## Assessment of the Antiprotozoal Activity of Galphimia glauca and the Isolation of New Nor-secofriedelanes and Nor-friedelanes

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Four new terpenoids, comprising three nor-secofriedelanes (1-3) and one nor-friedelane (4), were isolated from Galphimia glauca, together with the known flavonol quercetin and the sterols stigmasterol and sitosterol 3-O- $\beta$ -D-glucoside. The structure elucidation of the new isolates was conducted by 1D and 2D NMR techniques. Compounds 1-4 were given the trivial names galphin A, galphin B, galphin C, and galphimidin, respectively. All isolates were tested for in vitro antiprotozoal and cytotoxic activities. Quercetin was the only substance isolated that showed any antiprotozoal activity, and this was weak; the IC<sub>50</sub> values were 14 µM against Plasmodium falciparum K1, 13.2 µM against Trypanosoma brucei brucei, and 63.8 µM against Leishmania donovani. Quercetin was found to be inactive against KB cells  $(IC_{50} = 295.8 \ \mu M).$ 

Galphimia glauca Cav. (Malphigeaceae), commonly known as "calderona amarilla", is widely distributed in Latin America. The plant is used in Mexican traditional medicine to alleviate heart pain, to calm the nerves,<sup>1</sup> and to treat diarrhea, dysentery, gastroenteritis, malaria,<sup>2</sup> and mental disorders.<sup>3</sup> An aqueous extract of *G. glauca* inhibited histamine release from human adenoidal mast cells<sup>4</sup> and displayed relaxant action on different types of smooth muscle.<sup>5,6</sup> A methanolic extract displayed sedative and anticonvulsant properties,<sup>7</sup> and a homoeopathic preparation of G. glauca has been used for the treatment of pollinosis.8

G. glauca has yielded various phenolic compounds as constituents, such as tetragalloylquinic acid, gallic acid, methyl gallate, ellagic acid, quercetin glucoside, quercetin galloylglucoside, and quercetin,9,10 as well as nor-secotriterpenes, including galphimine B<sup>11</sup> and its 6-acetoxy derivative.12 Quercetin has shown antiasthmatic and anticomplementary effects,9,10 and galphimine B displayed depressant effects on the central nervous system.<sup>11</sup>

As part of the search for antiprotozoal drugs from plants, it was found that the *n*-BuOH and CHCl<sub>3</sub> fractions obtained from G. glauca had moderate activity against Plasmodium falciparum K1, Trypanosoma brucei brucei, Leishmania donovani, and KB (human epidermoid carcinoma of the nasopharynx) cells (Table 1). Chemical investigation of these fractions yielded four new terpenoids, comprising three nor-secofriedelanes, galphin A (1), galphin B (2), and galphin C (3), and one new nor-friedelane, galphimidin (4), along with the known flavonol quercetin<sup>13</sup> and the sterols stigmasterol<sup>14</sup> and sitosterol  $3-O-\beta$ -Dglucoside.15

## **Results and Discussion**

The molecular formula of galphin A (1) was determined to be  $C_{34}H_{49}O_{10}$  on the basis of HRFABMS, indicating 11 degrees of unsaturation. The IR spectrum gave bands for an alcohol  $(3500 \text{ cm}^{-1})$ , ester  $(1720 \text{ cm}^{-1})$ , and lactone  $(1750 \text{ cm}^{-1})$ cm<sup>-1</sup>) groups. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR, DEPT, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, and HMQC experiments established the presence of three tertiary methyl groups, one secondary methyl group, two acetoxy groups, a carbomethoxy group, an epoxide function, an exocyclic methylene, a methylene and a methine bearing one primary and one secondary acetoxy group, respectively, a tertiary alcohol, and a lactone in a seven-membered ring. The above information was consistent with a nor-secofriedelane having a lactone in a heptacyclic ring.<sup>12,16</sup> The lactone function was confirmed through the carbon signals at  $\delta_{\rm C}$  52.7 (C-1), 56.4 (C-2), and 168.6 (C-3), and its location in the seven-membered ring A was in accordance with the chemical shifts of carbons at  $\delta_{\rm C}$  76.3 (C-4), 41.1 (C-5), 53.8 (C-10), and 13.0 (C-23) (Table 2). A long-range heteronuclear COLOC experiment allowed unambiguous identification of all resonances and the placement of the oxygenated functional groups in the nor-secofriedelane skeleton by identifying mainly  ${}^{2}J$  and  ${}^{3}J$  connectivities associated with the quaternary carbons and oxygenated functional groups (Table 3). The lactone signals at  $\delta$  168.6 (C-3) showed correlations with the methine protons H-1 ( $\delta$  3.55) and H-2 ( $\delta$  3.56) of the epoxide function at C-1/C-2. An HMQC correlation observed for a methine group ( $\delta_{\rm H}$  5.16, brt, J = 8 Hz;  $\delta_{\rm C}$  69.0) bearing a secondary acetoxy group and the chemical shifts of neighboring carbons at  $\delta_C$  31.8 (C-6) and 50.4 (C-8) suggested the location of the secondary acetoxy group at C-7. In turn, HMQC correlations observed for the methylene group ( $\delta_{\rm H}$  3.63 and 5.07, each, d, J = 12Hz;  $\delta_{\rm C}$  68.2) and the chemical shifts of carbon C-5 ( $\delta$  41.1) indicated that the primary acetoxy group was located at C-24. A COLOC correlation observed for the guaternary carbon at  $\delta$  41.1 (C-5) with H-7 and H<sub>2</sub>-24 confirmed these assignments, since C-5 showed further correlations with H-1, H-4, H<sub>2</sub>-6, H-10, and Me-23. Another quaternary carbon at  $\delta$  37.9 (C-9) correlated with H-8, H-10, H<sub>2</sub>-11, and Me-25. COLOC correlations were observed for C-13 with H<sub>2</sub>-11, H<sub>2</sub>-12, and Me-26. These were linked to the quaternary carbon at C-14 ( $\delta$  42.1), which correlated with Me-26 and H<sub>2</sub>-15. Further, COLOC correlations observed

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Table 1.	In Vi	tro Antiprotozoa	al and Cytotoxi	c Activities of	of Extracts of	Galphimia glauc	a and Quercetin <sup>a</sup>
		1				1 0	

	$1C_{50} \pm SEM (\mu g/mL)$								
sample	Plasmodium falciparum K1	Trypanosoma brucei brucei	Leishmania donovani	KB cells					
MeOH extract	$128.0\pm1.9$	$125.0\pm2.3$	$68.2\pm0.2$	$163.8\pm0.3$					
H <sub>2</sub> O extract	>500	$500.0\pm7.0$	$103.7\pm3.1$	>500					
hexane extract	> 500	>500	> 500	>500					
CHCl <sub>3</sub> extract	$86.7\pm2.3$	$63.4 \pm 1.3$	$58.1 \pm 1.1$	$160.0\pm2.6$					
n-BuOH extract	$24.7\pm1.2$	$36.7\pm2.1$	$55.6 \pm 1.4$	$68.4 \pm 2.3$					
quercetin	$6.5\pm1.4$	$4.5\pm0.9$	$29.5\pm1.5$	$136.0\pm1.9$					
	$[14.2\pm2.2~\mu\mathrm{M}]$	$[13.2 \pm 1.1 \mu\mathrm{M}]$	$[63.8\pm1.48\mu\mathrm{M}]$	$[295.8\pm3.6\mu\mathrm{M}]$					
pentamidine	ND	$6 imes 10^{-4}\pm 2 imes 10^{-5}$	$0.24\pm0.05$	$0.11\pm0.06$					
		$[3.4 imes 10^{-4}\pm 4 imes 10^{-5} \mu { m M}]$	$[0.41\pm0.18\mu\mathrm{M}]$	$[0.17\pm0.12\mu\mathrm{M}]$					
chloroquine	$0.22\pm0.06$	ND	ND	$51.4 \pm 1.7$					
	$[0.59\pm0.10\mu\mathrm{M}]$			$[160.5\pm2.2\mu\mathrm{M}]$					
podophyllotoxin	ND	ND	ND	$6.21  imes 10^{-3} \pm 2  imes 10^{-4} \ [0.015 \pm 0.008  \mu { m M}]$					

<sup>*a*</sup> Inhibitory concentration (IC<sub>50</sub>) value of drug causing 50% inhibition of parasite or cell growth in the test was used to determine the activity of each sample. IC<sub>50</sub> values and SEM were determined by linear regression analysis using the Minitab statistical program package. Three determinations were realized in different days (n = 3). p > 95%. ND: not determined.

Table 2.	<sup>1</sup> H and <sup>1</sup>	<sup>13</sup> C NMR I	Data for	Compou	nds 1-4	(values in	parentheses are J	values in	Hz)
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		$\delta_{\mathrm{C}}$						
position	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1	3.55, m	3.55, m	3.56, m	1.55, 1.45, each, m	52.7	52.7	53.9	16.2
2	3.56, m	3.58, m	3.57, m	1.81, m	56.4	56.4	57.6	31.5
3				4.93, brs	168.6	168.5	169.7	74.7
4	5.32, q (6)	5.26, q (6)	5.20, q (6)	1.77, m	76.3	76.4	77.7	49.1
5					41.1	41.5	42.5	45.4
6α	1.73, dd (8, 12)	1.73, dd (8, 12)	1.71, dd (8, 12)	3.28, d (8)	31.8	31.8	32.9	86.3
<b>6</b> β	1.44, dd (8, 1)	1.43, dd (8, 1)	1.47, dd (8, 1)					
7α				3.98, brt (8)	69.0	68.7	70.0	72.5
$7\beta$	5.16, brt (8)	5.11, brt (7)	5.10, brt (7)	, , , ,				
8	2.15. brd (8)	1.96. brd (8)	2.01. brd (8)	1.66. brd (9)	50.4	51.3	52.4	50.0
9					37.9	37.8	38.9	37.5
10	1.66. brs	1.63. brs	1.62. brs	1.06. dd (10. 2.6)	53.8	54.2	55.8	59.3
11α	2.82. td (13. 4)	2.69. td (13. 4)	2.98. t (13)	1.55. m	27.1	26.9	35.2	30.4
$11\beta$	0.77, brd (12)	0.71, brd (12)	0.97. dd (12, 4)	3.22. dd (12.2)				
$12\alpha$	1.18. m	1.47. m	,,,	1.43. m	33.9	26.8	76.3	29.6
$12\beta$	1.98. m	1.67. m	5.6. dd (12. 4)	2.18. m	0010	2010		2010
13	1.00, 11	1107, 111	010, 44 (12, 1)	2.10, 11	57.1	57.9	59.5	79.9
14					42.1	41.9	49.2	43.8
15	2.30 1.98 each m	1.62, 1.96, each m	214195 each m	1.55 m	40.4	40.4	41.4	39.8
16	1 07 m	1 98 m	1 98 m	1 40 m	23.4	23.9	25.6	25.3
17	2 25 m	2 15 m	1.71 m	1 95 m	38.2	<u>43</u> 1	20.0 43.9	41 5
18	w.wo, m	w.10, m		1.00, 11	77.0	76 7	80.7	79.5
19					42.6	41.9	42.8	45.0
20	208 290 each d (15)	211 289 each d (15)	216 286 each d (15)	237266 each d (13)	144.2	138.6	139.0	144 1
21	2.00, 2.00, each, a (10)	2.11, 2.00, cucii, u (10)	2.10, 2.00, cucii, u (10)	2.07, 2.00, cucii, u (10)	29.1	34.9	37.0	33.2
22	107225 each m	23 m	2 28 m	2 20 2 54 each m	36.1	70.9	70.0	52 7
~~	2 17 m	5.56  dd (12.6)	6.04 dd (12.6)	2.20, 2.04, cach, m 2.74 m	00.1	10.0	70.0	0~.1
	1 17 d (6)	1 17 d (6)	1 17 d (6)	1.35 d (7)				
23	363507 each d (12)	3.61, 5.05 each d (12)	3.61, 5.06 each d (12)	450, 473 each d (12)	13.0	13.0	14.3	167
24	1 31 s	1 36 s	1 52 s	1 18 s	68.2	68.2	69.4	65 1
25	1 34 s	1 30 s	1 35 s	1 02 s	22 7	20.9	23.1	23.0
26	3 49 s	3.62 s	3 65 s	3 65 s	20 5	23 1	25.1	19 5
27	1.09 s	1.00 \$	1 25 5	1 27 s	£0.0 51 3	513	527	51 /
28	1.00, 5 1.46, 1.89 each brs	1.60, 5 1.6.4.8 each brs	1.20, 5 1.61 1.81 each brs	1.27 3 1.79 1.81 each brs	25.7	18.3	16.0	22.8
20	1 99 s	1 98 s	1 98 c	2 01 s	109 7	113.9	11116	110 /
$\tilde{\Omega}$	207 s	2.05 s	1.98 s	2.043 2.11 s	174.6	173 7	174.0	17/ 8
OAt	2.01, 3	2.03, 3	2.06 s	2.11 5	170.2	170.2	174.5	170.0
		2.07, 3	2.00, 3 2.03 s		170.2	170.2	171 /	170.0
			2.05, 5		170.5	170.2	171.4	170.0
						170.5	171.0	
					21.0	21.0	22 2	91 A
					21 G	۵1.0 21.9	22 G	~1.4 91.9
					21.0	21 G	22 G	61.6
						1.0%	23 D	
							20.0	

for the carbomethoxy group ( $\delta_{\rm C}$  174.6) with H<sub>2</sub>-12 ( $\delta_{\rm H}$  1.18, 1.98, each, m) and H<sub>2</sub>-19 ( $\delta_{\rm H}$  2.08, 2.90, each, d, J = 15 Hz,), together with the similarity of the chemical shift values of C-13 ( $\delta$  57.1) and C-18 ( $\delta$  77.0) in **1**, and C-13 ( $\delta$  57.6) and C-18 ( $\delta$  76.8) in the galphimine B 6-acetoxy derivative previously isolated from *G. glauca*,<sup>12</sup> allowed the

placement of the carbomethoxy group on C-13 and the tertiary alcohol group at C-18. The quaternary carbon at C-17 ( $\delta$  38.2) correlated with H<sub>2</sub>-16, H<sub>2</sub>-19, H<sub>2</sub>-22, and Me-28. These were linked to C-18 ( $\delta$  77.0), which correlated in turn with Me-28 and H<sub>2</sub>-19. The C-20 signal ( $\delta$  144.2) showed correlations with H<sub>2</sub>-19 and H<sub>2</sub>-21. Finally, the

Table 3.	2D	NMR S	spectral	Data for	Compounds	1	and 4

	$^{1}\mathrm{H}^{-1}\mathrm{H}$	<sup>1</sup> H– <sup>1</sup> H COSY			4		NOESY		
position	1	4	$^2J$	$^{3}J$	$^{2}J$	$^{3}J$	1	4	
1 2 3	H-2, H-10 H-1	H-2, H-10 H-1, H-3 H-2, H-4	H-2, H-10 H-1 H-2	H-10 H-1		H-3	H-2, H-10 H-1, H-10	H-4	
4 5	Me-23	Me-23	Me-23 H-4, H <sub>2</sub> -6, H-10, H <sub>2</sub> -24	H <sub>2</sub> -24 Me-23, H-1, H-7	Me-23 H <sub>2</sub> -24	H <sub>2</sub> -24 H-3	H-8, H-10	H-6, H-8, H-10	
6 7	H-7 H <sub>2</sub> -6, H-8	H-7 H-8, H-6	-		H-8	H <sub>2</sub> -24	H-6β, H-11β, Me-25	H-4, H-10 Me-25	
8 9	H-7	H-7	H-8, H-10, H <sub>2</sub> -11, Me-25	H <sub>2</sub> -6, Me-26	Me-25	H <sub>2</sub> -11	H-10	H-10	
10	H-1	H <sub>2</sub> -1	H-1	H-2, H <sub>2</sub> -6, Me-25		H <sub>2</sub> -11, Me-25	H-1, H-2, H-4, H-8	H-4, H-6	
11 12	H <sub>2</sub> -12 H <sub>2</sub> -11	H <sub>2</sub> -12 H <sub>2</sub> -11		Me-25					
13 14			H <sub>2</sub> -12 H <sub>2</sub> -15, Me-26	H <sub>2</sub> -11, Me-26	H-11 H <sub>2</sub> -15, Me-26	Me-26			
15 16 17	H <sub>2</sub> -16 H <sub>2</sub> -15	H <sub>2</sub> -16 H <sub>2</sub> -15	H <sub>2</sub> -16, H <sub>2</sub> -22, Me-28	Me-26 Me-28 H <sub>2</sub> -19	H <sub>2</sub> -16, H-22, Me-28	Me-26 Me-28	Me-26, Me-28		
18 19 20		H <sub>2</sub> -19	H <sub>2</sub> -19, Me-28 - H <sub>2</sub> -19, H <sub>2</sub> -21	H <sub>2</sub> -29	H <sub>2</sub> -19	Me-28 H <sub>2</sub> -29	H <sub>2</sub> -29	H <sub>2</sub> -29	
21 22	$H_2-22 H_2-21$	H-22 H <sub>2</sub> -21		H <sub>2</sub> -29 Me-28			H <sub>2</sub> -29	H <sub>2</sub> -21, H-22 Me-28, H <sub>2</sub> -21	
23 24 25	H-4 H <sub>2</sub> -24	H-4 H <sub>2</sub> -24	H-10				H <sub>2</sub> -24 Me-23, Me-25 11 $\beta$ , H-7 $\beta$ , Me-26	H <sub>2</sub> -24 M-23, Me-25 Me-26, H-25, H-7 $\beta$ , H-11 $\beta$ , H-12 $\beta$	
26 27			H <sub>2</sub> -19. H <sub>2</sub> -21	H <sub>2</sub> -19	H-22		H-16β, Me-28 H-19α	Me-25, H-16β, Me-28	
28 29			,	N			H-16β, Me-26 H-19α, H-21β	H-22	

exocyclic methylene at C-29 ( $\delta$  109.7) correlated with  $H_{2}\text{-}19$  and  $H_{2}\text{-}21.$ 

Once the planar structure of galphin A (1) was established, the configuration and conformation of the molecule was determined by a NOESY experiment (Table 3). The small coupling constants for H-1/H-2 and H-1/H-10 in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum and correlations observed for H-2/H-10 and H-1/H-10 in the NOESY spectrum permitted the  $\beta$ configuration of the epoxide group at C-1/C-2 to be determined. The  $\alpha$ -axial configuration of the acetoxy group at C-7 was determined by the small coupling constants observed for H-6 $\beta$ /H-7 $\beta$  (J = 1 Hz), H-6 $\alpha$ /H-7 $\beta$  (J = 12 Hz), and H-7 $\beta$ /H-8 $\alpha$  (J = 8 Hz) in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum and NOESY correlations for H-7/H-11/Me-25. NOESY correlations observed for H<sub>2</sub>-24/Me-25, Me-25/H-11β/Me-26, Me-26/H-16 $\beta$ , and Me-28/H-16 $\beta$  were consistent with a twistboat-trans-chair-trans-chair-cis-half-chair arrangement for rings B/C/D/E. This was in agreement with an  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ axial configuration of the carbomethoxy group on C-13 and the tertiary alcohol group on C-18, respectively. On this basis, compound **1** was identified as (4R)-7 $\alpha$ ,24-diacetoxy- $13\alpha$ -carbomethoxy- $1\beta$ ,  $2\beta$ -epoxy- $18\beta$ -hydroxy-30-nor-3, 4-secofriedela-20(29)-en-3,4-olide and named galphin A.

Galphin B (2) had the molecular formula  $C_{36}H_{51}O_{12}$  on the basis of its HRFABMS data. Its NMR data (Table 2) were almost identical to those of 1, except that 2 lacked the C-22 methylene signal seen for 1, and instead a methine ( $\delta$  5.56, dd, J = 12, 6 Hz, H-22) bearing a secondary acetoxy group ( $\delta_{\rm C}$  170.2;  $\delta_{\rm C}$  21.2;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  2.05) was observed. In addition, the chemical shifts for carbons C-17 ( $\delta_{\rm C}$  43.1), C-21 ( $\delta_{\rm C}$  34.9), and C-22 ( $\delta_{\rm C}$  70.9); COLOC correlations for C-17 with H<sub>2</sub>-16, H<sub>2</sub>-19, H-22, Me-28; and NOESY correlations observed for CO<sub>2</sub>Me-27 $\alpha$ /H-22 $\alpha$ /H-21 $\alpha$ /H-11 $\alpha$  were consistent with a  $\beta$ -equatorial acetoxy group at C-22. On this basis **2** (galphin B) was assigned as (4*R*)-7 $\alpha$ ,22 $\beta$ ,24-triacetoxy-13 $\alpha$ -carbomethoxy-1 $\beta$ ,2 $\beta$ -epoxy-18 $\beta$ -hydroxy-30-nor-3,4-secofriedela-20(29)-en-3,4-olide.

Galphin C (**3**) displayed the molecular formula  $C_{38}H_{53}O_{14}$ on the basis of its HRFABMS. Its NMR data (Table 2) were almost identical to those of **2**, except that **3** lacked the C-12 methylene resonance evident for **2**, and instead a methine ( $\delta$  5.6, dd, J = 12, 4 Hz, H-12) bearing a secondary acetoxy group ( $\delta_{\rm H}$  1.98;  $\delta_{\rm C}$  22.97;  $\delta_{\rm C}$  171.5) was observed. Further, the chemical shifts for C-12 ( $\delta_{\rm C}$  76.3) and C-11 ( $\delta_{\rm C}$  35.2); COLOC correlations for C-13 ( $\delta$  59.5) with H<sub>2</sub>-11, H-12, and Me-26; and NOESY correlations of H-11 $\beta$ /H-12 $\beta$ /Me-25/Me-26 were consistent with an  $\alpha$ -equatorial configuration for the acetoxy group at C-12. On this basis, **3** was identified as (4R)-7 $\alpha$ ,22 $\beta$ ,12 $\alpha$ ,24-tetraacetoxy-13 $\alpha$ -carbomethoxy-1 $\beta$ ,2 $\beta$ epoxy-18 $\beta$ -hydroxy-30-nor-3,4-secofriedela-20(29)-en-3,4olide and named galphin C.

Galphimidin (4) gave the molecular formula  $C_{34}H_{53}O_{10}$  on the basis of its HRFABMS, indicating nine degrees of unsaturation. Its IR spectrum showed as main features the presence of alcohol (3400 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and ester (1720 cm<sup>-1</sup>) groups. 1D and 2D NMR data (Tables 2 and 3) showed

signals for three tertiary methyl groups, one secondary



methyl group, two acetoxy groups, a carbomethoxy group, two secondary alcohol groups, two tertiary alcohol groups, an exocyclic methylene, a methylene, and a methine bearing a primary and a secondary acetoxy group, respectively. This information together with the absence of the lactone group observed in 1-3 pointed to the basic skeleton of a nor-friedelane terpenoid.<sup>17–19</sup> The structure elucidation of compound 4 was carried out in a manner similar to that described for compounds 1-3. Chemical shifts of carbons at  $\delta_{\rm C}$  31.5 (C-2), 74.7 (C-3), and 49.1 (C-4); the broad singlet observed for H-3 ( $\delta$  4.93) in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum; and COLOC correlations for C-1 ( $\delta$  16.2) with H-3 ( $\delta$  4.9), and C-5 ( $\delta$  45.4) with H-3, were consistent with a  $\beta$ -axial configuration of the acetoxy group at C-3. Placement of a primary acetoxy group at C-24 was determined in view of COLOC correlations observed for C-5 with the methylene protons ( $\delta$  4.50 and 4.73, each, d, J = 12 Hz) located at C-24 ( $\delta$  65.1). Chemical shifts at  $\delta_{C}$  45.4 (C-5), 86.3 (C-6), 72.5 (C-7), 50.0 (C-8); COLOC correlations of C-6 with H<sub>2</sub>-24, and C-7 with H-8; the coupling constants observed for H-6 $\alpha$ /H-7 $\beta$  (J = 8 Hz) and H-7 $\beta$ /H-8 $\alpha$  (J = 8 Hz); and the NOESY correlations for H-4/H-6/H-8/H-10 and H-7 $\beta$ /Me-25 helped determine the orientation of the secondary alcohol groups at C-6 and C-7, which were assigned with a  $\beta$ -equatorial and an  $\alpha$ -axial configuration, respectively. The tertiary alcohol groups were placed at C-13 and C-18 based on COLOC interactions observed for C-13 ( $\delta$  79.9) with H2-11, Me-26 and C-18 (8 79.5) with H2-12, H2-19, Me-28, respectively (Table 3). NOESY correlations observed for H-24/Me-25, Me-25/Me-26, and Me-26/H-16β/Me-28 were consistent with a chair-trans-chair-trans-chair-transchair-cis-half-chair arrangement for the A/B/C/D/E rings and allowed the determination of the  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -axial configuration of the tertiary alcohol groups at C-13 and C-18. COLOC interactions observed for the carbomethoxy

group at  $\delta_{\rm C}$  174.8 with H-22 ( $\delta_{\rm H}$  2.74, m) and the chemical shifts of carbons at  $\delta_{\rm C}$  33.2 (C-21) and 52.7 (C-22) helped determine the location of the carbomethoxy group at C-22. NOESY correlations observed for H-22 $\beta$  and Me-28 established the  $\alpha$ -axial configuration of the carbomethoxy group at C-22. On this basis **4** was assigned as  $3\beta$ ,24-diacetoxy- $6\beta$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,13 $\alpha$ ,18 $\beta$ -tetrahydroxy-30-nor-friedela-20(29)-en-22 $\alpha$ -carboxylate and given the trivial name galphimidin.

The methanolic extract, fractions, and isolated compounds from G. glauca were tested for antiprotozoal activity against P. falciparum K1, T. b. brucei, and L. donovani. The cytotoxic activity of isolated compounds against KB cells was also determined, since KB cells have an intermediate sensitivity to a large number of cytotoxic agents. Results in Table 1 show that the CHCl<sub>3</sub> and the n-BuOH extracts showed the highest antiprotozoal activity. Chemical investigation of both fractions yielded galphin A (1), galphin B (2), galphin C (3), galphimidin (4), quercetin, stigmasterol, and sitosterol 3-O- $\beta$ -D-glucoside. Compounds **1–4**, stigmasterol, and sitosterol 3-O- $\beta$ -D-glucoside were inactive (IC<sub>50</sub> > 100  $\mu$ M) against all organisms tested (data not shown). Quercetin was the only compound that showed weak antiplasmodial, antitrypanosomal, and antileishmanial activities compared with the standard drugs (Table 1), and it was not toxic to KB cells. Thus, it is likely to be more selective against protozoal parasites than to mammalian cells. To our knowledge, this is the first report of the antitrypanosomal and antileishmanial activity of quercetin, although the antigiardial,<sup>20</sup> antiamoebic activity,<sup>20</sup> and antiplasmodial activity<sup>21</sup> of quercetin have already been reported and are in agreement with our results. It is likely that the antiplasmodial activity of quercetin found in this study may contribute to the use of G. glauca in folk medicine. It is important to point out that this study was not carried out by bioassay-guided fractionation, thus it is possible that other minor components present in the extract may contribute to the antiplasmodial effects of *G. glauca*. In addition, other biological effects, e.g., antiinflammatory, antipyretic, and immunomodulation, may contribute to the antiplasmodial effects of G. glauca. However, this species will require additional investigation for its biological activities in the future.

## **Experimental Section**

**General Experimental Procedures.** Melting points are uncorrected. Optical rotations were measured on a Bellingham & Stanley model P 506 polarimeter using a sodium lamp operating at 589 nm in CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution. IR spectra were recorded on KBr using a Perkin-Elmer 841 infrared spectro-photometer. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> on a Bruker AMX-400 instrument, operating at 400 and 100 MHz, respectively, using TMS as internal reference. All 2D NMR experiments were performed on the same spectrometer. FAB mass spectra were recorded on a VG analytical ZAB SE spectrometer with xenon as the atom source at 8 eV. TLC analysis was performed on Si gel SiF<sub>254</sub> (Merck) and visualized with the spray reagents cerium sulfate (0.1% CeSO<sub>4</sub>/2 N H<sub>2</sub>-SO<sub>4</sub>) or vanillin (1% vanillin/5% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>).

**Plant Material.** Aerial parts of *Galphimia glauca* were collected in Ayutla, Guerrero, Mexico, in September 1994. A voucher specimen (MC-94-5) was deposited at the Centre for Pharmacognosy and Phytotherapy, The School of Pharmacy, University of London, London.

**Extraction and Isolation.** The dried and powdered plant material (2.5 kg) was extracted sequentially with MeOH and  $H_2O$  at room temperature. The concentrated MeOH extract (225 g) was diluted with  $H_2O$  and partitioned between hexane, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, and *n*-BuOH. Each fraction was dried under vacuum to give dried hexane (34 g), CHCl<sub>3</sub> (120 g), *n*-BuOH (54 g),

and H<sub>2</sub>O (68 g) extracts. Their antiprotozoal activity was determined against Plasmodium falciparum K1, Trypanosoma brucei brucei, and Leishmania donovani. The cytotoxic activity was determined against KB cells. Both the n-BuOH and CHCl<sub>3</sub> extracts showed the highest antiprotozoal and cytotoxic activities (Table 1). The n-BuOH fraction (10 g) was chromatographed over Sephadex LH-20 (Pharmacia) and eluted with a gradient of CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH (from 50:50 to 0:100) to yield 81 mg of quercetin as the major component. The active CHCl3 extract was column chromatographed over Si gel and eluted with a gradient of hexane/acetone (from 100:0 to 10:90) solvent system. Each fraction was monitored by TLC and then sprayed with either vanillin or cerium sulfate in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Fractions with the same TLC behavior were combined and further column chromatographed over Si gel eluted with a gradient solvent system of hexane/EtOAc (from 100:0 to 20:80). Seven compounds were obtained, galphin A (1, 46 mg), galphin B (2, 30 mg), galphin C (3, 43.67 mg), galphimidin (4, 401.8 mg), quercetin (27 mg), stigmasterol (400 mg), and sitosterol 3-O- $\beta$ -D-glucoside (37 mg).

Galphin A (1): white needles (CHCl<sub>3</sub>); mp 246 °C (MeOH);  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}$  0° (*c* 0.058, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\rm max}$  3500, 1750, 1720, 1250, 1050 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, DEPT, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, HMQC, COLOC, and NOESY data, see Tables 2 and 3; HRFABMS  $m/z [M + H]^+ 617.3299$  (calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>49</sub>O<sub>10,</sub> 617.331998).

Galphin B (2): white needles (CHCl<sub>3</sub>); mp 285 °C (MeOH);  $[\alpha]_{\rm D}$  –18° (c 0.061, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\rm max}$  3400, 1750, 1720, 1250, 1050 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data, see Table 2; HRFABMS m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 675.3398 (calcd for  $C_{36}H_{51}O_{12}$ , 675.337475).

Galphin C (3): white needles (CHCl<sub>3</sub>); mp 271 °C (MeOH);  $[\alpha]_D$  –23° (*c* 0.055, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  3400, 1750, 1720, 1250, 1050 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data, see Table 2; HRFABMS m/z [M + H]+ 733.3414 (calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>53</sub>O<sub>14</sub>, 733.342953)

Galphimidin (4): white needles (CHCl<sub>3</sub>); mp 234 °C (MeOH);  $[\alpha]_D$  +46° (*c* 0.090, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  3400, 1720, 1250, 1050 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, DEPT, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, HMQC, COLOC, and NOESY data, see Tables 2 and 3; HRFABMS m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 621.2345 (calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>53</sub>O<sub>10</sub>, 621.3632).

Antiprotozoal Assays. The antiplasmodial activity against P. falciparum K1 strain was measured as previously described.<sup>22</sup> Chloroquine was used as a positive control substance. Antitrypanosomal activity against T. b. brucei (strain S427) blood stream trypomastigote forms and antileishmanial activity against L. donovani (MHOM/ET/67/L82 strain) promastigote forms were measured as previously reported.<sup>23</sup> Pentamidine was used as a positive control substance.

Cytotoxicity Assay. Cytotoxic activity against KB cells was performed as previously described.<sup>24</sup> Podophyllotoxin was used as a standard drug.

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