

## NEW SESQUITERPENE ARYL ESTERS FROM *ARMILLARIA MELLEA*

DERVILLA M. X. DONNELLY, DONAL J. COVENEY, NAOMICHI FUKUDA,

*Department of Chemistry, University College Dublin, Dublin 4, Ireland*

and JUDITH POLONSKY

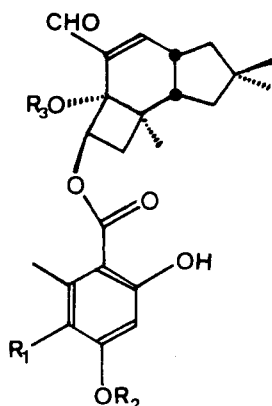
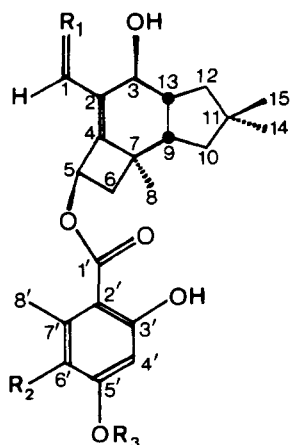
*Institut de Chimie des Substances Naturelles, CNRS, 91190 Gif-sur-Yvette, France*

**ABSTRACT.**—Investigation of the mycelial extract of *Armillaria mellea* led to the isolation of two new sesquiterpene aryl esters, armillyl everninate (**3**) and arnamiol (**4**). Their structures were deduced from spectral data, methanolysis, and synthesis of the resulting aryl esters.

The pathogenic basidiomycete *Armillaria mellea* (Vahl: Fr) Kummer has proved a rich source of sesquiterpenoid aryl esters with a protoilludane skeleton. Armillyl orsellinate (**1**), the major component (1) of the mycelial extract, was identified by an X-ray analysis of its oxidation product (**2**). The absolute configuration of **1** was established (**2**) by a cd study of **2**. The orsellinates, melleolide (**5**), methyl melleolide (**6**), and the hydroxy-orsellinate judeol (**9**), were subsequently isolated (**3**, **4**); the structures of **5** and **6** were established by X-ray crystallography. Two analogues of melleolide (**5**), armillaririn (**7**) and armillaridin (**8**), were isolated (**5**) and identified on the basis of an X-ray analysis of **7**. We now report the isolation of two new sesquiterpenoid aryl esters for which the names armillyl everninate and arnamiol are proposed.

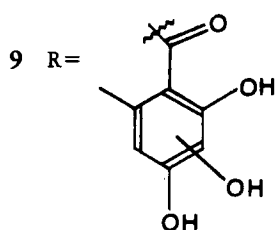
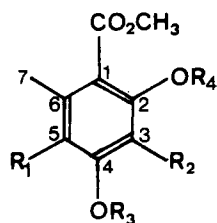
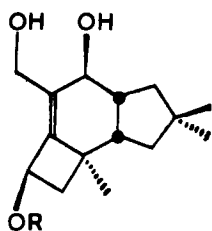
The mycelial extract of *A. mellea* was partitioned between  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (13:7:4) and the  $\text{CHCl}_3$  layer fractionated by Sephadex LH-20. Silica gel chromatography of the nonpolar fractions yielded a mixture of two compounds. Chromatography of this mixture afforded armillyl everninate (**3**) and arnamiol (**4**).

Armillyl everninate (**3**) mp 86-87°, had a molecular formula  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_6$ , which was supported by its fab mass spectrum (glycerol, DMF) with  $|\text{MH}|^+$  at  $m/z$  417. The eims failed to give a parent molecular ion but displayed  $|\text{M}-\text{H}_2\text{O}|^+$  at  $m/z$  398. The base peak at  $m/z$  165 suggested an aromatic ester moiety 14 amu higher than that for armillyl or-



	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>
<b>1</b>	H,OH	H	H
<b>2</b>	O	H	H
<b>3</b>	H,OH	H	CH <sub>3</sub>
<b>4</b>	H,OH	Cl	CH <sub>3</sub>

	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>
<b>5</b>	H	H	H
<b>6</b>	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>
<b>7</b>	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H
<b>8</b>	Cl	CH <sub>3</sub>	H



10 R=H

	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>4</sub>
11	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H
12	H	H	H	H
13	H	Cl	H	H
14	Cl	H	H	H
15	Cl	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H
16	Cl	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>
17	Cl	H	CH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	H

sellinate (**1**), (base peak at  $m/z$  151,  $[\text{Ar}(\text{OH})_2\text{MeCO}]^+$ ). The 270 MHz  $^1\text{H}$ -nmr spectrum closely resembled that of **1** (Table 1) but had a methoxyl instead of hydroxyl absorption. Extensive decoupling experiments and the  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectrum (Table 2) confirmed the armillyl (*O*-methyl-orsellinate) structure. The presence of an intramolecularly hydrogen bonded signal at 11.68 ppm indicated methylation at the 5' oxygen.

Methanolysis of **3** yielded, after separation on Sephadex LH-20, the unstable non-crystalline triol armillol (**10**) and methyl everninate (**11**), mp 64-66°. The methyl ester obtained by degradation was identical to synthetic methyl everninate (**11**), mp 65-66°, prepared by standard methods (6). A discrepancy exists in recent literature values for the melting point of methyl everninate (**11**) 66-67° (7), 147-148° (8). The former is correct.

TABLE 1.  $^1\text{H}$ -nmr Spectra<sup>a</sup> of Armillyl Orsellinate (**1**), Armillyl Everninate (**3**), and Arnamiol (**4**)

H	(1) <sup>b</sup> (1)	(3) <sup>c</sup>	(4) <sup>c</sup>
H-1 . . . .	4.18, 4.38 dd (13.0)	4.30, 4.38 dd (13.0)	4.31, 4.38 dd (12.1)
H-3 . . . .	4.23 dd (9.0, 2.0)	4.21 dd (8.8, 2.9)	4.22 dd (8.2, 2.6)
H-5 . . . .	5.98 ddd (7.0, 7.6, 2.0)	5.9 ddd (6.6, 8.5, 2.9)	6.01 ddd (7.3, 7.3, 2.6)
H-6 $\alpha$ . . .	1.99 dd (7.6, 11.5)	1.96 dd (6.6, 11.7)	1.98 dd (7.3, 11.7)
H-6 $\beta$ . . .	2.70 dd (7.0, 11.5)	2.62 dd (8.5, 11.7)	2.64 dd (7.3, 11.7)
H9, 13 . . .	2.4-2.55m	2.3-2.5m	2.3-2.5m
H-10 $\alpha$ . . .	} 1.07, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.84 $\times$ dd	1.18 dd (11.7, 2.0)	1.18 dd (11.7, 2.1)
H-10 $\beta$ . . .		1.83 dd (11.7, 5.9)	1.82 dd (11.7, 6.1)
H-12 $\alpha$ . . .		1.32 dd (12.5, 9.5)	1.36 dd (13.0, 10.2)
H-12 $\beta$ . . .		1.45 dd (12.5, 7.3)	1.43 dd (13.0, 7.3)
CH <sub>3</sub> -8 . . .	1.13 s	1.11 s	1.10 s
CH <sub>3</sub> -14 . .	1.07 s	1.07 s	1.07 s
CH <sub>3</sub> -15 . .	0.98 s	0.98 s	0.98 s
H-4' . . . .	6.14 d (2.2)	6.28 d (2.2)	—
H-6' . . . .	6.22 d (2.2)	6.33 d (2.2)	6.41 s
CH <sub>3</sub> -8' . .	2.47 s	2.53 s	2.65 s
OCH <sub>3</sub> . . .	—	3.80 s	3.90 s

<sup>a</sup>Shifts in ppm and coupling constants as (Hz).

<sup>b</sup> $\text{CDCl}_3$  solution at 400 MHz.

<sup>c</sup> $\text{CDCl}_3$  solution at 270 MHz.

TABLE 2  $^{13}\text{C}$ -nmr Spectra of Armillyl Orsellinate (**1**), Armillyl Everninate (**3**), and Arnamiol (**4**)

Atom	( <b>1</b> ) <sup>a</sup> (1)	( <b>3</b> ) <sup>b</sup>	( <b>4</b> ) <sup>b</sup>
1 . . . . .	58.6 t	58.8 t	59.0 t
2 . . . . .	131.8 s	142.5 s	142.5 s
3 . . . . .	74.4 d	74.4 d	74.6 d
4 . . . . .	127.8 s	133.2 s	133.8 s
5 . . . . .	69.8 d	69.9 d	70.8 d
6 . . . . .	40.7 t	40.7 t	40.9 t
7 . . . . .	39.8 t	39.9 s	40.1 s
8 . . . . .	21.0 q	20.9 q	21.2 q
9 . . . . .	47.0 d	47.2 d	47.4 d
10 . . . . .	46.2 t	46.4 t	46.6 t
11 . . . . .	38.6 s	38.6 s	39.0 s
12 . . . . .	46.1 t	46.0 t	46.2 t
13 . . . . .	49.5 d	49.8 d	50.1 d
14 . . . . .	29.4 q	29.3 q	29.5 q
15 . . . . .	28.8 q	26.8 q	27.0 q
1' . . . . .	170.2 s	170.7 s	170.4 s
2' . . . . .	104.2 s	104.7 s	106.3 s
3' . . . . .	160.9 s	163.8 s	159.7 s
4' . . . . .	100.8 d	98.6 d	98.5 d
5' . . . . .	164.4 s	165.4 s	163.0 s
6' . . . . .	111.5 d	111.0 d	115.7 s
7' . . . . .	143.2 s	142.9 s	139.7 s
8' . . . . .	24.2 q	24.2 q	19.8 q
OCH <sub>3</sub> . . . . .	—	55.1 q	56.3 q

<sup>a</sup>CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution at 100.61 MHz.<sup>b</sup>CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution at 67.8 MHz.

Methylation of armillyl orsellinate (**1**) with CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> yielded a compound identical in all respects to **3**. The structure of the natural product was therefore confirmed as armillyl everninate (**3**).

Arnamiol (**4**), mp 132-134°, had a molecular formula C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>31</sub>ClO<sub>6</sub>, which was supported by its negative ion fab mass spectrum (glycerol, DMF) with |M-H|<sup>-</sup> at *m/z* 449 (<sup>35</sup>Cl) and 451 (<sup>37</sup>Cl). The eims did not show a parent molecular ion [M-H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup> at *m/z* 432], a feature of the eims of **1** and **3**. The base peak at *m/z* 199, with a peak at 201 (35%), suggested a chlorinated everninate ester fragment. The 270 MHz <sup>1</sup>H-nmr spectrum (Table 1) indicated another armillyl orsellinate (**1**) derivative. The presence of only one aromatic hydrogen ( $\delta$  6.41 ppm) and a methoxyl ( $\delta$  3.90 ppm) confirmed the chloroeverninate ester. Decoupling experiments and the <sup>13</sup>C-nmr spectrum (Table 2) were compatible with an armillyl chloroeverninate structure. The position of the chlorine atom was assigned by examination of the <sup>13</sup>C spectra of methyl orsellinate (**12**), methyl 3-chloroorsellinate (**13**), and methyl 5-chloroorsellinate (**14**) (Table 3). Reported procedures were employed in the preparation of esters **12** (9), **13** (10), and **14** (8). The unsubstituted aryl carbon and the aryl methyl signals in the chloroorsellinates are easily distinguished. The relevant shifts in the <sup>13</sup>C-nmr spectrum of the natural product at 98.5 (d) and 19.8 (q) ppm are clearly associated with the 5-chloro isomer. The proposed structure **4** for arnamiol was proved by degradation and synthesis of the aryl ester degradation product.

Methanolysis of arnamiol (**4**) yielded armillol (**10**) and methyl 5-chloroeverninate (**15**), mp 146-148°, identical to synthetic methyl 5-chloroeverninate (**15**) prepared by standard methods (8). The alternative isomer methyl 5-chloroisoeverninate (**16**), mp 132-133°, was prepared via the isopropyl ether (**17**) followed by methylation and deprotection (11).

TABLE 3.  $^{13}\text{C}$  nmr<sup>a</sup> of (12), (13), and (14)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	C=O	OCH <sub>3</sub>
(12) R <sub>1</sub> =R <sub>2</sub> =H	105.8 s	160.3 s	101.4 d	165.4 s	111.4 d	144.1 s	24.4 q	172.2 s	52.0 q
(13) R <sub>1</sub> =H, R <sub>2</sub> =Cl	106.1 s	155.7 s	105.5 s	160.1 s	110.6 d	141.7 s	24.2 q	172.1 s	52.3 q
(14) R <sub>1</sub> =Cl, R <sub>2</sub> =H	107.1 s	156.0 s	102.0 d	162.9 s	113.9 s	139.5 s	19.9 q	171.4 s	52.3 q

<sup>a</sup>CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution at 67.8 MHz.

Unlike armillyl orsellinate (1) which exhibits activity against gram-positive bacteria, compounds 3 and 4 were found to be inactive. The activity of the corresponding derivatives 7 and 8 of the active melleolide (5) was not reported (5).

### EXPERIMENTAL

GENERAL EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES.—Melting points were determined on a Kofler melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. The uv spectra were measured on a Perkin-Elmer spectrometer model 124. The ir spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer spectrometer model 283B. Electron-impact mass spectra (ei) were taken on VG 70-70 spectrometer, and fab mass spectra (glycerol-DMF) were recorded on a Kratos MS-80 instrument. The 60 MHz <sup>1</sup>H-nmr spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer R12. 270 MHz <sup>1</sup>H nmr and 67.8 MHz <sup>13</sup>C nmr were recorded on a JEOL GX-270. Merck kieselgel 60 (70-230 mesh) and Woelm TSC 04526 were used for column chromatography.

CULTURE CONDITIONS.—*A. mellea* (Vahl: Fr) Kummer (CPS 111.29) was initiated on malt agar for 21 days. Roux flasks (40×1 liter) each containing Difco potato-dextrose broth (250 ml) were inoculated with *A. mellea* and incubated at 25° for 35 days.

ISOLATION OF ARMILLYL EVERNINATE (3) AND ARNAMIOL (4).—The mycelium was extracted with MeOH. The methanolic extract was evaporated and partitioned between CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH-H<sub>2</sub>O (13:7:4). The aqueous layer was reextracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH-H<sub>2</sub>O (13:7:4, lower layer) and the combined CHCl<sub>3</sub> layers evaporated to give a brown syrup (1.8 g).

Chromatography on Sephadex LH-20 (100 g, MeOH) yielded six fractions (1-6). Fraction 5 (750 mg) was rechromatographed on silica gel (19 g) [eluent: CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH-H<sub>2</sub>O (300:16:1)] to give a non-polar fraction (193 mg) which was combined with fraction 4 (262 mg). The combined fractions were chromatographed on silica gel (47 g) [eluent: CHCl<sub>3</sub>-MeOH (99:1)], yielding a mixture of two compounds (168 mg). These were separated on silica gel (20 g) [eluent: n-hexane-ErOAc-MeOH (40:15:1)] to yield armillyl everninate (3) (61 mg) and arnamiol (4) (81 mg).

ARMILLYL EVERNINATE (3).—Recrystallization from n-hexane-ErOAc gave needles mp 86-87°; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -66° (c=0.79 MeOH); ir (KBr) 3360, 1640 cm<sup>-1</sup>; uv (MeOH) λ max (log ε) 211 (4.33), 261(4.04), 298(3.78) nm; fabms |M-H|<sup>+</sup> 417; eims m/z (%) 398(2), 380(1), 234(6), 217(28), 201(6), 182(35), 173(5), 165(100); <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nmr, see Tables 1 and 2. Anal. Found: C, 69.29; H, 7.96. C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>6</sub> requires: C, 69.17; H, 7.74%.

ARNAMIOL (4).—Recrystallization from n-hexane-ErOAc gave needles mp 132-134°; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> -91° (c=0.73 MeOH); ir (KBr) ν max 3360, 1640 cm<sup>-1</sup>; uv (MeOH) λ max (log ε) 217(4.36), 259(4.16), 298(3.93) nm; fabms |M-H|<sup>-</sup> 449; eims m/z (%) 432(2), 388(1), 234(8), 217(28), 216(68), 201(33), 199(100), 187(10), 172(25); <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nmr, listed in Tables 1 and 2. Anal. Found: C, 63.91; H, 6.77; Cl, 8.19. C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>31</sub>ClO<sub>4</sub> requires: C, 63.92; H, 6.93; Cl, 7.86%.

METHANOLYSIS OF ARMILLYL EVERNINATE (3).—A solution of armillyl everninate (3) (30 mg) in MeOH (1 ml) and methanolic KOH (0.1M, 0.5 ml) was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The solution was diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O (3 ml), acidified with dilute HCl, and extracted with EtOAc (3×2 ml). The organic layer was washed with NaCl (saturated, 1 ml) and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). Evaporation yielded a residue which was

separated on Sephadex LH-20 (30 g, MeOH). Early fractions gave methyl everminate (**11**) (14 mg) which recrystallized from *n*-hexane-Et<sub>2</sub>O as rods mp 64–66° lit (7) mp 66–67°; ir (KBr)  $\nu$  max 1648 cm<sup>-1</sup>; uv (MeOH)  $\lambda$  max (log  $\epsilon$ ) 215(4.30), 260(4.13), 298(3.68) nm; ms *m/z* (%) 196(77), 164(100), 136(40), 121(12), 93(10); <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 270 MHz)  $\delta$  2.49(3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>-7), 3.79(3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.92(3H, s, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.28(1H, d, *J*=2.6 Hz, H-3), 6.33(1H, d, *J*=2.6 Hz, H-5), 11.78(1H, s, 2-OH); <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 67.8 MHz) 172.2(C=O), 105.2(C-1), 163.9(C-2), 98.7(C-3), 165.6(C-4), 111.2(C-5), 143.1(C-6), 24.3(C-7), 51.8(ester OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.8(ether OCH<sub>3</sub>). *Anal.* Found: C, 61.58; H, 6.08. Calcd. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 61.23; H, 6.31%.

Later fractions yielded armillol (**10**) (15 mg) an unstable solid; <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 270 MHz, 0°)  $\delta$  0.96(3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>-15), 0.97(3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>-14), 1.08(3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>-8), 1.11(1H, dd, *J*=10.4, 2.1 Hz, H-10 $\beta$ ), 1.34(2H, 2 $\times$ dd, *J*=16.0, 8.6, 2.0 Hz, H-12), 1.76(2H, m, H-10 $\beta$ , H-6 $\alpha$ ), 2.25(1H, dd, *J*=11.4, 7.0 Hz, H-6 $\beta$ ), 2.39(2H, m, H-9, H-13), 4.04(1H, dd, *J*=6.9, 2.2 Hz, H-3), 4.4(2H, dd, *J*=12.0 Hz, H-1), 4.9(1H, ddd, *J*=7.0, 7.6, 2.2 Hz, H-5); <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 67.8 MHz) 147.7(C-2), 131.2(C-4), 74.2(C-3), 68.7(C-5), 59.1(C-1), 50.1(C-13), 48.7(C-12), 47.0(C-9), 46.1(C-10), 41.1(C-6), 39.7(C-7), 36.9(C-11), 29.6(C-14), 27.1(C-15), 21.5(C-8).

**METHYLATION OF ARMILLYL ORSELLINATE (1).**—Freshly distilled ethereal CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> was added to a solution of armillyl orsellinate (**1**) (20 mg) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 ml). Evaporation and chromatography of the residue on silica gel (6 g) [eluent: *n*-hexane-EtOAc-MeOH (40:15:1)] yielded the product (18 mg), which had the same mp, [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup>, ir, uv, ms, <sup>1</sup>H nmr, and <sup>13</sup>C nmr as the natural product **3**.

**METHANOLYSIS OF ARNAMIOL (4).**—A solution of arnamiol (**4**) (20 mg) in MeOH (1 ml) and methanolic KOH (0.1M, 0.5 ml) was stirred at room temperature for 42 h. After addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (3 ml) and neutralization with dilute HCl, the solution was extracted with EtOAc (3 $\times$ 2 ml). The organic layer was washed with NaCl (saturated, 1 ml), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated to yield a residue which was separated on Sephadex LH-20 (30 g, MeOH). Early fractions gave armillol (**10**) (10 mg), an unstable solid, with the same <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nmr as above. Later fractions yielded methyl 5-chloro-2-hydroxy-4-methoxy-6-methylbenzoate (**15**) (10 mg) which recrystallized from Et<sub>2</sub>O as needles mp 146–148°, lit. (12) mp 148°; ir (KBr)  $\nu$  max 1640 cm<sup>-1</sup>; uv (MeOH)  $\lambda$  max (log  $\epsilon$ ) 215(4.38), 253(3.94), 305(3.56) nm; ms *m/z* (%) 230, 232(47, 16); 198, 200(100, 53); 184(4); 170, 172(14, 7); 155(17). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 270 MHz)  $\delta$  2.63(3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>-7), 3.90(3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.95(3H, s, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.43(1H, s, H-3), 11.56(1H, 2-OH); <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 67.8 MHz) 171.7(C=O), 106.4(C-1), 159.6(C-2), 98.5(C-3), 163.0(C-4), 115.6(C-5), 139.7(C-6), 19.7(C-7), 52.3(ether OCH<sub>3</sub>), 56.3(ester OCH<sub>3</sub>). *Anal.* Found: C, 52.06; H, 4.85; Cl, 15.18. Calcd. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClO<sub>4</sub>: C, 52.06; H, 4.77; Cl, 15.40%.

**METHYL 5-CHLORO-2-HYDROXY-4-ISOPROPOXY-6-METHYLBENZOATE (17).**—A solution of methyl 5-chloro-2,4-dihydroxy-6-methylbenzoate (**14**) (0.4 g), 2-bromo-propane (0.25 g) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.26 g) in DMF (10 ml) was stirred at 80° for 24 h. After cooling and addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (10 ml), the solution was acidified with dilute HCl and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 $\times$ 10 ml). The organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated to yield a residue which was chromatographed on silica gel (35 g) [eluent: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-EtOH (99:1)] to give **17** (0.2 g) which recrystallized from *n*-hexane Et<sub>2</sub>O as cubes mp 68–70°, ir (KBr)  $\nu$  max 1653 cm<sup>-1</sup>; uv (MeOH)  $\lambda$  max (log  $\epsilon$ ) 215(4.41), 262(4.01), 307(3.64) nm; ms *m/z* (%) 258, 260(31, 10), 226(4); 216, 218(22, 7); 184, 186(100, 41); 156(19). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 60 MHz)  $\delta$  1.32(6H, d, *J*=6 Hz, isopropyl (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 2.55(3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>-7), 3.90(3H, s, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.56(1H, septet, *J*=6 Hz, isopropyl CH), 6.4(1H, s, H-3), 11.48(1H, s, 2-OH). *Anal.* Found: C, 55.29; H, 5.78; Cl, 13.37. C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClO<sub>4</sub> requires: C, 55.71; H, 5.80; Cl, 13.73%.

**METHYL 5-CHLORO-4-HYDROXY-2-METHOXY-6-METHYLBENZOATE (16).**—Methyl 5-chloro-2-hydroxy-4-isopropoxy-6-methylbenzoate (**17**) (110 mg), (Me<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (55 mg) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (60 mg) in Me<sub>2</sub>CO (5 ml) was refluxed for 5 h. After addition of aqueous NaOH (5%, 20 ml), the solution was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 $\times$ 10 ml). The organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), evaporated, dissolved in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 ml), and stirred at 0° under dry N<sub>2</sub>. Next, TiCl<sub>4</sub> (0.2 ml) was added and the solution stirred at room temperature overnight. Then, H<sub>2</sub>O (10 ml) was added and the solution extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 $\times$ 5 ml). The Et<sub>2</sub>O layer was extracted with NaOH (10%, 2 $\times$ 5 ml). The alkaline extract was acidified (dilute HCl) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 $\times$ 5 ml). The organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated to dryness to give **16** (67 mg) which recrystallized from *n*-hexane/Et<sub>2</sub>O as needles mp 132–133°; ir (KBr) 3300, 1697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; uv (MeOH)  $\lambda$  max (log  $\epsilon$ ) 207(4.38), 242(3.64), 287(3.48) nm; ms *m/z* (%) 230, 232(61, 20); 215(3); 199, 201(100, 32); 184(7); 156(12). <sup>1</sup>H nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 270 MHz)  $\delta$  2.30(3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>-7), 3.78(3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.90(3H, s, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.90(1H, bs, 4-OH), 6.49(1H, s, H-3); <sup>13</sup>C nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 67.8 MHz) 168.1(C=O), 117.5(C-1), 153.1(C-2), 97.3(C-3), 156.2(C-4), 112.3(C-5), 134.8(C-6), 17.5(C-7), 52.4(ether OCH<sub>3</sub>), 56.1(ester OCH<sub>3</sub>). *Anal.* Found: C, 52.10; H, 4.88; Cl, 15.50. C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClO<sub>4</sub> requires: C, 52.06; H, 4.77; Cl, 15.40%.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank the Minister for Education for a maintenance grant (D.C.) and P. Varenne for the fab mass spectrum measurements.

## LITERATURE CITED

1. D. Donnelly, S. Sanada, J. O'Reilly, J. Polonsky, T. Prangé, and C. Pascard, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, 135 (1982).
2. D.M.X. Donnelly, J. Polonsky, T. Prangé, G. Snatzke, and U. Wagner, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, 222 (1984).
3. S.L. Midland, R.R. Izac, R.M. Wing, A.I. Zaki, D.E. Munnecke, and J.J. Sims, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2515 (1982).
4. D.M.X. Donnelly, F. Abe, D. Coveney, N. Fukuda, J. O'Reilly, J. Polonsky, and T. Prangé, *J. Nat. Prod.*, **48**, 10 (1985).
5. Y. Yunshan, C. Yuwn, F. Xiaozhang, Y. Deguan, and L. Xiaotian, *Planta Med.*, **50**, 288 (1984).
6. E. Fischer and K. Hoesch, *Liebigs Ann. Chem.*, **391**, 347 (1912).
7. G. Nicollier, M. Rebetez, R. Tabacchi, H. Gerlach, and A. Thalmann, *Helv. Chim. Acta*, **61**, 2899 (1978).
8. T. Sala and M.V. Sargent, *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans I*, 855 (1981).
9. M.V. Sargent, P. Vogel, and J.A. Elix, *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans I*, 1986 (1975).
10. L. Fitzpatrick, T. Sala, and M.V. Sargent, *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans I*, 85 (1980).
11. T. Sala and M.V. Sargent, *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. I*, 2593 (1979).
12. F.M. Dean, A.D.T. Erni, and A. Robertson, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 3545 (1956).

Received 5 June 1985