Dihydro-β-cyclocostunolide (III) although also present in the above mentioned fraction was obtained more conveniently from a crystalline deposit (1·0 g) in the original crude hexane extract (200 g). Recrystallization from hexane–benzene (4:1) and then from methanol gave dihydro-β-cyclocostunolide (600 mg), m.p. 135–137°; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ + 165° (c, 0·98 in $CHCl_3$). IR spectrum ν_{Max}^{KBr} 1773, 1625 cm^{-1}, UV transparent above 204 nm, NMR (60 MHz in $CDCl_3$) absorptions at 0·89 δ (3H, singlet C-10CH_3), 1·25 δ (3H, doublet, J = 7 Hz, C-11CH_3), 4·00 δ (1H, triplet with fine structure, J = 10 Hz, C-6H), 4·80 and 4·95 δ (two 1H singlets, C-4CH_2). The mass spectrum showed principal peaks at *m/e* 234 (100%, M^+), 219 (76%), 207 (10%), 192 (29%), 176 (43%), 166 (92%), 138 (48%), 122 (46%), 110 (40%), 108 (40%), 106 (29%).

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Key Word Index—Moquinea velutina; Compositae; sesquiterpenoid lactones; α-cyclocostunolide; dihydro-β-cyclocostunolide.

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β-AMYRIN ACETATE AND CAMPESTEROL FROM *PLUCHEA ODORATA*

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Plant. Pluchea odorata, Hiebp de Santa María. *Source.* La Leona, Nuevo León. *Uses.* Medicinal.[1] *Previous work.* None.[2]

Present work. Aerial part. The plant material coarsely powdered was extracted with light petroleum. A portion was extracted with $CHCl_3$, the solvent was evaporated, the residue was taken into EtOH, and the solution treated with 5% lead acetate. After filtration the EtOH was evaporated and the residue dissolved in $CHCl_3$. The solution was chromatographed on silica gel. *β-Amyrin acetate* $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$; (M^+ 468) m.p. 225°, TNM positive, $[\alpha]_{589}$ 69·90°, $[\alpha]_{578}$ 73·70°, $[\alpha]_{546}$ 82·50° ($CHCl_3$) IR, NMR, co-TLC and m.m.p. with an authentic specimen. *Campesterol,* $C_{28}H_{48}O$, m.p. 151°, TNM positive $[\alpha]_{589}$ − 33·3° ($CHCl_3$), IR, UV, NMR, co-TLC and m.m.p. with authentic material. *Acetate,* $C_{30}H_{50}O_2$ m.p. 128–130°; $[\alpha]_{589}$ − 35·2° ($CHCl_3$), IR 1720 (CO) and 1250 cm^{-1} (C–O).

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Key Word Index—Pluchea odorata; Compositae; β-amyrin acetate; campesterol.