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Editorial

Changes for Volume 61

This year's new cover shows the structure of the alkaloid epibatidine overlaid on the producing organism, the Ecuadorian poison frog, *Epipedobates tricolor*. This compound is a potent analgetic, and is 200 times more active than morphine in this regard. It is notable that these analgetic effects are not blocked by naloxone, unlike the case for morphine. Epibatidine was isolated and structurally established by Dr. John W. Daly and colleagues at the Laboratory of Bioorganic Chemistry, NIDDK, NIH (Spande, T. F. *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1992**, *114*, 3475–3478). Both the naturally occurring (–)- and (+)-forms of epibatidine have been synthesized. Epibatidine is a potent agonist at central nicotinic receptors, and is now available commercially as a useful biological probe. A review article on Dr. Daly's outstanding work on bioactive compounds from amphibians is included in this issue of the journal.

An increasing number of papers submitted to this journal reporting the structure elucidation of novel natural products are supported by X-ray crystallographic data. To expedite the deposit of supplementary X-ray crystallographic data at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC), 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK, a change in policy for the *Journal of Natural Products* will occur henceforth. For each structure for which crystallographic data are presented, authors should submit the supplementary X-ray crystallographic data. Reviewers will be provided with copies of the supplementary X-ray crystallographic data. When the manuscript is accepted for publication, the authors will then deposit the actual data with CCDC (either by e-mail, floppy disk, or hard copy; see the 1998 Notice to Contributors for more information). Thus, in future, it will be the responsibility of the authors rather than the Editor to deposit X-ray supplementary data with CCDC.

With effect from January 1998, subscribers will have access to either or both the print and Web editions of the *Journal of Natural Products*. The production of a Web edition of the journal will have many advantages such as a search option, for easier retrieval of information, and linking to various databases. Further, authors should note that once the page proofs to a given document are returned, it will be made available on the World Wide Web from two to six weeks prior to the appearance of the print version. This should be borne in mind where there are any intellectual property considerations. As a consequence of the availability of the electronic versions of documents in this journal, abstracts will no longer be published in *Advance ACS Abstracts* as has been the case for the past two years since co-publication of the *Journal of Natural Products* began between the American Society of Pharmacognosy and the American Chemical Society.

A. Douglas Kinghorn
Editor-in-Chief

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