

JOURNAL OF NATURAL PRODUCTS

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Editorial

Cover Change for Volume 60

Beginning with the January issue of Volume 60, it is proposed to make an annual change in the cover photograph of the *Journal of Natural Products*. In recognition of the many papers this journal receives and publishes dealing with marine natural products chemistry, the new cover photograph shows the sea hare, *Dolabella auricularia*, overlaid with the structure of one of its peptide constituents, dolastatin 10. This compound has shown very impressive preclinical activity as an anti-neoplastic agent (Pettit, G. R. *J. Nat. Prod.* **1996**, *59*, 812–821) and, as a totally synthesized entity, is now undergoing Phase I clinical trials at two major U.S. medical centers under the auspices of the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, MD. It is also pertinent to mention that camptothecin, the plant-derived compound featured on the cover of Volume 59 of the journal, has served as a lead compound for two new semisynthetic drugs introduced into cancer chemotherapy in the U.S. in 1996, namely, irinotecan (CPT-11) and topotecan. These few examples serve to illustrate the continued promise of natural product molecules as sources of new drugs.

An analysis of the papers published in the *Journal of Natural Products* will show that biologically active natural products of marine or terrestrial origin may be utilized for a whole host of purposes other than drug therapy. Accordingly, the editorial staff of the journal proposes to change the cover photograph on an annual basis and would like to solicit ideas for consideration for future volumes from the general readership. For each cover photograph, we would like to showcase the organism of origin and structure of a natural product of potential utility. Readers interested in contributing suitable photographs should communicate directly with the Editor-in-Chief of the journal. If a photograph is chosen, a caption acknowledging its source will be included in each issue of the journal in which the photograph appears. Contributors of photographs should be prepared to sign an American Chemical Society Copyright Transfer Form for Artwork/Photos.

I will look forward to hearing from you regarding your ideas for future journal covers. In addition, the Associate Editors, the Editorial Advisory Board, the Management Board, and myself will value any comments you might have in terms of how the journal could be improved. One way in which this can be done is by visiting the newly established home page of the *Journal of Natural Products* on the Internet (<http://pubs.acs.org/journals/jnprdf/>).

**A. Douglas Kinghorn,
Editor-in-Chief**

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