Lupane Triterpenoids from Maytenus Species

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Five new lupane triterpenes (1-5), in addition to 24 known ones, were isolated from *Maytenus cuzcoina* and *M. chiapensis*. Their structures were elucidated on the basis of spectroscopic analysis, including homonuclear and heteronuclear correlation NMR (COSY, ROESY, HSQC, and HMBC) experiments. The compounds were assayed for antimicrobial and cytotoxic activities, with 3-epi-betulinic acid and 28,30-dihydroxy-3-oxolup-20(29)-ene showing moderate cytotoxicity.

Species of the genus *Maytenus* (Celastraceae) are being investigated for bioactive compounds since they are widely used in traditional medicine and agriculture in North Africa, South and Central America, and Central and East Asia.¹ As a part of our studies of species of this genus, we have previously reported on dihydro- β -agarofuran sesquiterpenes as multidrug-resistance inhibitors^{2,3} and antitumor promoters,⁴ and sesquiterpene pyridine alkaloids with insecticidal activity⁵ from *Maytenus cuzcoina* Loesener, a plant endemic to the Cusco region of Peru, and *Maytenus chiapensis* Lundell, a species that grows in El Salvador.

Nearly 200 different triterpene skeletons are known from natural sources or enzymatic reactions that are structurally consistent with being cyclization products of squalene, oxidosqualene, or bis-oxidosqualene.⁶ Triterpenoids from the Celastraceae include those belonging to the lupane, oleane, friedelane, taraxerane, glutinane, ursane, dammarane, and baccharane series.⁷

In a continuation of our work on M. cuzcoina and M. chiapensis, we report herein on the isolation and structural elucidation of five new lupane triterpenoids (1-5), whose structures were determined by application of 1D and 2D NMR techniques, including COSY, HSQC, HMBC, and ROESY experiments. In addition, 24 known lupane triterpenes were also isolated and were identified as 3β , 6β dihydroxylup-20(29)-ene (6),⁸ nepeticin,⁹ rigidenol,¹⁰ 6β,28dihydroxy-3-oxolup-20(29)-ene,⁸ 6\beta-hydroxy-3-oxolup-20(29)en-28-oic acid,¹¹ resinone,¹² glochidone,¹³ lupeol,¹³ betulin,¹⁴ betulinic aldehyde,¹⁵ 3-epi-betulin,¹⁴ 3-epi-betulinic aldehyde,¹⁵ 3-epi-betulinic acid,¹⁵ lupenone,¹³ betulone,¹⁴ betulone aldehyde,¹⁵ betulonic acid,¹⁴ glochidiol,¹³ 3-epi-glochidiol,13 glochidonol,13 messagenin,16 28,30-dihydroxy-3-oxolup-20(29)-ene,¹⁷ lupan- 3β -caffeate,¹⁸ and betulin- 3β -caffeate¹⁸ in comparison of their spectral data with values reported in the literature.

Results and Discussion

Repeated chromatography of the CH_2Cl_2 extract of the leaves of *M. chiapensis* and the *n*-hexane-Et₂O (1:1) extract of the root bark of *M. cuzcoina* on silica gel and Sephadex LH-20 yielded five new lupane triterpenoids (1-5).

Compound 1 was assigned the molecular formula $C_{30}H_{50}O_3$ by HREIMS. The IR spectrum suggested that it



contained hydroxyl groups (3404 cm^{-1}) and a terminal double bond (2923, 1595, and 885 cm^{-1}). The ¹H NMR spectrum (Table 1) showed five methyl groups [$\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.85, 0.94, 1.01, 1.02, 1.05 (each 3H, s)], an isopropenyl group $[\delta_{\rm H} 1.68 (3H, s), 4.60 (1H, br s), and 4.71 (1H, br s)]$, and two oxymethine protons in proximity to a hydroxyl group $[\delta_{\rm H} 3.36 (1 {\rm H}, {\rm s}) \text{ and } 3.91 (1 {\rm H}, {\rm dt}, J = 5.3, 10.7 {\rm Hz})];$ signals for a hydroxymethyl group ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.33, 3.74, 2H, d_{AB}, J = 10.8Hz) and a typical lupene H_{\beta}-19 proton signal at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.39 (1H, dt, J = 4.9, 10.7 Hz) were also observed. These data provided evidence that 1 belongs to the lupane family. Its ¹³C NMR spectrum (Table 2) revealed 30 carbon signals, which were assigned by DEPT experiments as six methyls, nine methylenes, five methines, five quaternary carbons, two alcoholic methines, one hydroxymethine, and two olefinic carbons. The two sp² carbons observed at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 149.8 (s) and 110.2 (t) in the ¹³C NMR spectrum confirmed the $\Delta^{20,29}$ -functionality of a lupene skeleton. Assignments of the ¹H and ¹³C signals performed by extended 2D NMR methods indicated 1 is an analogue of 3-epi-betulin¹⁴ bearing one secondary hydroxyl group. The position of this hydroxyl group at C-11 was determined through an HMBC experiment in which the oxymethine proton signal ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.91) showed ${}^{2}J$ correlations with C-9 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 55.6) and C-12 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 37.6) and ${}^{3}J$ correlations with C-13 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 36.3) and C-10 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 39.1). The stereochemistry of the hydroxyl group at C-3 was assigned as α on the basis of the small *J* values (δ 3.36, br s, $W_{1/2} = 6.9$ Hz), which indicated an equatorial position for H-3 on the β -face and an axial orientation for the

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Table 1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) Data (δ , CDCl₃, J are given in parentheses) of 1–6

Η	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1.47	0.90	1.52	2.66	7.09 d	0.91
	2.28	1.67	1.90^{a}		(10.1)	1.67
2	1.48	1.61^{a}	2.40^{a}	2.42	5.79 d	1.59
	1.98		2.60		(10.1)	
3	3.36 br s	$3.12~\mathrm{t}$				$3.14~{ m t}$
		(7.3)				(7.3)
5	1.24	0.68 br s	1.60	1.48^{a}	1.55	0.68 br s
6	1.42	4.51 br s	1.43, 1.50	1.52	1.39	$4.53 \mathrm{\ br\ s}$
7	1.47	1.61^{a}	1.45	1.55	1.56	1.61
9	1.45^{a}	1.30^{a}	1.40^{a}	1.48^{a}	1.65^{a}	1.30
11	$3.92 \mathrm{~dt}$	$1.30^{a}, 1.45$	1.40^{a}	3.90 dt	1.48	
	(5.3, 10.7)	,		(5.3, 10.7)		
12	1.10, 1.91	$1.03^a, 1.64$	1.67	2.10	1.65^{a}	
13	1.75	1.74	1.70^{a}	2.25	1.72	1.76
15	1.10, 1.62	1.65	1.70^{a}	0.75	1.80	
16	0.99, 1.85	$1.03^a, 1.85$	1.05, 1.87	2.08	1.52	
18	1.59	1.58	1.65	1.75	1.68	1.38
19	2.39 dt	2.39 dt	2.40^a m	2.89 dt	2.40 dt	2.39 m
	(4.9, 10.8)	(5.6, 10.4)		(4.9, 10.8)	(5.7, 10.7)	
21	1.95	1.40	1.95	2.01	1.98	
22	1.45^{a}	1.90	1.90^{a}	1.80	1.91	
23	0.94 s	$1.04 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.26 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.08 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.13 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.06 \mathrm{~s}$
24	$0.85 \mathrm{s}$	$1.14 \mathrm{~s}$	3.43, 3.97 d _{AB}	$1.04 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.08 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.15 \mathrm{~s}$
			(11.2)			
25	$1.05 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.18 \mathrm{~s}$	0.86 s	$1.06 \mathrm{~s}$	1.06 s	$1.20 \mathrm{~s}$
26	$1.02 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.34 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.02 \mathrm{~s}$	$0.95^a \mathrm{~s}$	$1.04 \mathrm{~s}$	$1.36 \mathrm{~s}$
27	$1.01 \mathrm{~s}$	0.94 s	0.99 s	$0.95^a \mathrm{~s}$	0.99 s	$0.92 \mathrm{~s}$
28	$3.33, 3.74 d_{AB}$	3.32, 3.79 d _{AB}	$3.33, 3.78 d_{AB}$	$9.61~\mathrm{s}$	3.35, 3.80 d _{AB}	$0.80 \mathrm{~s}$
	(10.8)	(10.7)	(10.6)		(10.6)	
29	4.60 br s	4.57 br s	4.58 br s	$4.65 \mathrm{\ br\ s}$	4.60 br s	4.59 br s
	4.71 br s	4.68 br s	4.68 br s	4.78 br s	4.69 br s	4.70 br s
30	1.68 s	1.67 s	1.68 s	1.73 s	1.69 s	1.69 s

^a Overlapping signals.

Table 2. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) Data^{*a*} (δ , CDCl₃) of 1–6

С	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	$35.5~{ m t}$	40.7 t	39.3 t	$42.4 \mathrm{t}$	125.2 d	40.7 t
2	$25.6~{ m t}$	$27.5 \mathrm{t}$	$34.3 \mathrm{t}$	$34.3 \mathrm{t}$	159.2 d	29.7 t
3	75.9 d	79.1 d	$221.4 \mathrm{~s}$	$218.6 \mathrm{~s}$	$205.0 \mathrm{~s}$	79.1 d
4	$37.8 \mathrm{\ s}$	$39.6 \mathrm{s}$	$50.7 \mathrm{~s}$	$47.6 \mathrm{~s}$	$44.6 \mathrm{~s}$	$39.6 \mathrm{s}$
5	48.9 d	55.6 d	55.3 d	54.9 d	53.5 d	55.6 d
6	$18.0 \mathrm{t}$	68.9 d	$19.2 \mathrm{~t}$	19.5 t	19.0 t	69.0 d
7	$35.1~{ m t}$	42.0 t	33.6 t	$34.2 \mathrm{t}$	33.7 t	$42.1 \mathrm{t}$
8	$42.6 \mathrm{~s}$	$40.0 \mathrm{~s}$	$40.7 \mathrm{~s}$	$42.1 \mathrm{~s}$	$41.8 \mathrm{~s}$	$39.9 \mathrm{\ s}$
9	55.6 d	51.0 d	49.5 d	54.7 d	44.5 d	51.9 d
10	$39.1 \mathrm{~s}$	$36.7 \mathrm{~s}$	$36.6 \mathrm{\ s}$	$38.2 \mathrm{~s}$	$39.5 \mathrm{s}$	$36.7~\mathrm{s}$
11	70.5 d	21.0 t	21.7 t	70.1 d	21.2 t	$21.1~{ m t}$
12	$37.6 \mathrm{t}$	$25.3 \mathrm{t}$	$25.2~{ m t}$	37.6 t	$25.2 \mathrm{t}$	$25.3 \mathrm{t}$
13	36.3 d	36.4 d	37.5 d	37.6 d	37.5 d	37.2 d
14	$42.9~\mathrm{s}$	$42.9 \mathrm{~s}$	$42.8 \mathrm{~s}$	$42.3 \mathrm{~s}$	$43.0 \mathrm{~s}$	$43.0 \mathrm{~s}$
15	$27.0 \mathrm{t}$	$27.1~{ m t}$	$27.0 \mathrm{t}$	28.8 t	27.0 t	$27.5 \mathrm{t}$
16	$33.8~{ m t}$	33.6 t	34.0 t	28.9 t	$29.1 \mathrm{t}$	$35.5 \mathrm{t}$
17	$47.8~\mathrm{s}$	$47.7~\mathrm{s}$	$47.8 \mathrm{~s}$	$59.3 \mathrm{~s}$	$47.7 \mathrm{~s}$	$43.1~\mathrm{s}$
18	48.2 d	48.8 d	48.6 d	$59.3 \mathrm{~s}$	48.6 d	48.4 d
19	47.6 d	47.7 d	47.8 d	47.2 d	47.8 d	48.0 d
20	$149.8 \mathrm{\ s}$	$150.4 \mathrm{~s}$	$150.3 \mathrm{~s}$	$149.1 \mathrm{~s}$	$150.3 \mathrm{~s}$	$150.9 \mathrm{~s}$
21	$29.1~{ m t}$	29.7 t	29.7 t	29.8 t	29.7 t	29.9 t
22	$29.3~{ m t}$	$29.1~{ m t}$	$29.1~{ m t}$	32.9 t	33.9 t	40.0 t
23	$22.3~{ m q}$	$27.6~{ m q}$	$22.1~{ m q}$	$20.7~{ m q}$	21.4~ m q	27.6 q
24	$28.7~{ m q}$	16.9 q	$65.3 \mathrm{t}$	$27.4~{ m q}$	$27.8~{ m q}$	16.8 q
25	16.3 q	$17.7~{ m q}$	$17.0~{ m q}$	16.8 q	$19.2~{ m q}$	17.7 q
26	$17.2~{ m q}$	16.9 q	15.6 q	$16.7~{ m q}$	$16.5~{ m q}$	16.9 q
27	$14.1~{ m q}$	15.1 q	$14.7~{ m q}$	$14.1~{ m q}$	$14.6~{ m q}$	14.9 q
28	60.6 t	60.4 t	$60.5 \mathrm{t}$	206.0 d	60.6 t	18.0 q
29	$110.2~{ m t}$	109.7 t	109.8 t	110.7 t	109.9 t	109.4 t
30	19.1 q	19.1 q	19.1 q	19.0 q	19.0 q	19.3 q

^a Data are based on DEPT, HSQC, and HMBC experiments.

hydroxyl group on the α -face, and confirmed by the correlations of H-3 with Me-23 and Me-24 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.94 and 0.85) and the absence of interactions between H-3 and H-5 in a NOESY experiment. Similarly, the relative stereo-chemistry of the hydroxyl group at C-11 was assigned as α on the basis of the NOESY spectrum, which showed a

correlation between the oxymethine proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.92 and Me-26. Compound 1 was therefore assigned the structure 11a-hydroxy-epi-betulin.

The structure of compound 2, with the same molecular weight as 1, was elucidated by ¹H and ¹³C NMR studies (Tables 1 and 2), 2D correlations (¹H-¹H and ¹H-¹³C), and a ROESY experiment. Compound 2 exhibits a structure similar to 1, the differences being in the stereochemistry of the hydroxyl group at C-3 and the presence of a secondary hydroxyl group ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.51 br s) at C-6 instead of C-11 as in **1**. Those differences were well established by an HMBC experiment in which H-6 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.51) showed ³J correlations with C-8 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 40.0) and C-10 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 36.7), while H-5 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.68) was correlated with C-6 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 68.9). The relative stereochemistry of the hydroxyl group at C-6 was resolved as β by analysis of a ROESY experiment, where H-6 showed a NOE effect with Me-23 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.04) and H-5 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.68). This evidence allowed us to establish the structure of **2** as 6β -hydroxybetulin.

Compound 3 was assigned the molecular formula $C_{30}H_{48}O_3$ by HREIMS. The IR spectrum showed absorption bands for hydroxyl (3425 cm⁻¹) and carbonyl (1705 cm⁻¹) groups and a terminal double bond (3011, 1650, and 910 cm⁻¹). The ¹H NMR spectrum (Table 1) showed four methyl groups $[\delta_{\rm H} 0.86, 0.99, 1.02, 1.26 \text{ (each 3H, s)}]$, an isopropenyl group $[\delta_{\rm H} 1.68 (3 {\rm H}, {\rm s}), 4.58 (1 {\rm H}, {\rm br s}), {\rm and} 4.68 (1 {\rm H}, {\rm s})]$ br s)], two hydroxymethyl groups $[\delta_{\rm H} 3.33, 3.78 (d, J = 10.6)]$ Hz, each 1H) and 3.43, 3.97 (2H, d_{AB} , J = 11.2 Hz)], and a typical lupene H_{β}-19 proton signal at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.40 (1H, m) (Table 1). These data were confirmed by the ¹³C NMR spectrum, which revealed signals for the corresponding two hydroxymethyl carbons ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 60.5 and 65.3), one ketone carbonyl ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 221.4), and two olefinic carbons ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 109.8 and 150.3) (Table 2), characteristic of $\Delta^{20,29}$ -functionality of a lupene skeleton. The two hydroxymethyl groups and the ketone carbonyl were located on the triterpene skeleton by an HMBC experiment. Thus, correlation between Me-23 at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.26 and a quaternary carbon at δ 50.7 (C-4), one ketonic carbon at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 221.4, and a methylene carbon attached to an oxygen at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 65.3 located one hydroxymethyl group at C-24 and the carbonyl group at C-3, while correlation of the protons at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.33, 3.78 with C-16 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 34.0) and C-22 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 29.1) placed the other hydroxymethyl group at C-28. The stereochemistry of **3** was confirmed by a ROESY experiment, showing NOE effects of the hydroxymethyl groups at C-24 and C-28 to Me-25 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.86) and H-19 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.40), respectively, indicating their relative position as β . All of these data and comparison with those found in the literature for betulone¹⁴ established the structure of **3** as 24-hydroxybetulone.

Compound 4 was assigned the molecular formula $C_{30}H_{46}O_3$ by HREIMS. The most significant signals of its ¹H NMR spectrum were those corresponding to an aldehyde proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.61 (1H, s), an isopropenyl group [$\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.73 (3H, s, Me-30), and 4.65 (1H, br s) and 4.78 (1H, br s)], an oxymethine proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.90 (1H, dt, J = 5.3, 10.7 Hz, H-11), a methylene group vicinal to a ketone ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.42, m), and a typical lupene H_{β}-19 proton signal at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.89 (1H, dt, J = 4.9, 10.8 Hz) (Table 1), which were confirmed by its ¹³C NMR spectrum (Table 2). These data, 2D NMR experiments, and those given in the literature for rigidenol¹⁰ revealed that 4 is rigidenol-28-aldehyde. The aldehyde group was located at C-28 by an HMBC experiment in which the aldehyde proton signal at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.61 showed 2J and ^{3}J correlations with C-17 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 59.3) and C-18 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 59.3), respectively.

The structure of compound **5** was determined as 28hydroxyglochidone by ¹H and ¹³C NMR studies (Tables 1 and 2), 2D ¹H⁻¹H and ¹H⁻¹³C correlations, a ROESY experiment, and comparison with data in the literature for glochidone.¹³ The position of the hydroxyl group on C-28 was established by the correlations between the signal at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.35, 3.80 (d_{AB}, J = 10.6 Hz) and two methylene carbons at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 29.1 (C-16) and $\delta_{\rm C}$ 33.9 (C-22) observed in an HMBC experiment. The detailed ¹H and ¹³C NMR assignments of the one known lupane triterpene, 3β , 6β -dihydroxylup-20-(29)-ene (**6**),⁸ which have not been previously reported, were achieved by 1D and 2D techniques, including DEPT, HMBC, HSQC, COSY, and ROESY experiments (see Experimental Section).

All the isolated compounds, except for **3**, **4**, **6**, betulinic aldehyde, 3-*epi*-betulinic aldehyde, and betulonic acid, were assayed for antimicrobial and cytotoxic activities. Only 6 β hydroxy-3-oxolup-20(29)-en-28-oic acid showed slight activity against spore-forming bacteria, such as *B. subtilis* (MIC 35 μ g/mL), *B. cereus* (MIC 25 μ g/mL), and *B. pumilus* (MIC 20 μ g/mL). The other compounds were inactive (up to 40 μ g/mL) against all microorganisms assayed.

Cytotoxic activity was evaluated against HeLa, Hep-2, and Vero cell lines. Compounds 3-*epi*-betulinic acid and 28,-30-dihydroxy-3-oxolup-20(29)-ene exhibited moderate activity against HeLa (IC₅₀ 2.1 and 4.0 µg/mL, respectively) and Hep-2 (IC₅₀ 3.1 and 7.1 µg/mL, respectively) cell lines, while nepeticin and glochidonol showed slight potency (IC₅₀ < 10 µg/mL). The other compounds assayed were inactive (IC₅₀ > 10 µg/mL).

Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin-Elmer 241 automatic polarimeter, and the $[\alpha]_D$ values are given in $10^{-1} \text{ deg cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$. IR (film) spectra were recorded on a Bruker IFS 55 spectrophotometer, and UV spectra were collected in absolute EtOH on a JASCO

V-560 spectrophotometer. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer. EIMS and HREIMS were recorded on a Micromass Autospec spectrometer. Purification was performed using silica gel (particle size 40–63 μ M, Merck and HPTLC-Platten-Sil 20 UV₂₅₄, Panreac) and Sephadex LH-20 (Pharmacia).

Plant Material. Maytenus cuzcoina Loesener was collected at Huayllabamba-Urquillos, Province of Urabamba, Cusco (Peru), in December 1993, and a voucher ("cuz" 02765 A.T. 1004 MO) is deposited in the herbarium of Vargas, Department of Botany, in the National University of San Antonio Abad de Cusco. Maytenus chiapensis Lundell was collected at the Parque Nacional El Imposible, El Salvador, in August 1999, and was identified by Prof. Edi Montalvo; a voucher specimen (ISB-88) is on file in the Jardin Botánico La Laguna, El Salvador.

Extraction and Isolation. The root bark of M. cuzcoina (900.0 g) was extracted with n-hexane-Et₂O in a Soxhlet apparatus. The extract (25.5 g) was chromatographed on Sephadex LH-20 (n-hexane-CHCl₃-MeOH, 2:1:1) to afford 64 fractions. Thus, successive chromatographies on Sephadex LH-20 (*n*-hexane-CHCl₃-MeOH, 2:1:1), silica gel (CH₂Cl₂-Et₂O of increasing polarity), and preparative HPTLC developed with *n*-hexane-Et₂O (4:6) gave rise to compounds 1 (10.0 mg, R_f 0.41), 4 (2.0 mg, R_f 0.6), and 5 (3.5 mg, R_f 0.8), not previously described, in addition to the 17 known compounds: nepeticin (220.0 mg), rigidenol (200.0 mg), glochidone (75.0 mg), lupeol (10.0 mg), betulin (16.0 mg), betulinic aldehyde (5.0 mg), 3-epibetulin (30.0 mg), 3-epi-betulinic aldehyde (5.0 mg), 3-epibetulinic acid (28.0 mg), lupenone (7.0 mg), betulone (10.0 mg), betulone aldehyde (4.0 mg), betulonic acid (3.0 mg), glochidiol (40.0 mg), 3-epi-glochidiol (350.0 mg), glochidonol (125.0 mg), and lupan- 3β -caffeate (7.0 mg).

The leaves of M. chiapensis (2.1 kg) were extracted with EtOH in a Soxhlet apparatus. Evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure provided 400.2 g of crude extract, which was partitioned into a CH₂Cl₂-H₂O (1:1, v/v) solution. Removal of the CH₂Cl₂ from the organic-soluble extract under reduced pressure yielded 77.0 g of residue, which was chromatographed on a silica gel column using mixtures of n-hexane-EtOAc of increasing polarity as eluant to afford 54 fractions. Fractions 15-35 (8.0 g) were subjected to column chromatography over Sephadex LH-20 (n-hexane-CHCl₃-MeOH, 2:1:1) and silica gel (CH₂Cl₂-acetone of increasing polarity). Preparative HPTLC developed with CH₂Cl₂-Et₂O (9:1) was used to purify the new compounds 2 (59.0 mg, R_f 0.30) and 3 (3.0 mg, R_f 0.33), in addition to the known compounds 3β , 6β -dihydroxylup-20(29)ene (6, 4.0 mg), 6β,28-dihydroxy-3-oxolup-20(29)-ene (25.0 mg), 6β-hydroxy-3-oxolup-20(29)-en-28-oic acid (30.0 mg), resinone (7.0 mg), glochidone (24.0 mg), lupeol (10.0 mg), betulin (45.0 mg), lupenone (50.0 mg), betulone (60.0 mg), betulone aldehyde (4.0 mg), 3-epi-glochidiol (60.0 mg), glochidonol (15.0 mg), messagenin (15.0 mg), 28,30-dihydroxy-3-oxolup-20(29)-ene (9.0 mg), and betulin- 3β -caffeate (45.0 mg).

11α-**Hydroxy**-*epi*-betulin (1): colorless amorphous solid; $[\alpha]^{20}_{D}$ +29.0° (*c* 0.1, CHCl₃); IR (film) ν_{max} 3404, 2923, 2852, 2852, 1733, 1595, 1459, 1026, 885 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 2; EIMS *m/z* 458 (M⁺, 10), 440 (44), 422 (21), 409 (18), 391 (9), 255 (23), 219 (29), 199 (89), 189 (80), 175 (61), 159 (15), 135 (13), 119 (56), 109 (66), 95 (100), 81 (86), 69 (96); HREIMS *m/z* 458.3741 (calcd for C₃₀H₅₀O₃, 458.3760).

6β-Hydroxybetulin (2): colorless amorphous solid; $[α]^{20}D_{-0.8}$ ° (*c* 2.12, CHCl₃); IR (film) $ν_{max}$ 3433, 3011, 2936, 2869, 1642, 1458, 1375, 1028, 974 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 2; EIMS *m*/*z* 458 (M⁺, 43), 440 (10), 427 (40), 409 (20), 368 (15), 207 (48), 187 (79), 147 (32), 133 (42), 123 (94), 107 (52), 95 (72), 69 (97), 55 (100); HREIMS *m*/*z* 458.3723 (calcd for C₃₀H₅₀O₃, 458.3760).

24-Hydroxybetulone (3): colorless amorphous solid; $[\alpha]^{20}_{\rm D}$ +18.5° (*c* 0.68, CHCl₃); IR (film) $\nu_{\rm max}$ 3425, 3011, 2943, 2870, 1705, 1650, 1461, 1377, 1035, 910 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 2; EIMS *m/z* 456 (M⁺, 4), 438 (23), 410 (2), 368 (3), 203 (8), 185 (7), 137 (17), 109 (12), 95 (21), 69 (100), 55 (37); HREIMS m/z 456.3531 (calcd for $C_{30}H_{48}O_3$, 456.3603).

Rigidenol-28-aldehyde (4): colorless amorphous solid; $[\alpha]^{20}$ +34.3° (c 0.21, CHCl₃); IR (film) ν_{max} 3426, 2925, 2854, 1702, 1640, 1459, 1382, 1074, 755 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 2; EIMS m/z 454 (M⁺, 1), 436 (14), 420 (1), 407 (8), 269 (1), 217 (6), 203 (100), 189 (10), 149 (5), 121 (13), 105 (16), 93 (14), 81 (22); HREIMS m/z 454.3432 (calcd for $C_{30}H_{46}O_3$, 454.3447).

28-Hydroxyglochidone (5): colorless amorphous solid; $[\alpha]^{20}_{\text{D}}$ +33.0° (\check{c} 0.1, CHCl₃); UV (EtOH) $\lambda_{\text{max}} (\log \bar{\epsilon})$ 229 (4.39) nm; IR (film) v_{max} 3428, 2924, 2853, 1728, 1667, 1459, 1377, 1283, 1261, 1035, 882, 822, 715 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 2; EIMS m/z 438 (M⁺, 27), 420 (41), 408 (13), 322 (12), 279 (7), 255 (5), 243 (15), 227 (23), 215 (28), 205 (54), 187 (37), 175 (44), 150 (67), 137 (94), 121 (45), 91 (69), 69 (91), 57 (100); HREIMS m/z 438.3500 (calcd for $C_{30}H_{46}O_2$, 438.3499).

3β,6β-Dihydroxylup-20(29)-ene (6): colorless amorphous solid; $[\alpha]^{20}_{D}$ +3.2° (c 0.19, CHCl₃); IR (film) ν_{max} 3438, 3010, 2946, 2844, 1640, 1460, 1380, 1040, 905, 755 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 1; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃), see Table 2; EIMS m/z 442 (M⁺, 5), 424 (4), 406 (83), 391 (49), 363 (15), 201 (21), 187 (100), 145 (30), 134 (38), 107 (29), 95 (32), 69 (22), 55 (24); HREIMS *m/z* 442.3782 (calcd for C₃₀H₅₀O₂, 442.3811).

Antimicrobial Activity. Activity was tested against Grampositive (Staphylococcus aureus ATCC 6538, S. epidermidis CECT 232, S. saprophyticus CECT 235, Enterococcus faecalis CECT 795, Bacillus subtilis CECT 39, B. cereus CECT 496, B. pumilus CECT 29, B. megaterium CECT 44, Mycobacterium smegmati CECT 3032) and Gram-negative (Escherichia coli CECT 99, Proteus mirabilis CECT 170, Salmonella sp. CECT 456, and Pseudomonas aeruginosa AK 958) bacteria and the yeast Candida albicans UBC 1. The bacteria were maintained on nutrient agar (Oxoid or brain heart infusion agar, in the case of E. faecalis and M. smegmati) and the yeast on Sabouraud agar (Oxoid) at 37 °C. The minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) of compounds previously dissolved in DMSO (dimethyl sulfoxide) was estimated by the broth microdilution method in 96-well microtiter plates.¹⁹

Cytotoxic Activity. HeLa (human carcinoma of cervix), Hep-2 (human carcinoma of larynx), and Vero (African green monkey kidney) cell lines were each grown as a monolayer in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium, DMEM (Sigma), supplemented with 5% fetal calf serum (Gibco) and 1% of penicillinstreptomycin mixture (10.000 UI/mL). The cells were maintained at 37 °C in 5% CO₂ and 90% humidity. Cytotoxicity was assessed using the colorimetric MTT [3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl tetrazolium bromide] reduction assay.20 Exponentially growing HeLa, Hep-2, and Vero cells (2×10^4) cells/well) were incubated with different concentrations of the compounds for 48 h at 37 °C. After this time the optical density was measured using a microELISA reader (multiscan Plus II) at 550 nm after dissolving the MTT formazan with DMSO (100 mL). The percentage viability was plotted against the compound concentration, and the 50% cell viability (IC₅₀) was calculated from the curve.

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