

ent-Kaurane and ent-Pimarane Diterpenoids from *Siegesbeckia pubescens*

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Phytochemical investigation of the above-ground parts of *Siegesbeckia pubescens* yielded 25 diterpenoids, including five new ent-pimarane diterpenoids (**1–3**, **11**, and **12**) and four new ent-kaurane diterpenoids (**13–16**). The structures and relative configurations of the new compounds were elucidated by comprehensive spectroscopic analysis and by comparison of their NMR data with those of related compounds. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis confirmed the structures of **8**, **13**, and **14**. Seven of these diterpenoids were evaluated for cytotoxic activity against HSC-T6, HeLa, and B16 cell lines. Compounds **11** and **14** exhibited moderate cytotoxicity.

Plants of genus *Siegesbeckia* are annual herbs widely distributed throughout tropical, subtropical, and temperate regions of the world. Three species of *Siegesbeckia* grow in China, and their aerial parts have been used as the traditional Chinese medicine Xi-Xian to treat rheumatic arthritis, hypertension, malaria, neurasthenia, and snake-bite.¹ Extracts of *Siegesbeckia* have been reported to exhibit antioxidant,² antiallergic,³ and anti-infertility effects.⁴ Pharmacological studies have suggested that diterpenoids are the main bioactive constituents in the treatment of rheumatic arthritis.^{5,6} A series of ent-pimarane^{1,7–12} and ent-kaurane¹ diterpenoids from *Siegesbeckia* species have been reported.

The medicinal importance and diverse activities of members of this genus prompted us to undertake further phytochemical investigation of *Siegesbeckia pubescens* Makino (Compositae) to identify new diterpenoid constituents and to evaluate their cytotoxic activities. As a result, five new ent-pimarane diterpenoids (**1–3**, **11**, and **12**), four new ent-kaurane diterpenoids (**13–16**), and 16 known diterpenoids were isolated from the dry aerial parts of *S. pubescens*. Structures of the new compounds were established by comprehensive spectroscopic analysis and by comparison of their NMR data with those of related compounds in the literature. The structures of **8**, **13**, and **14** were confirmed by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis. Cytotoxic evaluation of seven of the 25 diterpenoids showed that compounds **11** and **14** exhibited moderate activity against rat hepatic stellate cells (HSC-T6), human cervical carcinoma (HeLa), and mouse melanoma B16 cell lines.

Results and Discussion

Compound **1** was obtained as a white, amorphous powder. The IR spectrum showed the presence of OH groups (3422 cm⁻¹) and a double bond (1657 cm⁻¹). The molecular formula C₂₀H₃₄O₄ was deduced from its HRESIMS and ¹³C NMR data. The ¹H NMR spectrum clearly showed four methyl groups on quaternary carbons (δ 0.66, 0.69, 0.79, 0.87, each 3H, s), a trisubstituted olefinic proton [δ 5.31 (1H, s)], one oxygenated methylene [δ 3.43 (1H, dd, J = 9.6, 3.6 Hz) and 3.23 (1H, m)], and three oxygenated methines [δ 3.95 (1H, d, J = 2.4 Hz), 3.28 (1H, m), and 3.04 (1H, m)]. The ¹³C NMR (Table 1) and DEPT spectra indicated 20 carbon signals, including four methyl, six methylene (one oxygenated, at δ 62.6), six methine (three oxygenated, at δ 71.1, 75.2, 77.1, and one olefinic, at δ 131.9), and four quaternary carbons (one olefinic, at δ 139.8). The NMR data of **1** were similar to those of **6**¹³ except

Table 1. ¹³C NMR Spectroscopic Data (δ) of Compounds **1–3**, **2a**, **11**, and **12**

no.	1 ^{a,c}	2 ^{b,d}	2a ^{b,d}	3 ^{b,c}	11 ^{a,e}	12 ^{b,e}
1	36.7 (t)	38.0 (t)	37.2 (t)	48.1 (t)	37.1 (t)	36.9 (t)
2	27.5 (t)	23.7 (t)	23.8 (t)	62.5 (d)	27.5 (t)	23.7 (t)
3	77.1 (d)	85.1 (d)	84.8 (d)	46.8 (t)	79.0 (d)	85.7 (d)
4	38.2 (s)	38.3 (s)	38.4 (s)	44.3 (s)	38.1 (s)	37.9 (s)
5	45.9 (d)	50.3 (d)	48.1 (d)	54.3 (d)	54.1 (d)	54.7 (d)
6	29.7 (t)	23.7 (t)	26.0 (t)	23.8 (t)	22.1 (t)	22.2 (t)
7	71.1 (d)	129.5 (d)	85.8 (d)	36.0 (t)	36.0 (t)	35.9 (t)
8	139.8 (s)	134.3 (s)	136.3 (s)	136.6 (s)	139.6 (s)	139.4 (s)
9	45.3 (d)	47.6 (d)	47.2 (d)	49.3 (d)	50.1 (d)	50.1 (d)
10	37.7 (s)	35.4 (s)	38.3 (s)	40.1 (s)	38.9 (s)	38.3 (s)
11	17.4 (t)	19.3 (t)	18.4 (t)	18.0 (t)	18.2 (t)	18.3 (t)
12	31.6 (t)	29.1 (t)	31.8 (t)	31.8 (t)	32.0 (t)	32.0 (t)
13	37.1 (s)	41.1 (s)	38.2 (s)	36.9 (s)	35.8 (s)	35.8 (s)
14	131.9 (d)	90.9 (d)	136.3 (d)	129.1 (d)	126.7 (d)	126.9 (d)
15	75.2 (d)	68.5 (d)	73.0 (d)	75.4 (d)	79.8 (d)	79.8 (d)
16	62.6 (t)	66.3 (t)	66.6 (t)	62.6 (t)	65.4 (t)	65.3 (t)
17	22.3 (q)	18.1 (q)	22.4 (q)	22.5 (q)	22.4 (q)	22.5 (q)
18	28.3 (q)	28.9 (q)	28.5 (q)	28.7 (q)	28.4 (q)	28.6 (q)
19	16.1 (q)	16.7 (q)	16.6 (q)	178.4 (s)	15.7 (q)	16.7 (q)
20	13.9 (q)	15.0 (q)	14.2 (q)	14.3 (q)	14.9 (q)	14.9 (q)
1'		101.2 (d)	101.2 (d)			100.4 (d)
2'		74.4 (d)	74.5 (d)			73.5 (d)
3'		77.6 (d)	77.6 (d)			76.3 (d)
4'		71.5 (d)	71.5 (d)			70.3 (d)
5'		76.8 (d)	76.9 (d)			75.1 (d)
6'		62.8 (t)	62.8 (t)			62.3 (t)
CH ₃ CO		20.7	20.6			
		171.1	171.1			
C(Me) ₂					25.2 (q)	25.2 (q)
					26.2 (q)	26.2 (q)
					108.5 (s)	108.5 (s)

^a Measured at 75 MHz. ^b Measured at 100 MHz. ^c Spectra recorded in DMSO-*d*₆. ^d Spectra recorded in acetone-*d*₆. ^e Spectra recorded in CDCl₃.

for the chemical shifts of ring B atoms. Compared to the related ent-pimarane-type diterpenoid (**6**), CH₂-7 in **6** was replaced by an oxygenated methine at δ 71.1 in **1**, suggesting that an OH group was located at C-7. In its HMBC spectrum (Figure 1), this conclusion was supported by the cross-peak between H-7 (δ 3.95) and C-5, C-8, and C-14. The coupling constant of H-7 (J = 2.4 Hz) suggested that the 7-OH was β -oriented. Furthermore, the relative configuration at C-7 was deduced by a NOE experiment (Figure 1), which showed NOE enhancement at δ 4.28 (7-OH) when irradiating H-9 β at δ 1.96. Therefore, compound **1** was determined to be ent-3 α ,7 β ,15,16-tetrahydroxypimar-8(14)-ene.

Compound **2** displayed a quasi molecular ion peak at m/z 576.3390 [M + NH₄]⁺ consistent with the molecular formula

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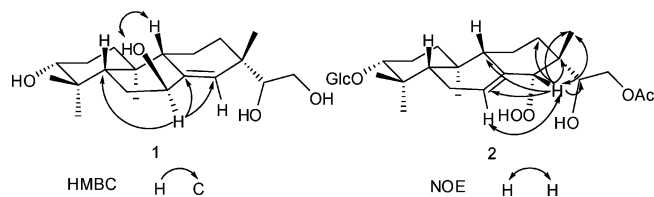


Figure 1. Selected HMBC and NOE correlations for **1** and **2**.

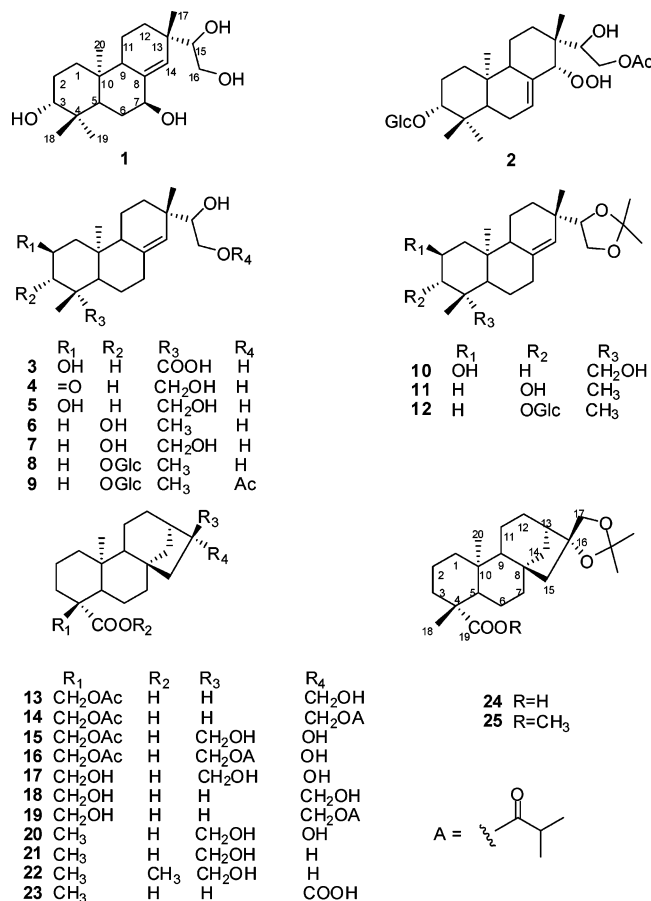


Figure 2. ORTEP drawing of **8**·CH₃OH.

and C-17 confirmed that the hydroperoxy group was at C-14. HMBC cross-peaks between the olefinic CH-7 at δ 4.37 and C-5, C-6, C-9, and C-14 indicated that **2** possessed a double bond between C-7 and C-8. The relative configuration of 14-OOH was elucidated by an NOE experiment (Figure 1). On irradiating the proton H-14 at δ 3.88, significant NOE enhancements were obtained at δ 5.71 (H-7) and 0.92 (H₃-17), which showed that the 14-OOH was α -oriented. Thus, compound **2** was determined to be *ent*-16-acetoxy-3 α ,15-dihydroxy-14 α -hydroperoxypimar-7-en-3 α -O- β -glucopyranoside.

The hydroperoxide (**2**) seemed to undergo an allylic rearrangement followed by a slower Smith epimerization^{14,15} to another hydroperoxide (**2a**) (Scheme 1, Supporting Information) in acetone-*d*₆. Both types of rearrangement probably involve the corresponding allylperoxyl radicals. We proposed that the first rearrangement was nondissociative (Scheme 2, Supporting Information) and perhaps involved a pericyclic process with a transition state, but the epimerization would require a dissociative mechanism (Scheme 3, Supporting Information) involving free allyl radicals and oxygen.^{16,17}

The main differences between the NMR spectra of **2a** and those of **2** were the locations of the double bond and the hydroperoxy groups. In the HMBC spectrum of **2a**, the olefinic proton was correlated with C-7, C-9, C-12, C-13, and C-17, indicating that the double bond was located between C-8 and C-14; the cross-peak between H-7 and C-5, C-9, and C-14 suggested that the hydroperoxy group was at C-7. The smaller coupling constant of H-7 (δ 4.24, br s), which was similar to that of **1**, indicated that the 7-OOH was β -oriented. Moreover, the sugar moieties in **2** and **2a** were confirmed to be β -glucose by an acid hydrolysis experiment of **2a**. Accordingly, compound **2a** was established as *ent*-16-acetoxy-3 α ,15-dihydroxy-7 β -hydroperoxypimar-8(14)-en-3 α -O- β -glucopyranoside.

Compound **3** was obtained as a white, amorphous powder. The IR spectrum indicated the presence of OH (3516 and 3413 cm⁻¹) and carboxyl (1713 cm⁻¹) groups. The molecular formula was deduced as C₂₀H₃₂O₅ from HRESIMS and ¹³C NMR (Table 1) data. Comparison of the NMR spectra of **3** with those of **5**¹⁰ showed that they were very similar except for an additional carboxylic group (δ _H 12.11, 1H, s; δ _C 178.4, s), the absence of the oxygenated CH₂-19 (δ _C 40.7) in **5**, and the clearly downfield shifts of the C-4 signal from δ 40.6 in **5** to δ 44.3 in **3**. These observations indicated that the carboxylic group was at C-19, and this conclusion was supported by the HMBC spectrum. Therefore, compound **3** was established as *ent*-2 β ,15,16-trihydroxypimar-8(14)-en-19-oic acid.

Compound **11** was obtained as a pale gum. Its IR spectrum exhibited absorption bands at 3312 cm⁻¹ (OH) and 1651 cm⁻¹ (double bond). The HRESIMS of **11** gave a quasi-molecular ion peak at *m/z* 385.2711 [M + NH₄]⁺, which suggested the molecular formula C₂₃H₃₈O₃. Compared with compound **6**,¹³ the presence of extra dioxygenated CMe₂ signals [δ _H 1.39 and 1.34 (each 3H, s); δ _C 108.5 (s), 26.2 (q), and 25.2 (q)] and the downfield-shifted carbon signals of C-15 at δ 79.8 and C-16 at δ 65.4 in **11** showed that **11** was the acetone of **6**. This conclusion was reinforced in its HMBC spectrum by the correlation between the oxygenated quaternary

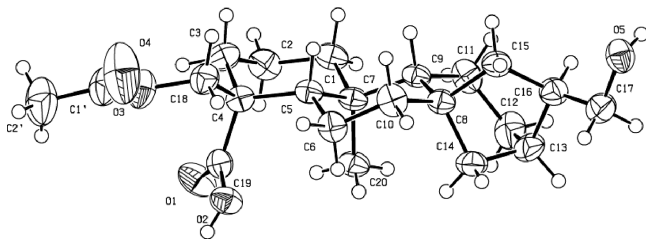
C₂₈H₆₄O₁₁, inferring the presence of six degrees of unsaturation. The ¹H NMR spectrum showed the presence of five methyl groups on quaternary carbons (δ 0.85, 0.88, 0.92, 1.00, 1.98, each 3H, s), one oxygenated methine (δ 3.88, 1H, s), one olefinic proton (δ 5.71, 1H, d, *J* = 5.2 Hz), and one anomeric proton (δ 4.37, 1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz). The ¹³C NMR (Table 1) and DEPT spectra of **2** indicated the existence of five methyl, seven methylene (two oxygenated, at δ 62.8 and 66.3), 11 methine (three oxygenated, at δ 68.5, 85.1, and 90.9 in the aglycone, five oxygenated carbons in a sugar moiety, and one olefinic carbon at δ 129.5), and five quaternary carbons (one olefinic carbon at δ 134.3 and one carboxyl carbon at δ 171.1). The NMR spectra of **2** were similar to those of compound **8**,⁹ whose structure was confirmed by X-ray crystallographic analysis (Figure 2), suggesting that **2** was also an *ent*-pimarane-type diterpenoid glycoside, and the degrees of unsaturation were consistent with the above analysis. The coupling constant of the anomeric proton at δ 4.37 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz) and C-1' signal at δ 101.2 indicated a β -glucopyranose. Compared with **8**, an extra oxygenated methine and an additional acetyl signal (δ _H 1.98, 3H, s; δ _C 177.1 and 20.7) were observed in **2**. The downfield shift of the oxymethine at δ 90.9 indicated **2** to be a hydroperoxylated compound, which was supported by analysis of its HRESIMS and ¹³C NMR spectra. In the HMBC spectrum (Figure 1), correlation between the methyl at δ 1.98 and the oxygenated methylene at δ 66.3 (C-16) showed that the OAc group was located at C-16, and the correlations between H-14 and C-7, C-9, C-12, C-13, C-15,

	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄
3	OH	H	COOH	H
4	=O	H	CH ₂ OH	H
5	OH	H	CH ₂ OH	H
6	H	OH	CH ₃	H
7	H	OH	CH ₂ OH	H
8	H	OGlc	CH ₃	H
9	H	OGlc	CH ₃	Ac

	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃
10	OH	H	CH ₂ OH
11	H	OH	CH ₃
12	H	OGlc	CH ₃

	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄
13	CH ₂ OAc	H	H	CH ₂ OH
14	CH ₂ OAc	H	H	CH ₂ OA
15	CH ₂ OAc	H	CH ₂ OH	OH
16	CH ₂ OAc	H	CH ₂ OA	OH
17	CH ₂ OH	H	CH ₂ OH	OH
18	CH ₂ OH	H	H	CH ₂ OH
19	CH ₂ OH	H	H	CH ₂ OA
20	CH ₃	H	CH ₂ OH	OH
21	CH ₃	H	CH ₂ OH	H
22	CH ₃	CH ₃	CH ₂ OH	H
23	CH ₃	H	H	COOH



Figure 3. ORTEP drawing of **13**.Table 2. ^{13}C NMR Spectroscopic Data (δ) of Compounds **13**–**16**

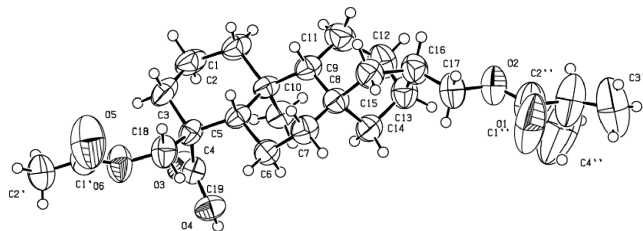
no.	13 ^{a,c}	14 ^{a,d}	15 ^{b,c}	16 ^{a,d}
1	40.3 (t)	40.0 (t)	39.7 (t)	39.9 (t)
2	18.4 (t)	18.2 (t)	18.0 (t)	18.1 (t)
3	32.2 (t)	32.2 (t)	31.9 (t)	32.7 (t)
4	46.9 (s)	47.4 (s)	46.6 (s)	47.4 (s)
5	51.2 (d)	52.2 (d)	50.8 (d)	52.0 (d)
6	22.4 (t)	22.2 (t)	21.8 (t)	22.0 (t)
7	41.1 (t)	41.0 (t)	41.4 (t)	41.2 (t)
8	44.2 (s)	44.5 (s)	43.7 (s)	44.4 (s)
9	55.0 (d)	55.2 (d)	55.3 (d)	55.6 (d)
10	39.1 (s)	39.3 (s)	38.9 (s)	39.4 (s)
11	18.7 (t)	18.6 (t)	18.1 (t)	18.4 (t)
12	31.3 (t)	31.1 (t)	25.8 (t)	26.1 (t)
13	37.7 (s)	38.4 (s)	44.5 (s)	45.8 (s)
14	36.8 (t)	37.0 (t)	36.7 (t)	36.9 (t)
15	45.0 (t)	44.7 (t)	52.7 (t)	52.6 (t)
16	43.2 (s)	39.5 (s)	80.5 (s)	80.2 (s)
17	65.8 (t)	68.2 (t)	65.3 (t)	68.2 (t)
18	71.7 (d)	72.1 (d)	71.3 (d)	71.9 (d)
19	176.2 (s)	181.2 (s)	175.8 (s)	179.7 (s)
20	15.5 (q)	15.3 (q)	15.2 (q)	15.4 (q)
CH ₃ CO	20.9 (q)	20.7 (q)	20.6 (q)	20.7 (q)
COCHMe ₂	170.4 (s)	170.8 (s)	170.1 (s)	170.8 (s)
		34.0 (d)		34.0 (d)
		18.9 (q)		18.9 (q)
		18.7 (q)		19.0 (q)

^a Data recorded at 75 MHz. ^b Data recorded at 100 MHz. ^c Spectra recorded in DMSO-*d*₆. ^d Spectra recorded in CDCl₃.

carbon at δ 108.5 and H-15 at δ 3.88, H-16b at δ 3.75. Accordingly, compound **11** was determined to be *ent*-3 α ,15,16-trihydroxypimar-8(14)-en-15,16-acetonide.

Comparison of the NMR spectra of **12** with those of **11** suggested the existence of an extra β -glucose unit [δ_{H} 4.34 (1H, d, $J = 7.6$ Hz); δ_{C} 100.4 (s), 76.3 (d), 75.1 (d), 73.5 (d), 70.3 (d), 62.3 (t)] in **12**, which was confirmed by an acid hydrolysis experiment of **12**. The sugar moiety was at C-3, as judged from the downfield-shifted C-3 signal at δ 85.7 (ca. $\Delta\delta$ 6.6 ppm) resulting from glycosylation. In its HMBC spectrum, a cross-peak between the anomeric proton and C-3 verified the linkage between the aglycone and sugar moiety. Compound **12** was thus established as *ent*-3 α ,15,16-trihydroxypimar-8(14)-en-3 α -*O*- β -glucopyranoside-15,16-acetonide.

Compound **13** showed IR absorption bands at 3405 cm⁻¹ (OH) and at 1739 and 1711 cm⁻¹ (carboxyl). The molecular formula was deduced as C₂₂H₃₄O₅ from its HRESIMS and ^{13}C NMR spectra (Table 2). The ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra of **13** indicated an extra acetoxy group [δ_{H} 1.98 (each 3H, s); δ_{C} 20.9 (q) and 170.4 (s)] in comparison with those of the related *ent*-kaurane-type diterpenoid **18**.¹ The acetoxy group was linked to C-18 on the basis of the downfield-shifted C-18 signal at δ 71.7 (ca. $\Delta\delta$ 2.3 ppm). This was supported by an HMBC cross-peak between the carboxyl carbon (δ 170.4) and the oxygenated CH₂-18 (δ 4.24 and 3.89). X-ray crystallographic analysis (Figure 3) verified the *ent*-kaurane-type skeleton of **13** and its relative configuration. Compound **13** was thus established to be *ent*-18-acetoxy-17-hydroxy-16 β H-kauran-19-oic acid.

Figure 4. ORTEP drawing of **14**.

Compound **14** had the molecular formula C₂₆H₄₀O₆. Comparison of the NMR spectra of **14** with those of **13** indicated the presence of an extra isobutyryloxy group [δ_{H} 1.13 and 1.15 (each 3H, s), 2.52 (1H, m); δ_{C} 177.4 (s), 34.0 (d), 18.9 (q), and 18.7 (q)] at C-17 in **14**. In the HMBC spectrum, this was supported by correlation between the carboxyl at δ 177.4 and the oxygenated CH₂-17 at δ 3.84. X-ray crystallographic analysis of compound **14** (Figure 4) confirmed the change at C-17 and showed the same relative configuration as compound **13**. Therefore, compound **14** was established as *ent*-18-acetoxy-17-isobutyryloxy-16 β H-kauran-19-oic acid.

The molecular formula of **15** was deduced to be C₂₂H₃₄O₆. Its ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were nearly superimposable with those of **17**¹⁸ except for an additional acetyl moiety [δ_{H} 1.98 (3H, s); δ_{C} 170.2 (s) and 20.6 (q)]. The OAc group was attached to C-18, as was concluded from the variances in chemical shifts of C-18 (+2.7 ppm) and C-4 (-2.3 ppm). It was also supported by an HMBC cross-peak between the H₂-18 (δ 4.23 and 3.89) and the carboxyl carbon (δ 170.2). Therefore, compound **15** was determined to be *ent*-18-acetoxy-16 α ,17-dihydroxykauran-19-oic acid.

Compound **16** possessed the elemental composition C₂₆H₄₀O₇, and its ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra (Table 2) were nearly superimposable with those of **15** except for an additional isobutyryloxy moiety [δ_{H} 1.19 and 1.17 (each 3H, s), 2.60 (1H, m); δ_{C} 177.2 (s), 34.0 (d), 19.0 (q), and 18.9 (q)], which was attached to C-17. This was verified by an HMBC cross-peak between the carboxyl carbon at δ 177.2 and the H₂-17 at δ 4.23. Therefore, compound **16** was determined to be *ent*-18-acetoxy-16 α -hydroxy-17-isobutyryloxykauran-19-oic acid.

Other known diterpenoid compounds isolated from this plant were *ent*-2-oxo-15,16,19-trihydroxypimar-8(14)-ene (**4**),⁷ kirenol (**5**),¹⁰ darutigenol (**6**),¹³ *ent*-3 α ,15,16,19-tetrahydroxypimar-8(14)-ene (**7**),¹⁹ darutoside (**8**),²⁰ *ent*-16-acetoxy-15-hydroxypimar-8(14)-en-3 α -*O*- β -glucopyranoside (**9**),²¹ isopropylidenkirenol (**10**),¹⁰ *ent*-16 α ,17,18-trihydroxykauran-19-oic acid (**17**),¹⁸ *ent*-17,18-dihydroxy-16 β H-kauran-19-oic acid (**18**),¹ *ent*-17-isobutyryloxy-18-hydroxykauran-19-oic acid (**19**),²² *ent*-16 α ,17-dihydroxykauran-19-oic acid (**20**),²³ *ent*-17-hydroxy-16 α H-kauran-19-oic acid (**21**),²⁴ *ent*-19-methyl-17-hydroxy-16 α H-kauran-19-oic acid (**22**),²⁵ *ent*-16 α H-kauran-17,19-dioic acid (**23**),²⁶ the 16 α ,17-acetonide of *ent*-16 α ,17-dihydroxykauran-19-oic acid (**24**),¹ and the 16 α ,17-acetonide of *ent*-19-methyl-16 α ,17-dihydroxykauran-19-oic acid (**25**).²⁷ Structures of the known compounds were confirmed by comparison with data reported in the literature.

The acetonide compounds **10**–**12**, **24**, and **25** were determined to be artifacts formed in the process of isolation, as confirmed by a series of HPLC experiments (see Supporting Information).

Seven compounds (**5**, **6**, **8**, **11**, **14**, **18**, and **20**) were evaluated for cytotoxic activity against the HSC-T6, HeLa, and B16 cell lines, using the MTT method, with cisplatin and paclitaxel as positive controls (Table, Supporting Information). Only compounds **11** and **14** showed moderate cytotoxicity (IC₅₀ values, 34.7, 32.3, and 21.5 μM for **11** and 54.9, 54.8, and 50.9 μM for **14**).

Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. Melting points were measured on an X-5 Microscope Melting Point Inspect. Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin-Elmer model 341 polarimeter with a 1 dm cell.

IR spectra were obtained on a Nicolet NEXUS 670 FT-IR spectrometer. NMR spectra were recorded on Varian INOVA-300 and Bruker AVANCE III-400 spectrometers. Chemical shifts are given as δ (ppm) using TMS as internal standard. HRESIMS was carried out on a Bruker APEX II mass spectrometer. HPLC experiments were carried out on an Agilent Technologies 1200 series instrument. Silica gel (200–300 mesh) used for column chromatography (CC) and silica GF₂₅₄ (10–40 μ m) for TLC were both supplied by the Qingdao Marine Chemical Factory, Qingdao, People's Republic of China. TLC was detected at 254 nm, and spots were visualized by spraying with 5% H₂SO₄ in C₂H₅OH (v/v) followed by heating.

Plant Material. The aerial parts of *Siegesbeckia pubescens* were purchased from the Huanghe Medicinal Material Market in Gansu in 2008 and were identified by Prof. Huan-Yang Qi of the Key Laboratory for Natural Medicine of Gansu Province, Lanzhou Institute of Chemical Physics. A voucher specimen (No. ZY2007S001) was deposited in our laboratory.

Extraction and Isolation. The air-dried and powdered *S. pubescens* plant material (9.0 kg) was extracted with EtOH (3 \times 3 h) at ca. 65 °C. The crude extract was mixed with H₂O (2 L) to form a suspension and then partitioned successively with petroleum ether, EtOAc, and n-BuOH. The EtOAc-soluble part (120 g) was subjected to silica gel CC eluted with petroleum ether–acetone (30:1, 15:1, 8:1, 4:1, 2:1, 1:1, 0:100 and CH₃OH) to give eight fractions (A–H). Fractions D–F were separated by silica gel CC, using a CHCl₃–acetone gradient system, to give several subfractions. Further purification of each subfraction through repeated chromatography with CHCl₃–MeOH (30:1), CHCl₃–acetone (10:1), and petroleum ether–acetone–acetic acid (15:1:0.1) yielded compounds **11** (15.3 mg), **13** (25.5 mg), **14** (54.0 mg), **16** (16.9 mg), **18** (41.8 mg), **19** (120.0 mg), **20** (210.0 mg), **21** (150.0 mg), **22** (45.0 mg), **23** (36.0 mg), **24** (15.4 mg), and **25** (10.8 mg). Each subfraction of fraction E was separated by silica gel CC eluted with CHCl₃–MeOH (20:1, 10:1, and MeOH) and by recrystallization to give compounds **1** (15.0 mg), **4** (13.5 mg), **5** (340.0 mg), **6** (60.0 mg), **7** (25.9 mg), **8** (40.3 mg), **10** (33.3 mg), **15** (18.0 mg), and **17** (24.0 mg), respectively. A similar isolation procedure adopted for the subfractions of fraction F afforded **2** (9.3 mg), which almost completely changed into **2a** in the NMR tube at room temperature after 3 days, **3** (8.2 mg), **9** (1.8 g), and **12** (7.7 mg).

ent-3 α ,7 β ,15,16-Tetrahydroxypimar-8(14)-ene (1): white, amorphous powder; $[\alpha]_D^{20} +20$ (c 1.3 DMSO); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 3422, 2941, 1657, 1050, 1027, 1004, 825, 763 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz) δ 5.31 (1H, s, H-14), 3.95 (1H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, H-7), 3.43 (1H, dd, *J* = 9.6, 3.6 Hz, H-16a), 3.28 (1H, m, H-15), 3.23 (1H, m, H-16b), 3.04 (1H, m, H-3), 1.97 (1H, t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, H-9), 1.88 (1H, m, H-12), 0.87 (3H, s, H-18), 0.79 (3H, s, H-17), 0.69 (3H, s, H-19), 0.66 (3H, s, H-20); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 75 MHz) data, see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 361.2344 [C₂₀H₃₄O₄ + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₂₀H₃₄O₄Na, 361.2349).

ent-16-Acetoxy-3 α ,15-dihydroxy-14 α -hydroperoxypimar-7-en-3 α -O- β -glucopyranoside (2): colorless gum; ¹H NMR (acetone-*d*₆, 400 MHz) δ 5.71 (1H, d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, H-7), 4.37 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, H-1'), 4.11 (1H, dd, *J* = 11.2, 2.8 Hz, H-16a), 4.01 (1H, m, H-16b), 3.88 (1H, s, H-14), 3.73 (1H, m, H-15), 1.98 (3H, s, CH₃CO–), 1.00 (3H, s, H-18), 0.92 (3H, s, H-17), 0.88 (3H, s, H-19), 0.85 (3H, s, H-20); ¹³C NMR (acetone-*d*₆, 100 MHz) data, see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 576.3390 [C₂₈H₆₄O₁₁ + NH₄]⁺ (calcd for C₂₈H₆₈O₁₁N, 576.3378).

ent-16-Acetoxy-3 α ,15-dihydroxy-7 β -hydroperoxypimar-8(14)-en-3 α -O- β -glucopyranoside (2a): colorless gum; $[\alpha]_D^{20} -13$ (c 0.8 acetone); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 3377, 2936, 1722, 1654, 1077, 1039 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (acetone-*d*₆, 400 MHz) δ 5.59 (1H, s, H-14), 4.39 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, H-1'), 4.24 (1H, br s, H-7), 4.17 (1H, dd, *J* = 11.2, 2.8 Hz, H-16a), 4.00 (1H, dd, *J* = 11.2, 8.8 Hz, H-16b), 3.70 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, H-15); ¹³C NMR (acetone-*d*₆, 100 MHz) data, see Table 1.

ent-2 β ,15,16-Trihydroxypimar-8(14)-en-19-oic acid (3): white, amorphous powder; $[\alpha]_D^{20} -133$ (c 0.1 CH₃OH); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 3516, 3413, 3004, 2921, 1713, 1422, 1362, 1222, 1091 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz) δ 12.11 (1H, br s, –COOH), 5.17 (1H, s, H-14), 3.84 (1H, m, H-2), 3.46 (1H, d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, H-16a), 3.30 (1H, m, H-15), 3.25 (1H, m, H-16b), 1.15 (3H, s, H-18), 0.76 (3H, s, H-17), 0.61 (3H, s, H-20); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz) data, see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 370.2587 [C₂₀H₃₂O₅ + NH₄]⁺ (calcd for C₂₀H₃₆O₅N, 370.2588).

X-ray Crystallography of 8. Colorless crystals were obtained from a solution of CHCl₃–CH₃OH (1:2), monoclinic space group *P*₂₁, *a* =

13.551(6) Å, *b* = 6.242(3) Å, *c* = 16.767(7) Å, *V* = 1382.1(10) Å³, *Z* = 2, *D*_x = 1.241 mg/m³ refinement on *F*², *R* (gt) = 0.0421, *wR* (gt) = 0.0907, *S* (all) = 1.026.

ent-3 α ,15,16-Trihydroxypimar-8(14)-en-15,16-acetonide (11): pale gum; $[\alpha]_D^{20} -36$ (c 0.6 acetone); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 3312, 2939, 2907, 2878, 1651, 1454, 1374, 1264, 1064, 1036, 861 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 5.06 (1H, s, H-14), 4.01 (1H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, H-16a), 3.88 (1H, t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, H-15), 3.75 (1H, t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, H-16b), 3.25 (1H, dd, *J* = 11.7, 3.6 Hz, H-3), 2.25 (1H, br d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, H-7a), 2.02 (1H, ddd, *J* = 13.8, 5.7 Hz, H-7b), 1.39 (3H, s, CMe₂), 1.34 (3H, s, CMe₂), 1.00 (3H, s, H-18), 0.90 (3H, s, H-17), 0.81 (3H, s, H-19), 0.76 (3H, s, H-20); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) data, see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 385.2711 [C₂₃H₃₈O₃ + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₂₃H₃₈O₃Na, 385.2713).

ent-3 α ,15,16-Trihydroxypimar-8(14)-en-3 α -O- β -glucopyranoside-15,16-acetonide (12): colorless gum; $[\alpha]_D^{20} -53$ (c 0.4 acetone); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 3387, 2938, 2875, 1657, 1455, 1374, 1209, 1071, 1041, 861 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 5.06 (1H, s, H-14), 4.34 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, H-1'), 4.00 (1H, t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, H-16a), 3.88 (1H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, H-15), 3.75 (1H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, H-16b), 3.25 (1H, dd, *J* = 11.6, 3.2 Hz, H-3), 2.25 (1H, br d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, H-7a), 2.01 (1H, m, H-7b), 1.40 (3H, s), 1.34 (3H, s, CMe₂), 0.99 (3H, s, H-18), 0.91 (3H, s, H-17), 0.82 (3H, s, H-19), 0.77 (3H, s, H-20); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) data, see Table 1; HRESIMS *m/z* 542.3692 [C₂₉H₄₈O₈ + NH₄]⁺ (calcd for C₂₉H₅₂O₈N, 542.3687).

ent-18-Acetoxy-17-hydroxy-16 β H-kauran-19-oic acid (13): colorless needles; mp 180–182 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} -64$ (c 0.4 CH₃OH); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 3405, 2929, 2854, 1739, 1711, 1446, 1370, 1235, 1038 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 300 MHz) δ 4.24 (1H, d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, H-18a), 3.89 (1H, d, *J* = 9.9 Hz, H-18b), 3.13 (2H, m, H-17), 2.12 (1H, m, H-3), 2.02 (1H, m, H-13), 1.98 (3H, s, CH₃CO–), 1.20 (1H, m, H-5), 0.89 (3H, s, H-20); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 75 MHz) data, see Table 2; HRESIMS *m/z* 396.2749 [C₂₂H₃₄O₅ + NH₄]⁺ (calcd for C₂₂H₃₈O₅N, 396.2744).

X-ray Crystallography of 13. Colorless crystals were obtained from a solution of CHCl₃–CH₃COCH₃ (2:1), orthorhombic space group *P*₂₁₂₁, *a* = 7.4147(8) Å, *b* = 10.7871(13) Å, *c* = 27.001(3) Å, *V* = 2159.6(4) Å³, *Z* = 4, *D*_x = 1.219 mg/m³, refinement on *F*², *R* (gt) = 0.0448, *wR* (gt) = 0.1189, *S* (all) = 1.252.

ent-18-Acetoxy-17-isobutyryloxy-16 β H-kauran-19-oic acid (14): colorless needles; mp 238–240 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} -68$ (c 0.7 acetone); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 2934, 2858, 1742, 1699, 1469, 1386, 1248, 1192, 1156, 1034, 914 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 4.39 (1H, d, *J* = 9.9 Hz, H-18a), 3.97 (1H, d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, H-18b), 3.84 (2H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, H-17), 2.52 (1H, m, Me₂CHCO–), 2.04 (3H, s, CH₃CO–), 1.15 (3H, s, Me₂CHCO–), 1.13 (3H, s, Me₂CHCO–), 0.95 (3H, s, H-20), 0.80 (1H, m, H-1b); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) data, see Table 2; HRESIMS *m/z* 466.3160 [C₂₆H₄₀O₆ + NH₄]⁺ (calcd for C₂₆H₄₄O₆N, 466.3163).

X-ray Crystallography of 14. Colorless crystals were obtained from a solution of CHCl₃–CH₃COCH₃ (2:1), orthorhombic space group *P*₂₁₂₁, *a* = 21.962(3) Å, *b* = 7.6252(11) Å, *c* = 15.114(2) Å, *V* = 2531.0(6) Å³, *Z* = 4, *D*_x = 1.177 mg/m³, refinement on *F*², *R* (gt) = 0.0493, *wR* (gt) = 0.1278, *S* (all) = 1.075.

ent-18-Acetoxy-16 α ,17-dihydroxypimar-19-oic acid (15): colorless needles; mp 178–180 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} -59$ (c 0.7 CH₃OH); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 3459, 3385, 2952, 2868, 2840, 1742, 1701, 1376, 1232, 1036, 1019 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz) δ 4.23 (1H, d, *J* = 10 Hz, H-18a), 3.89 (1H, d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, H-18b), 3.49 (1H, d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, H-17a), 3.38 (1H, d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, H-17b), 2.10 (1H, br d, *J* = 12.8 Hz, H-3a), 1.98 (3H, s, CH₃CO–), 1.79 (1H, m, H-1a), 0.98 (1H, td, *J* = 13.2, 4.4 Hz, H-3b), 0.94 (1H, m, H-9), 0.89 (3H, s, H-20), 0.74 (1H, td, *J* = 13.2, 13.6, 3.6 Hz, H-1b); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz) data, see Table 2; HRESIMS *m/z* 412.2693 [C₂₂H₃₄O₆ + NH₄]⁺ (calcd for C₂₂H₃₈O₆N, 412.2694).

ent-18-Acetoxy-16 α -hydroxy-17-isobutyryloxykauran-19-oic acid (16): white, amorphous powder; $[\alpha]_D^{20} -54$ (c 0.26 acetone); IR (KBr) ν_{\max} 3465, 2925, 2871, 2852, 1728, 1462, 1382, 1245, 1159, 1035 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 4.40 (1H, d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, H-18a), 4.23 (2H, br s, H-17), 3.98 (1H, d, *J* = 9.9 Hz, H-18b), 2.60 (1H, m, Me₂CHCO–), 2.29 (1H, br d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, H-3a), 2.05 (3H, s, CH₃CO–), 1.19 (3H, s, Me₂CHCO–), 1.17 (3H, s, Me₂CHCO–), 0.98 (3H, s, H-20); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) data, see Table 2; HRESIMS *m/z* 482.3122 [C₂₆H₄₀O₇ + NH₄]⁺ (calcd for C₂₆H₄₄O₇N, 482.3122).

Acidic Hydrolysis of 2a and 12. Compound **2a** (4 mg) or **12** (6

mg) dissolved in 50% MeOH (10 mL) containing 7% HCl was heated in boiling water for 3 h. After cooling, the reaction mixture were neutralized and extracted with EtOAc three times (10 mL \times 3) to obtain the aglycone. Glucose was identified as the sugar moiety by co-TLC of the aqueous solution compared with an authentic glucose sample.

Crystallographic Data of 8, 13, and 14. Crystallographic data of **8**, **13**, and **14** have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center as supplementary publication numbers CCDC 730006–730008. Copies of the data can be obtained, free of charge, on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: +44(0)1223 336033 or e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

In Vitro Cytotoxicity Assay. The cytotoxicity of compounds **5**, **6**, **8**, **11**, **14**, **18**, and **20** against HSC-T6, HeLa, and B16 cell lines was evaluated by the MTT assay as described previously.²⁸ Briefly, cells at the exponential growth phase were harvested and seeded into a flat-bottom 96-well plate. A total of 100 μ L containing 5×10^4 cells was added to each well of the plate. After 24 h incubation in a 5% humidified CO₂ incubator at 37 °C, the test agent was added (in triplicate experiments) to give final concentrations of 10, 50, and 100 μ g/mL. After 44 h of incubation at 37 °C, 20 μ L/well, MTT was then added and the plate was again incubated at 37 °C for 4 h. The absorbance of the MTT solution was measured at 490 nm. IC₅₀ values were calculated on the basis of percentage inhibition using the linear regression method.

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Supporting Information Available: The NMR spectra (¹H, ¹³C NMR and DEPT135, HMBC of all new compounds, NOE spectra of compounds **1** and **2**, and HMQC of **1**, **2a**, and **15**), Schemes 1–3, a table, and CIF files of compounds **8**, **13**, and **14**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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