

# Mitchellenes A–E, Cyclic Sesquiterpenes from the Australian Plant *Eremophila mitchellii*

Emma C. Barnes, Anthony R. Carroll, and Rohan A. Davis\*

Eskitis Institute, Griffith University, Brisbane, QLD 4111, Australia

Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** Chemical investigations of the Australian plant *Eremophila mitchellii* resulted in the isolation of the novel tetracyclic sesquiterpene lactones mitchellenes A–C (1–3), the new sesquiterpene acids mitchellenes D and E (4 and 5), and the previously reported natural products 14-hydroxy-6,12-muuroloadien-15-oic acid (6), casticin, and centaureidin. The chemical structures of all compounds were determined by extensive 1D/2D NMR and MS data analysis. Mitchellenes A–C are the first tetracyclic sesquiterpene lactones to be reported; a biosynthetic pathway is proposed for these unique secondary metabolites.



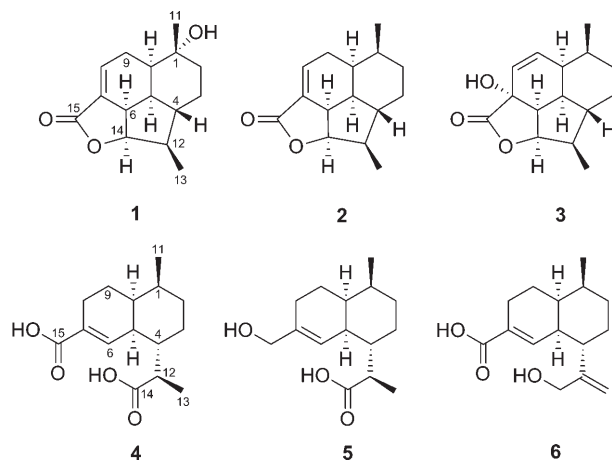
The *Eremophila* genus (family Myoporaceae) contains around 200 species, all of which are native to Australia.<sup>1,2</sup> This genus is the source of over 100 characterized natural products, of which the majority belong to the terpenoid structural class.<sup>2–5</sup> These plants have a wide distribution across mainland Australia, and, as such, a number of *Eremophila* species were used by Australian Aboriginal people for ceremonial purposes and for treating ailments such as abrasions, colds, headache, and scabies.<sup>2,4–6</sup> More recently, extracts or pure natural products from this genus have been shown to possess antibacterial activity,<sup>6–10</sup> xanthine oxidase inhibition,<sup>11</sup> cyclooxygenase inhibition,<sup>12</sup> and cardioactivity.<sup>13,14</sup>

The species *Eremophila mitchellii* Benth. is native to inland northern New South Wales and Queensland and grows as an aromatic shrub or small tree.<sup>1,5</sup> The natural products isolated from this species include eremophilone<sup>15–17</sup> and its derivatives.<sup>4,18–21</sup> Oil extracts from this plant have been extensively studied due to their termiticidal and insecticidal activities,<sup>21–24</sup> and one study has found the wood oil to possess antimicrobial activity.<sup>25</sup>

In this study, *E. mitchellii* was investigated as a potential source of large quantities (>200 mg) of the previously isolated compound, 14-hydroxy-6,12-muuroloadien-15-oic acid (6).<sup>26</sup> This sesquiterpene carboxylic acid was identified after searching the literature as possessing an attractive muurolane<sup>27</sup> scaffold that could be elaborated chemically to generate unique drug-like or molecular probe screening libraries. During the large-scale isolation of 6, a number of novel and new natural products were also identified, and herein we report the structure elucidation of these compounds.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The air-dried and ground leaves of *E. mitchellii* were extracted exhaustively with sequential washes of *n*-hexane, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and CH<sub>3</sub>OH. The CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>OH extracts were combined and fractionated using a diol-bonded silica flash column and a *n*-hexane/EtOAc gradient. Further purification was achieved by either diol-bonded silica HPLC (*i*-PrOH/*n*-hexane) or C<sub>18</sub>-bonded silica



HPLC (CH<sub>3</sub>OH/H<sub>2</sub>O). This yielded three novel tetracyclic sesquiterpene lactones, namely, mitchellenes A–C (1–3), and two new sesquiterpene carboxylic acids, mitchellenes D (4) and E (5). The known compounds 14-hydroxy-6,12-muuroloadien-15-oic acid (6), casticin,<sup>28,29</sup> and centaureidin<sup>30,31</sup> were also isolated.

Mitchellene A (1) was isolated as an optically active, brown gum. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1 showed six aliphatic signals between δ<sub>H</sub> 0.76 and 4.86, one olefinic resonance at δ<sub>H</sub> 6.57, three methylene moieties (δ<sub>H</sub> 2.37/1.83, 1.39/1.37, and 1.40/1.21), and two methyl resonances (δ<sub>H</sub> 0.82 and 1.08) (Table 1). The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1 (Table 2) contained signals that indicated the presence of an oxygenated carbon (δ<sub>C</sub> 70.9), an olefin (δ<sub>C</sub> 136.8 and 127.8), and a carbonyl moiety (δ<sub>C</sub> 170.7) within the molecule.

Investigation of the <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>1</sup>H COSY, HSQC, and HMBC spectra permitted the planar structure of 1 to be constructed (Figure 1). HMBC correlations from H-3, H-5, and H-11 to C-1 allowed this carbon to be assigned as δ<sub>C</sub> 70.9. The downfield

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Table 1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Data for Mitchellenes A–C (1–3)<sup>a</sup>

position	1 <sup>b</sup>	2 <sup>b</sup>	3 <sup>b</sup>
1		1.72 (m)	1.63 (m)
2 $\alpha$	1.39 (m)	1.43 (dddd, 13.2, 4.2, 3.6, 3.0)	1.47 (m)
2 $\beta$	1.35 (ddd, 13.8, 12.0, 4.2)	1.07 (dddd, 13.2, 13.2, 12.6, 3.6)	0.80 (m)
3 $\alpha$	1.21 (dddd, 12.0, 11.4, 11.4, 4.2)	0.91 (dddd, 13.2, 12.0, 11.4, 3.6)	0.89 (m)
3 $\beta$	1.40 (m)	1.65 (m)	1.68 (m)
4	0.76 (dddd, 11.6, 11.4, 11.4, 3.0)	0.79 (dddd, 12.6, 12.3, 12.0, 3.0)	0.81 (m)
5	2.21 (ddd, 11.6, 4.8, 4.2)	1.68 (m)	1.71 (m)
6	3.07 (m)	3.14 (m)	2.83 (dd, 7.8, 7.8)
OH- 7			6.02 (brs)
8	6.57 (ddd, 4.8, 3.0, 2.0)	6.60 (ddd, 4.2, 3.0, 2.4)	5.72 (brdd, 10.2, 3.0, 3.0)
9 $\alpha$	2.37 (dddd, 21.0, 8.4, 3.6, 3.0)	2.24 (dddd, 21.0, 8.4, 4.2, 2.4)	5.94 (brd, 10.2)
9 $\beta$	1.83 (dddd, 21.0, 9.0, 5.4, 4.8)	1.94 (dddd, 21.0, 8.4, 4.2, 4.2)	
10	1.91 (ddd, 9.0, 8.4, 4.2)	2.11 (m)	2.45 (m)
11	1.08 (s)	0.88 (d, 7.2)	1.00 (d, 7.2)
12	1.63 (ddq, 11.4, 7.2, 7.2)	1.63 (m)	1.46 (m)
13	0.82 (d, 7.2)	0.83 (d, 7.2)	0.90 (d, 7.2)
14	4.86 (dd, 7.2, 7.2)	4.85 (dd, 7.2, 7.2)	4.90 (dd, 7.8, 6.0)

<sup>a</sup>Spectra were recorded in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 30 °C. <sup>b</sup> $^1\text{H}$  (mult., *J* in Hz).

Table 2.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Data for Mitchellenes A–E (1–5) and 14-Hydroxy-6,12-muuroloadien-15-oic Acid (6)<sup>a</sup>

position	1 <sup>b</sup>	2 <sup>b</sup>	3 <sup>b</sup>	4 <sup>b</sup>	5 <sup>b</sup>	6 <sup>b</sup>
1	70.9, C	34.5, CH	34.4, CH	34.2, CH	34.8, CH	34.2, CH
2	34.0, CH <sub>2</sub>	28.0, CH <sub>2</sub>	30.7, CH <sub>2</sub>	28.6, CH <sub>2</sub>	28.9, CH <sub>2</sub>	29.0, CH <sub>2</sub>
3	23.9, CH <sub>2</sub>	28.8, CH <sub>2</sub>	27.7, CH <sub>2</sub>	26.7, CH <sub>2</sub>	26.4, CH <sub>2</sub>	33.8, CH <sub>2</sub>
4	41.4, CH	41.4, CH	39.0, CH	40.2, CH	38.0, CH	42.4, CH
5	39.0, CH	45.2, CH	47.0, CH	38.7, CH	40.4, CH	41.2, CH
6	41.7, CH	42.0, CH	47.0, CH	140.1, CH	122.6, CH	142.0, CH
7	127.8, C	127.9, C	69.6, C	131.4, C	138.8, C	129.7, C
8	136.8, CH	136.7, CH	127.4, CH	25.2, CH <sub>2</sub>	26.2, CH <sub>2</sub>	25.1, CH <sub>2</sub>
9	25.4, CH <sub>2</sub>	22.6, CH <sub>2</sub>	129.9, CH	16.2, CH <sub>2</sub>	16.4, CH <sub>2</sub>	16.1, CH <sub>2</sub>
10	38.9, CH	32.2, CH	36.8, CH	38.4, CH	39.0, CH	38.6, CH
11	27.9, CH <sub>3</sub>	18.5, CH <sub>3</sub>	18.3, CH <sub>3</sub>	19.2, CH <sub>3</sub>	19.3, CH <sub>3</sub>	19.3, CH <sub>3</sub>
12	43.2, CH	43.3, CH	42.5, CH	39.0, CH	38.6, CH	152.4, C
13	11.6, CH <sub>3</sub>	11.5, CH <sub>3</sub>	11.2, CH <sub>3</sub>	9.6, CH <sub>3</sub>	9.2, CH <sub>3</sub>	107.4, CH <sub>2</sub>
14	83.2, CH	82.9, CH	83.9, CH	176.8, C	177.1, C	63.2, CH <sub>2</sub>
15	170.7, C	170.6, C	177.6, C	168.5, C	64.9, CH <sub>2</sub>	168.4, C

<sup>a</sup>Spectra were recorded in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 30 °C. <sup>b</sup> $^{13}\text{C}$ , mult.

chemical shift of C-1 indicated a hydroxy group was attached to this position.<sup>32</sup> The methyl signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.08 (H-11) showed HMBC correlations to C-2 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  34.0) and C-10 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  38.9), establishing that it was also attached to C-1. A second methyl group resonating at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  0.82 exhibited HMBC correlations with C-4 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  41.4) and C-14 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  83.2), allowing it to be positioned at C-12 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  43.2). The chemical shift of C-14 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  83.2) indicated that it was next to an oxygen atom,<sup>32</sup> and both H-8 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  6.57) and H-14 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.86) showed HMBC correlations to a carbon signal at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  170.7 (C-15). This allowed a  $\gamma$ -lactone ring to be constructed, giving the planar tetracyclic ring system shown in Figure 1. The conjugated  $\gamma$ -lactone moiety was supported by the absorption at  $1744\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum of **1**.<sup>32</sup>

The relative configuration of **1** was assigned after analysis of the ROESY spectrum (Figure 1) and  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  coupling constant

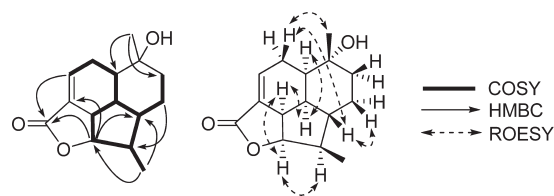


Figure 1. Key COSY, HMBC, and ROESY correlations for **1**.

data. ROESY correlations between H-10/H-5, H-5/H-6, H-6/H-14, and H-14/H-12 established that these protons all had *cis* orientations around the tetracyclic ring system. The  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  coupling constants between H-5 and H-10 ( $J_{5\alpha,10\alpha} = 4.2\text{ Hz}$ ) and between H-6 and H-14 ( $J_{6\alpha,14\alpha} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$ ) further supported the *cis* orientation of these bridgehead protons.<sup>26,33</sup> In a similar

Table 3.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Data for Mitchellenes D and E (4, 5) and 14-Hydroxy-6,12-muuroloadien-15-oic acid (6)<sup>a</sup>

position	4 <sup>b</sup>	5 <sup>b</sup>	6 <sup>b</sup>
1	1.63 (m)	1.61 (m)	1.72 (m)
2 $\alpha$	1.38 (m)	1.37 (m)	1.37 (m)
2 $\beta$	1.09 (m)	1.09 (brddd, 13.2, 13.2, 11.4)	1.11 (dddd, 13.2, 12.6, 12.6, 3.0)
3 $\alpha$	1.16 (brddd, 13.2, 13.2, 11.4)	1.10 (m)	1.32 (dddd, 12.6, 12.6, 11.4, 3.0)
3 $\beta$	1.32 (brd, 13.2)	1.28 (m)	1.62 (m)
4	1.84 (brdd, 12.0, 11.4)	1.81 (m)	1.82 (ddd, 11.4, 11.4, 3.0)
5	2.05 (m)	1.82 (m)	2.28 (ddd, 11.4, 5.4, 4.8)
6	6.88 (brd, 4.2)	5.67 (brd, 3.6)	6.77 (brd, 4.8)
8 $\alpha$	2.03 (m)	1.88 (m)	1.98 (m)
8 $\beta$	2.37 (brdd, 18.6, 4.8)	2.02 (brdd, 18.0, 5.4)	2.35 (brdd, 18.0, 5.4)
9 $\alpha$	1.58 (m)	1.53 (brdd, 12.6, 6.6)	1.57 (brdd, 13.2, 6.6)
9 $\beta$	1.40 (m)	1.40 (m)	1.35 (m)
10	1.61 (m)	1.62 (m)	1.63 (m)
11	0.88 (d, 6.0)	0.87 (d, 6.6)	0.91 (d, 7.2)
12	2.53 (dq, 7.2, 3.6)	2.62 (dq, 7.2, 3.0)	
13	0.97 (d, 7.2)	0.93 (d, 7.2)	5.05 (s), 4.90 (s)
14			3.80 (d, 15.0), 3.86 (d, 15.0)
15		3.77 (s)	

<sup>a</sup>Spectra were recorded in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at 30 °C. <sup>b</sup> $^1\text{H}$  (mult., *J* in Hz).

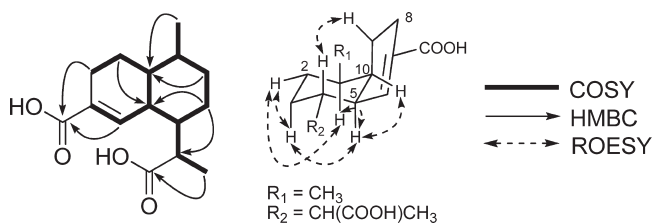


Figure 2. Key COSY, HMBC, and ROESY correlations for 4.

manner, the  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  coupling constant data between H-4 and H-5 ( $J_{4\beta,5\alpha} = 11.6$  Hz) and H-3 $\alpha$  and H-4 ( $J_{3\alpha,4\beta} = 11.4$ ) supported a *trans* relationship of these protons.<sup>26,33</sup> With the relative configuration determined, structure **1** was assigned to mitchellene A.

The molecular formula, C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, was assigned to mitchellene B (**2**) on the basis of HRESIMS and NMR data (Table 1). The NMR data of **2** were similar to those of **1**, with the only major differences being that **2** showed one extra proton signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.72 and an oxygenated quaternary carbon was missing at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  70.9, which was replaced by an upfield signal at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  34.5. The (+)-LRESIMS of **2** showed an ion at  $m/z$  233 [ $M + \text{H}$ ]<sup>+</sup>, demonstrating a molecular weight difference between **2** and **1** of 16 Da. HMBC correlations from H-3, H-9, and H-10 to the carbon signal at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  34.5, in addition to a HSQC correlation from this carbon to  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.72, were used to position these signals at C-1 and H-1, respectively. These data indicated that OH-1 in **1** was replaced with a hydrogen atom in **2**. The ROESY spectrum and  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  coupling data for **2** were essentially identical to those of **1**; hence structure **2** was assigned to mitchellene B.

The minor natural product **3** was isolated as a stable opaque gum. Comparison of the NMR and MS data of **3** and **1** indicated that these two molecules were isomers. The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **3** lacked the methylene signals at H-9 seen in **1**; however, additional signals for two olefinic protons at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.94 and 5.72, a hydroxy group resonance at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  6.02, and an aliphatic proton at

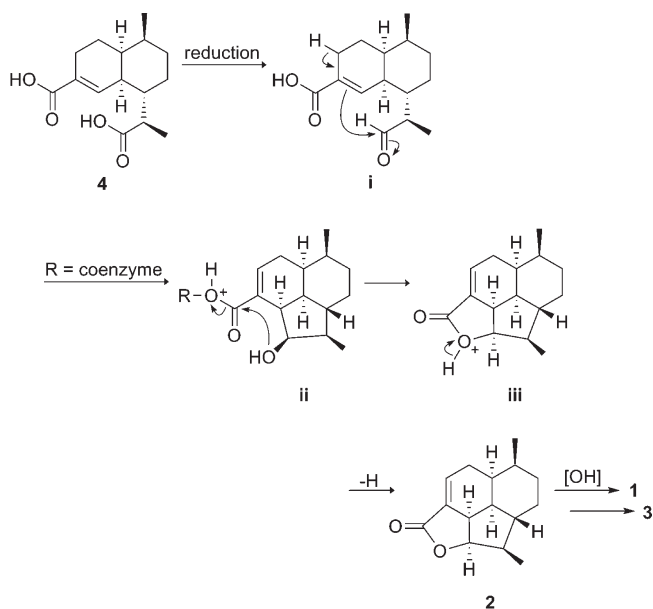
$\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.63 were observed (Table 1). Carbon C-1 in **3** resonated at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  34.4 compared to  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  70.9 in **1**. A correlation in the HSQC spectrum permitted the proton at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.63 to be placed at C-1. HMBC correlations were seen between H-6/H-8/H-9/H-14 and the oxygenated carbon at C-7 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  69.6). HMBC correlations from the hydroxy proton to C-6, C-7, C-8, and C-15 allowed this group to be placed at C-7. HMBC correlations from H-8 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.72) to C-6, C-10, and C-15 and from C-9 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.94) to C-1, C-5, and C-7 indicated that the endocyclic double bond seen in **1** had migrated to C-8/C-9 in **3**. In a similar manner to **1** and **2**, the relative configuration of **3** was assigned on the basis of ROESY and  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  coupling constant data and found to be the same as that of mitchellenes A and B. With the relative configuration determined, structure **3** was assigned to mitchellene C.

Compound **4** was isolated as a light brown gum and assigned the molecular formula C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>4</sub> on the basis of HRESIMS and NMR data (Table 3). The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **4** showed five aliphatic signals between  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.61 and 2.53, one olefinic signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  6.88, four methylene signals ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.37/2.03, 1.58/1.40, 1.38/1.09, and 1.32/1.16), and two methyl signals ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  0.97 and 0.88). The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4** (Table 2) suggested that the molecule contained an olefin ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  140.1 and 131.4) and two carbonyl moieties ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  168.5 and 176.8).<sup>32</sup>

Analysis of the  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  COSY, HSQC, and HMBC spectra allowed for the planar bicyclic structure of sesquiterpene **4** to be constructed (Figure 2). The proton at H-4 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.84) showed a HMBC correlation to the methyl group at H-13 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  0.97). It was also found that H-4 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.84), H-12 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.53), and H-13 ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  0.97) all showed HMBC correlations to a carbon at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  176.8, allowing a carboxyl group to be positioned at C-14. HMBC correlations from both H-6 and H-8 to C-15 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  168.5) enabled a second carboxylic acid side chain to be positioned at C-7 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  131.4).

The relative configuration of **4** was obtained following investigation of the ROESY spectrum and from the  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  coupling constants. This assignment initially proved difficult due to

**Scheme 1. Proposed Biogenetic Pathway for Mitchellenes A–C (1–3)**



overlapping or broadened signals in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum; however, comparison with data obtained on **1–3** and **6** identified that **4** also possessed a muurolane skeleton.<sup>27</sup> The relative configuration of the methyl group at C-13 was assigned as having a β-orientation on biosynthetic grounds, as it was postulated that **4** is a biosynthetic intermediate for mitchellenes A–C. Hence structure **4** was assigned to mitchellene D.

The NMR data of mitchellene E (**5**) (Tables 1 and 2) were very similar to those of **4**, with the only differences being that **5** contained an additional oxygenated methylene signal ( $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.77,  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  64.9) and was missing one carboxylic acid <sup>13</sup>C NMR resonance. HMBC correlations from  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.77 to C-8 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  26.2) and C-6 ( $\delta_{\text{C}}$  122.6) suggested this –OCH<sub>2</sub>– moiety was attached to C-7. These data, along with a difference of 14 Da in the (+)-LRESIMS of **4** compared to **5**, indicated that the carboxylic acid at C-15 in **4** was replaced with a dihydro derivative in **5**.

After analysis of the ROESY spectrum and <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>1</sup>H coupling constants, the relative configuration of **5** was found to be the same as that of **4** and **6**. As in **4**, the relative configuration of the methyl group at C-13 was assigned as having a β-orientation on the basis of biosynthetic reasoning. Structure **5** was thus assigned to mitchellene E. Compound **5** was found to be a new natural product; however, a diastereoisomer of this molecule has been produced in a degradation study undertaken on the related natural product arteannuin H by Sy et al.<sup>34</sup>

The previously isolated natural product, 14-hydroxy-6,12-muuroladien-15-oic acid, was assigned as **6** after 1D/2D NMR and MS data analysis and by comparison with literature values.<sup>26</sup> Compound **6** has only been partially characterized by spectroscopic methods. Herein we report the <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Table 3), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (Table 2), IR, UV, and HRESIMS data for **6**.

The known compounds casticin and centaureidin were identified after 1D/2D NMR and MS data analysis and by comparison with literature values.<sup>28–31</sup>

The biosynthesis of bicyclic sesquiterpenes such as **4–6** has been well studied, and several detailed investigations have been reported in the literature. These natural products are

cyclized from the common sesquiterpene precursor farnesyl diphosphate.<sup>35–38</sup> Mitchellenes A–C (**1–3**) are the first tetracyclic sesquiterpene lactones to be reported. The only other natural products with a similar tetracyclic lactone skeleton are the liverwort diterpenes pallavicinolides A–C, which were proposed to be generated biosynthetically via a labdane-based diterpenoid pathway.<sup>39,40</sup>

Scheme 1 shows a proposed biosynthetic pathway for **1–3** starting from natural product **4**. Similar pathways for the generation of **1–3** would also be possible from compounds **5** and **6**. Reduction of the C-12 carboxylic acid in **4** to form the aldehyde **i**, followed by a proton abstraction at C-8 and intramolecular cyclization, generates the first five-membered ring as shown in **ii**. Attack by the hydroxy group at the conjugated carboxylic acid, aided by an unspecified coenzyme, allows for the formation of the lactone ring. Loss of hydrogen then gives **2**. Addition of a hydroxy group at either C-1 or C-7 facilitates the formation of **1** and **3**, respectively.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**General Experimental Procedures.** Optical rotations were recorded on a JASCO P-1020 polarimeter. IR and UV spectra were recorded on a Bruker Tensor 27 spectrophotometer and a JASCO V-650 UV/vis spectrophotometer, respectively. NMR spectra were recorded at 30 °C on either a Varian 500 or 600 MHz Unity INOVA spectrometer. The latter spectrometer was equipped with a triple-resonance cold probe. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts were referenced to the solvent peaks for DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.49 and  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  39.5. LRESIMS were recorded on a Mariner time-of-flight spectrometer equipped with a Gilson 215 eight probe injector. HRESIMS were recorded on a Bruker Apex III 4.7 T Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance mass spectrometer. An Edwards Instrument Company Bioline orbital shaker was used for plant extractions. For the HPLC work, a Waters 600 pump equipped with a Waters 966 PDA detector and Gilson 715 liquid handler were used. Alltech Davisil diol-bonded silica, 30–40 μm, 60 Å, or Alltech Davisil C<sub>18</sub>-bonded silica, 35–75 μm, 150 Å, was used for preadsorption work. Either a YMC-pack diol 5 μm 120 Å (20 mm × 150 mm) column or a ThermoElectron C<sub>18</sub> Betasil 5 μm 143 Å (21.2 mm × 150 mm) column was used for semipreparative HPLC separations. All solvents used for chromatography, [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub>, UV, IR, and MS were Lab-Scan HPLC grade, and the H<sub>2</sub>O was Millipore Milli-Q PF filtered.

**Plant Material.** The leaves of *Eremophila mitchellii* were collected from Currawinya National Park, QLD, Australia, in March 1996. Collection and identification were undertaken by P. Forster and G. Guymer from the Queensland Herbarium. A voucher specimen (AQ603041) has been deposited at the Queensland Herbarium, Brisbane, Australia.

**Extraction and Isolation.** The air-dried and ground leaves of *E. mitchellii* (27.5 g) were extracted exhaustively with *n*-hexane (250 mL), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 × 250 mL), and CH<sub>3</sub>OH (2 × 250 mL). All CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>OH extractives were combined to yield a dark brown gum (4.94 g). This crude extract was divided into ~500 mg portions and purified by a diol-bonded silica flash column (35 × 130 mm) using a 20% stepwise gradient from *n*-hexane to EtOAc followed by CH<sub>3</sub>OH. The 40% EtOAc/60% *n*-hexane fraction was further purified by diol-bonded silica semipreparative HPLC. Isocratic conditions of *n*-hexane were held for the first 10 min, followed by a linear gradient to 20% *i*-PrOH/80% *n*-hexane in 40 min, then isocratic conditions of 20% *i*-PrOH/80% *n*-hexane for 10 min, all at a flow rate of 9 mL/min. Sixty fractions (1 min each) were collected. Fractions 25 and 26 contained impure **2** (56.5 mg) and were further purified by semipreparative diol-bonded HPLC. Isocratic conditions of *n*-hexane were held for the first

5 min, followed by a linear gradient to 15% *i*-PrOH/75% *n*-hexane in 40 min, then a linear gradient to 20% *i*-PrOH/80% *n*-hexane in 5 min, followed by isocratic conditions of 20% *i*-PrOH/80% *n*-hexane for 10 min, all at a flow rate of 9 mL/min. Sixty fractions (1 min each) were collected. Compound **2** eluted in fractions 41 and 42 (28.3 mg, 0.103% dry wt).

The 60% EtOAc/40% *n*-hexane fraction from the diol flash column was further purified by C<sub>18</sub>-bonded silica semipreparative HPLC at a flow rate of 9 mL/min and isocratic conditions of 10% CH<sub>3</sub>OH/90% H<sub>2</sub>O for 10 min, followed by a linear gradient to CH<sub>3</sub>OH in 40 min, then isocratic conditions of CH<sub>3</sub>OH for 10 min. Sixty fractions (1 min each) were collected. Fraction 45 contained semipure **3** (5.4 mg) and was further purified by semipreparative diol-bonded silica HPLC, using isocratic conditions of *n*-hexane for 10 min, followed by a linear gradient to 20% *i*-PrOH/80% *n*-hexane in 40 min, then isocratic conditions of 20% *i*-PrOH/80% *n*-hexane for 10 min all at a flow rate of 9 mL/min. Sixty fractions (1 min each) were collected. Fraction 29 contained pure **3** (2.2 mg, 0.008% dry wt).

The 80% EtOAc/20% *n*-hexane and EtOAc fractions from the initial diol flash column were combined and further purified using the same diol-bonded silica column and conditions as for the 40% EtOAc/60% *n*-hexane fraction, above. This yielded **4** in fraction 31 (9.6 mg, 0.035% dry wt), **6** in fractions 32 and 33 (201.7 mg, 0.734% dry wt), **5** in fraction 36 (8.4 mg, 0.031% dry wt), **1** in fractions 37 and 38 (10.5 mg, 0.038% dry wt), casticin in fractions 47–49 (9 mg, 0.033% dry wt), and centaureidin in fractions 53 and 54 (9.7 mg, 0.035% dry wt).

**Mitchellene A (1)**: brown gum;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -45$  (c 0.060, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV (CH<sub>3</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 205 (4.20), 214 (4.22), 289 (3.10) nm; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 3420, 1744, 1457, 1375, 1278, 1202, 1059, 983, 956 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), see Tables 1 and 2; (+)-LRESIMS *m/z* 271 (100) [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>, 249 (100) [M + H]<sup>+</sup>; (+)-HRESIMS *m/z* 271.1300 (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> requires 271.1305).

**Mitchellene B (2)**: opaque gum;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -58$  (c 0.080, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV (CH<sub>3</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 204 (4.54), 216 (4.61) nm; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 2920, 1761, 1667, 1454, 1379, 1347, 1287, 1197, 1166, 1141, 1124, 1062, 1012, 981, 962, 952 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), see Tables 1 and 2; (+)-LRESIMS *m/z* 255 (100) [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>, 233 (100) [M + H]<sup>+</sup>; (+)-HRESIMS *m/z* 255.1355 (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> requires 255.1356).

**Mitchellene C (3)**: opaque gum;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -58$  (c 0.107, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV (CH<sub>3</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 205 (4.36), 232 (3.74) nm; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 3382, 1764, 1594, 1455, 1378, 1357, 1289, 1199, 1094, 1033, 989 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), see Tables 1 and 2; (+)-LRESIMS *m/z* 271 (100) [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>; (+)-HRESIMS *m/z* 271.1311 (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> requires 271.1305).

**Mitchellene D (4)**: light brown gum;  $[\alpha]_D^{26} -34$  (c 0.120, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV (CH<sub>3</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 203 (3.92), 219 (4.04) nm; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 3390, 1694, 1644, 1454, 1416, 1380, 1269, 1224, 1180 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), see Tables 2 and 3; (+)-LRESIMS *m/z* 289 (100) [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>; (+)-HRESIMS *m/z* 289.1402 (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> requires 289.1410).

**Mitchellene E (5)**: light brown gum;  $[\alpha]_D^{26} -30$  (c 0.093, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV (CH<sub>3</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 203 (4.11), 225 (3.70) nm; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 3409, 1722, 1709, 1693, 1679, 1513, 1380, 1238, 1224, 994 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), see Tables 2 and 3; (+)-LRESIMS *m/z* 275 (100) [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>; (+)-HRESIMS *m/z* 275.1629 (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> requires 275.1618).

**14-Hydroxy-6,12-muuroloadien-15-oic acid (6)**: light green gum;  $[\alpha]_D^{26} -154$  (c 0.120, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); UV (CH<sub>3</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{\max}$  (log  $\epsilon$ ) 203 (4.68), 220 (4.75) nm; IR  $\nu_{\max}$  (KBr) 3340, 3074, 2628, 1685, 1644, 1531, 1453, 1432, 1268, 1219, 1086, 1051, 903 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>), see Tables 2 and 3; (+)-LRESIMS *m/z* 273 (100) [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>; (+)-HRESIMS *m/z* 273.1464 (C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> requires 273.1461).

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information. 1D and 2D NMR spectra of mitchellenes A–E (**1–5**) and 14-hydroxy-6,12-muuroloadien-15-oic acid (**6**). This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

## ■ AUTHOR INFORMATION

### Corresponding Author

\*Tel: +61-7-3735-6043. Fax: +61-7-3735-6001. E-mail: [r.davis@griffith.edu.au](mailto:r.davis@griffith.edu.au).

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