) and **6a** (55%). When reacted with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid in isopropenyl acetate at room temperature for 3 h, **1c** gave the same two products, **5b** (20%) and **6a** (80%), in a different yield ratio. Compound **5b** is a monoacetate [δ 1756 cm⁻¹; δ 2.20 (3H, s)], and the two carbonyl groups are intact [δ 1715, 1703 cm⁻¹; δ 3.38, 3.75 (each 1H, d, *J*=18.0 Hz), 6.86, 7.43 (each 1H, d, *J*=8.8 Hz)]. On the basis of the physical data, **6a** contained two acetates [δ 1761 cm⁻¹; δ 2.24, 2.29 (each 3H, s)] and a conjugated enone [δ 1675 cm⁻¹; δ 5.87 (1H, s)]. The phenyl protons at δ 6.87 and 7.50 (each 1H, d, *J*=8.5 Hz) revealed that the remaining carbonyl group is located at the C-1 position. In the reaction of **1c** with diazomethane in ether overnight, **6b** was obtained.

Dedicated to the memory of the late Professor Yau-Tang Lin.

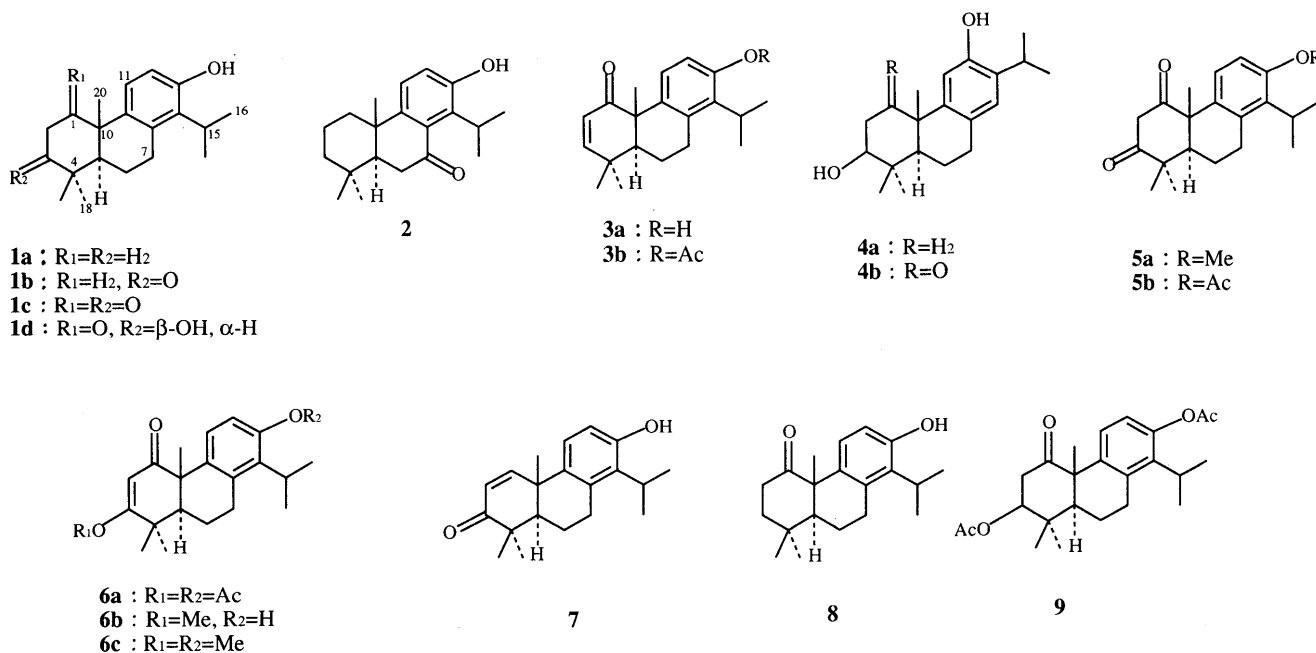


TABLE I. ¹H-NMR Data for 1,3-Dioxototarol (**1c**), 1,3-Dioxototarol Methyl Ether (**5a**),¹⁰ Isototarolenone (**3a**), Totarolenone (**7**), and 1-Oxo-3β-acetoxytotaryl Acetate (**9**) (300 MHz in CDCl₃)

H	1c	5a ^{a)}	3a	7	9
1				7.53 d (10.3)	
2	3.38 d (18.2) 3.75 d (18.2)	3.23 d (17.0) 3.74 d (17.0)	5.88 d (10.0)	5.96 d (10.3)	
3			6.45 d (10.0)		4.92 dd (8.8, 4.6)
5	2.21 dd (11.7, 2.0)		1.92 dd (10.1, 2.4)	2.09 dd (12.4, 2.5)	
6	1.67 m, 2.00 m		1.65 m, 1.98 m	1.70 m, 2.00 m	
7	2.67 m, 3.02 m		2.70 m, 2.90 m	2.80 m, 2.90 m	
11	7.28 d (8.7)	7.35 d (9.0)	7.34 d (8.7)	7.13 d (8.4)	7.44 d (8.6)
12	6.59 d (8.7)	6.78 d (9.0)	6.59 d (8.7)	6.59 d (8.4)	6.79 d (8.6)
15	3.24 m (6.9)	3.21 m (7.0)	3.22 m (7.2)	3.27 m (7.0)	3.20 m (7.0)
16	1.33 d (6.9)	1.20 d (7.0)	1.31 d (7.2)	1.33 d (7.0)	1.20 d (7.0)
17	1.33 d (6.9)	1.20 d (7.0)	1.32 d (7.2)	1.34 d (7.0)	1.23 d (7.0)
18	1.24 s	1.17 s	1.14 s	1.16 s	1.07 s
19	1.24 s	1.28 s	1.16 s	1.19 s	1.07 s
20	1.34 s	1.32 s	1.53 s	1.38 s	1.57 s
-OMe		3.79			
-OAc					2.08 s, 2.29 s

Figures in parentheses are coupling constants. a) 60 MHz in CDCl₃.

Compound **6b** is a conjugated enol methyl ether [1665, 1639 cm⁻¹; δ 3.69 (3H, s), 5.25 (1H, s)] and the phenolic hydroxy group (3391 cm⁻¹) was intact. The treatment of **6b** with diazomethane in ether for a longer time afforded a dimethyl ether **6c** (mp 158–159 °C), which was also obtained from **5a**¹⁰ by the same reaction.

Isototarolenone (**3a**), mp 179–180 °C, has the molecular formula C₂₀H₂₆O₂ on the basis of elementary analysis and MS [M⁺, 298 (30%)]. It contained a conjugated ketone as indicated by the ultraviolet (UV) spectrum (λ_{max}^{MeOH} 230, 270 nm). Its IR spectrum exhibited a hydroxy absorption at 3409 cm⁻¹, a conjugated carbonyl absorption at 1669 cm⁻¹, and aromatic absorptions at 1600, 1585, and 1495 cm⁻¹. The ¹H-NMR spectrum (Table I) indicated the presence of three methyl groups

[δ 1.14, 1.16, 1.53 (each s)], an isopropyl group attached to a benzene ring [δ 1.31, 1.32 (each 3H, d, *J*=7.2 Hz), 3.22 (1H, sep., *J*=7.2 Hz)], vicinal olefinic protons [δ 5.88, 6.45 (each 1H, d, *J*=10.0 Hz)], two *ortho* phenyl protons [δ 6.59, 7.34 (each 1H, d, *J*=8.7 Hz)], and a -CHCH₂CH₂- moiety as in **1c**. Based on the above ¹H-NMR data, **3a** is a derivative of totarol (**1a**) with an extra ketone and a conjugated double bond. But **3a** is different from totarolenone (**7**) by comparison of their physical data (the ¹H-NMR spectrum in Table I). The phenyl proton H-11 in **3a** shows a lower field shift than the corresponding proton in totarol (**1a**) by about 0.36 ppm, indicating that the carbonyl group is located at the C-1 position, and the H-1 in totarolenone (**7**) appeared at lower field at δ 7.53, which can be reasonably explained in terms of strong deshielding by the phenyl group. Therefore the structure of **3a** can be assigned as isototarolenone, as shown. The acetylation of **3a** gave a monoacetate (**3b**) [mp 65–66 °C; 1749, 1685 cm⁻¹; δ 2.32 (3H, s)]. Compound **3a** was reduced on catalytic hydrogenation (10% Pd-C in MeOH) to yield **8** [amorphous; 1706 cm⁻¹; δ 6.50, 7.94 (each 1H, d, *J*=8.5 Hz), signals of olefinic protons disappeared]. We tried to prepare compound **9** from **6a** by catalytic hydrogenation using the above-mentioned conditions, but we unexpectedly obtained **3b**, considered to be a deacetylated product formed from **9**. These results supported the view that **3a** is an isomer of totarolenone (**7**) with reversal of the enone function.

The third totarol derivative is 1-oxo-3β-hydroxytotarol (**1d**), characterized as its diacetate (**9**). Before acetylation, the original crude mixture showed no acetoxyl group by NMR spectral investigation. Compound **9** is an amorphous solid. MS *m/z* (%) 400 (M⁺, 21) gave the molecular formula as C₂₄H₃₂O₅. The ¹H-NMR signals (Table I) of **9** showed it contains three singlet methyl groups, an isopropyl group attached to phenyl, one secondary alkyl acetoxyl group [1739 cm⁻¹; δ 2.08 (3H, s), 4.92 (1H, dd,

$J=8.8, 4.6$ Hz)], one phenyl acetoxy group [1750 cm^{-1} ; δ 2.29 (3H, s)], and two *ortho* phenyl protons [δ 6.79 (1H, d, $J=8.6$ Hz), 7.44 (1H, d, $J=8.6$ Hz)]. The latter signal appeared at lower field owing to the strong deshielding arising from the C-1 carbonyl (1715 cm^{-1}) anisotropic effect. The above result revealed that the structure of **9** is 1-oxototaryl acetate with an extra acetoxy group. The acetoxy group may be located at C-2, C-3 or C-7. We tried to convert the acetylation product to its original form, and let compound **9** react with NaOH in MeOH. But the resulting product was identical with isototarolenone (**3a**). The possibility that the acetoxy group located at C-7 is excluded by this result. Therefore the acetoxy group is positioned at C-3 in β -equatorial orientation, accounting for the proton signal at δ 4.92 with axial-axial and axial-equatorial coupling constants ($J=8.8, 4.6$ Hz). Thus we conclude that the compound from which **9** was obtained is 1-oxo- 3β -hydroxytotarol (**1d**).

Experimental

Melting points were determined on a Yanagimoto melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 983 G spectrometer. ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra were run on a Bruker AM 300 at 300 MHz and 75 MHz in the indicated solvent with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. Chemical shifts are given in δ -values and coupling constants (J) are given in hertz (Hz). Electron impact mass spectra (EIMS) and UV spectra were taken on JEOL JMS-100 and Hitachi U-3200 spectrometers, respectively.

Extraction and Isolation The root of *Juniperus chinensis* LINN. (1.3 kg), crushed into small pieces, was extracted with methanol (50 l \times 3). The combined extracts were evaporated *in vacuo* to give a residue, which was subsequently purified by repeated silica gel chromatography with a binary solvent system (hexane + ethyl acetate gradient) to give totarol (**1a**) (0.5 g), 7-oxototarol (**2**) (50 mg), totarolone (**1b**) (60 mg), 1,3-dioxototarol (**1c**) (80 mg), isototarolenone (**3a**) (10 mg), and 1-oxo- 3β -acetoxytotaryl acetate (**9**) (9 mg) [purified by acetylation].

Totarol (**1a**): mp $132\text{--}133^\circ\text{C}$, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{22} + 42.5$ ($c=1.0$, CHCl_3). IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3521, 1538, 1487, 1383, 1370, 1268, 1171, 1105, 969, 905, 805. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 0.90, 0.93, 1.16 (each 3H, s), 1.30, 1.35 (each 3H, d, $J=6.8$ Hz), 2.21 (1H, br d, $J=12.8$ Hz, $\text{H}_{\beta-1}$), 3.28 (1H, m, $J=6.8$ Hz), 4.46 (1H, s, -OH), 6.50, 6.98 (each 1H, d, $J=8.4$ Hz).

7-Oxototarol (**2**): mp $294\text{--}296^\circ\text{C}$, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{18} + 15.2$ ($c=1.0$, CHCl_3). IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3219, 1642, 1585, 1484, 1310, 1279, 1091, 1059, 903, 870, 829. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 0.91, 1.01, 1.09 (each 3H, s), 1.32, 1.44 (each 3H, d, $J=7.1$ Hz), 2.19 (1H, br d, $J=12.0$ Hz, $\text{H}_{\beta-1}$), 3.75 (1H, m, $J=7.1$ Hz), 4.96 (1H, br s, -OH), 6.79, 7.03 (each 1H, d, $J=8.5$ Hz).

Totarolone (**1b**): mp $188\text{--}189^\circ\text{C}$, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{23} + 101.4$ ($c=1.0$, CHCl_3). IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3403, 3040, 1715, 1580, 1479, 1318, 1275, 1169, 1097, 979, 908, 808. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 1.06, 1.14, 1.27 (each 3H, s), 1.33 (6H, d, $J=6.9$ Hz), 2.50-2.80 (4H, m, $\text{H}_{\beta-1}$, H-2, $\text{H}_{\alpha-7}$), 3.25 (1H, m, $J=6.9$ Hz), 4.68 (1H, br s), 6.53, 6.96 (each 1H, d, $J=8.4$ Hz).

1,3-Dioxototarol (**1c**): mp $231\text{--}232^\circ\text{C}$, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} + 210^\circ$ ($c=1.0$, CHCl_3). IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3447, 3030, 1715, 1693, 1579, 1481, 1389, 1280, 1190, 1093, 1050, 939, 831. MS m/z (%): 314 (M^+ , 21), 286 (19), 271 (64), 243 (33), 229 (100), 201 (20), 159 (24), 145 (11). ^1H -NMR: Table I. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_3$: C, 76.40, H, 8.34. Found C, 76.51; H, 8.30.

Isototarolenone (**3a**): mp $179\text{--}180^\circ\text{C}$, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{23} + 1.6$ ($c=0.26$, CHCl_3). UV $\lambda_{\text{max}}^{\text{MeOH}}$ nm (log ϵ): 230 (4.01), 270 (3.41). IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3409, 1669, 1600, 1585, 1495, 1260, 1100, 1029, 802. MS m/z (%): 298 (M^+ , 30), 202 (100), 189 (15), 159 (20), 121 (30). ^1H -NMR: Table I. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_2$: C, 80.49, H, 8.78. Found C, 80.13; H, 8.80.

1-Oxo- 3β -acetoxytotaryl Acetate (**9**): Amorphous, $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} + 175.6$ ($c=0.2$, CHCl_3). IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 1752, 1739, 1715, 1600, 1236, 1199, 1076, 1031, 975, 932, 875. MS m/z (%): 400 (M^+ , 21), 358 (M^+ , 95), 255 (52),

243 (100), 229 (13), 202 (47), 159 (32). ^1H -NMR: Table I.

Acetylation of 1,3-Dioxototarol (1c) 1,3-Dioxototarol (**1c**) (30 mg) was allowed to react with Ac_2O (1 ml) and pyridine (1 ml) at room temperature for 40 h. Usual work-up gave a monoacetate (**5b**) (15 mg) [amorphous; IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 1756, 1715, 1703, 1608, 1368, 1215, 1108, 1053. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 1.23 (6H, s, H-18, H-19), 1.25 (6H, s), 1.35 (3H, s, H-20), 2.20 (3H, s), 3.21 (1H, m, $J=7.0$ Hz), 3.38, 3.75 (each 1H, d, $J=18.0$ Hz), 6.86, 7.43 (each 1H, d, $J=8.8$ Hz)] and a diacetate (**6a**) (20 mg) [amorphous; IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3040, 1761, 1675, 1610, 1367, 1198, 1108, 1069, 1011. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 1.20 (6H, d, $J=7.0$ Hz), 1.23, 1.25, 1.59 (each 3H, s, H-18, H-19, H-20), 2.24, 2.29 (3H, s, -OCOCH₃), 3.20 (1H, m, $J=7.0$ Hz), 5.87 (1H, s, H-2), 6.87, 7.50 (each 1H, d, $J=8.5$ Hz)]. 1,3-Dioxototarol (**1c**) (30 mg) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (30 mg) were dissolved in 2 ml of isopropenyl acetate. The reaction mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 3 h. After usual treatment, the reaction mixture yielded a monoacetate (**5b**) (8 mg) and a diacetate (**6a**) (24 mg).

Methylation of 1,3-Dioxototarol (1c) Excess diazomethane in ether was added dropwise to a solution of 1,3-dioxototarol (**1c**) (15 mg) in ether (3 ml), and the reaction mixture was left to stand overnight. The yellow reaction solution was evaporated and the residue was submitted to chromatography on silica gel, affording **6b** (6 mg) [amorphous; IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3391, 1665, 1639, 1603, 1356, 1281, 1200, 1110, 1075, 908, 816. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 1.21 (6H, s), 1.29 (6H, d, $J=6.8$ Hz), 1.50 (3H, s, H-20), 3.22 (1H, m, $J=6.8$ Hz), 3.69 (3H, s, -OCH₃), 5.29 (1H, s, H-2), 6.60, 7.50 (each 1H, d, $J=8.5$ Hz)]. Excess diazomethane was allowed to react with compound **6b** (6 mg) in 3 ml of ether for 3 d at room temperature to afford the dimethyl ether product **6c** (3 mg) (mp $158\text{--}159^\circ\text{C}$).¹⁰

Acetylation of Isototarolenone (3a) Acetylation of **3a** (5 mg) in the same way as mentioned above (Ac_2O /pyridine) yielded **3b** (6 mg). mp $65\text{--}66^\circ\text{C}$ (needles from MeOH); IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 1749, 1685, 1370, 1226, 1200. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 1.18, 1.20, 1.58 (each 3H, s), 1.23, 1.27 (each 3H, d, $J=6.9$ Hz), 2.32 (3H, s, -OCOCH₃), 3.25 (1H, m, $J=6.9$ Hz), 5.91, 6.49 (each 1H, d, $J=10.0$ Hz), 6.89, 7.53 (each 1H, d, $J=8.8$ Hz).

Catalytic Hydrogenation of 3a Compound **3a** (5 mg) was dissolved in 3 ml of MeOH, then 5 mg of 5% Pd-C suspended in 3 ml of MeOH was added and the mixture was saturated with H_2 . After 5 h, the catalyst was removed by filtration and washed several times with MeOH. After purification, the combined filtrate yielded **8** (4 mg): amorphous; IR $\nu_{\text{max}}^{\text{KBr}}$ cm^{-1} : 3401, 1706, 1582, 1365, 1260, 1033, 1099, 906, 802. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3) δ : 0.90, 0.90, 1.20 (each 3H), 1.31, 1.33 (each 3H, d, $J=6.8$ Hz), 3.30 (1H, m, $J=6.8$ Hz), 4.50 (1H, br s, -OH), 6.50, 7.94 (each 1H, d, $J=8.5$ Hz).

Catalytic Hydrogenation of 6a Compound **6a** (10 mg) was dissolved in 5 ml of MeOH, then 10 mg of 5% Pd-C suspended in 5 ml of MeOH was added and the mixture was saturated with H_2 . After 10 h, treatment as mentioned above yielded **3b** (5 mg).

Deacetylation of 9 A solution of **9** (6 mg) and NaOH (2 mg) in 3 ml of MeOH was left to stand overnight at room temperature, then poured into 30 ml of water. After purification it gave compound **3a** (3 mg).

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