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à temp. ambiante pendant 48 hr. On obtient après évaporation du solvant sous pression réduite 4 g d'une huile jaune que l'on chromatographie sur une colonne de gel de silice-célite (3:1). L'élution est faite avec du benzène contenant des proportions croissantes d'éther. On isole ainsi, par ordre d'élution, 590 mg de triterpène 3, 586 mg de triterpène 2 et 1·2 g de sitostérol

Triterpène 2. F = 154-155° (MeOH-Et₂O) $[\alpha]_D = -63°$ (c = 0.87; CHCl₃) (Anal. trouvé: C 81-91; H 10-60%, calc. pour C₃₀H₄₆O₂: C 82-13; H 10-57%). ¹H-RMN: 5 méthyles (signaux entre 0.85 et 1-12 ppm), 2 méthyles en C-25 (s.e. à 1-63 et 1-71 ppm), H-7 (m à 5-30 ppm), H-24 (m à 5-05 ppm), proton aldéhydrique (d à 9-42 ppm; J 5 Hz). ¹³C-RMM: δ (TMS) = 0; C-7 (117-9 ppm), C-8 (145-1 ppm), C-24 (124-8 ppm) et C-25 (130-4 ppm)

Triterpène 3. F = 115–116° (MeOH-Et₂O) $[\alpha]_D = -70^\circ$ (c = 1.06; CHCl₃). (Anal. trouvé: C, 84·82; H, 11·28%; calc. pour C₃₀H₄₈O: C, 84·84; H, 11·39%). Spectre de masse: pics à m/e 424 (M⁺), 409 (M-15), 311 (M-C₈H_{1.5}·2H). IR (CHCl₃): 1710 cm⁻¹ (C=O). D.C. (dioxanne): $\Delta \epsilon_{298\,\text{nm}} = -0.78$. 1 H-RMN: 6 méthyles (signaux entre 0·83 et 1·13 ppm), 2 méthyles en C-25 (s.e. à 1·63 et 1·7 ppm), H-7 (m. à 5·32 ppm), H-24 (m. à 5·06 ppm). ^{13}C -RMN: δ (TMS) = 0; C-7 (117·4 ppm), C-8 (145·5 ppm), C-24 (124·8 ppm) et C-25 (130·4 ppm).

Diol 5. 330 mg de triterpène 2 dans 85 ml MeOH et 5 ml CHCl₃ on ajoute, progressivement et sous agitation, 350 mg de NaBH₄. Au bout de 7 hr à température ambiante on ajoute de l'eau et on acidifie avec H_2SO_4N . Le produit de la réaction, isolé de la manière habituelle, est chromatographié sur une colonne de 30 g de Si gel. 180 ml de C_6H_6 contenant 25% Et_2O éluent 290 mg de produit qui cristallise dans C_6H_6 . F = 138-139°, $[\alpha]_D = -46^\circ$ ($c = 1\cdot19$; CHCl₃). (Anal. trouvé: C, 81·29; H, 11·53%; calc. pour $C_{30}H_{50}O_2$: C, 81·39; H, 11·38%).

Spectre de masse. pics à m/e 442 (M⁺·), 427 (M-15), 409 (M-15-18), 391 (M-15-36). RMN: 5 méthyles (signaux entre 0.78 et 1 ppm), 2 méthyles en C-25 (s.e. 1.64 et 1.72 ppm), H-3 (m à 3.28 ppm), H-7 (m à 5.31 ppm), -CH₂OH- (s.e. 2H à 3.7 ppm), H-24 (m à 5.06 ppm).

 Δ^7 -Tirucallol 4. (a) 250 mg de triterpène 3 dans 25 ml MeOH et de 3 ml CHCl₃ on ajoute progressivement 450 mg NaBH₄. Au bout de 3 hr à la température ambiante on isole, de la manière usuelle, le produit de la réaction. Après chromatographie sur une colonne de Si gel on isole 180 mg de produit qui cristallise dans MeOH; cristaux solvatés, ramoll. 85° et F. vers 105° [α]_D = -49° (c = 1·21; CHCl₃). Spectre de masse: m/e 426 (M^+ · C₃₀H₅₀O), 411 (M-15), 393 (M-15-18). RMN: 6 méthyles (signaux entre 0·79 et 1 ppm), 2 méthyles en C-25 (s.e. 1·64 et 1·73 ppm), H-3 (m à 3·28 ppm), H-7 (m à 5·32

ppm) et H-24 (m à 5·06 ppm). (b)—On ajoute 940 mg de chlorure de tosyle à une solution de 280 mg de diol 5 dans 5 ml de C_5H_5N sèche. Après 40' à la température ambiante on ajoute de la glace pilée et on isole. de la manière habituelle, le produit de la réaction. Celui-ci, composé essentiellement du dérivé monotosylé 6, est dissout dans 70 ml d'éther anhydre. Après avoir ajouté, progressivement et sous agitation, 3·2 g de LiAl H_4 , on chauffe à reflux pendant 16 hr. Après 24 hr à la température ambiante, on détruit l'excès de l'hydrure par l'addition d'acétate d'éthyle. On isole le produit de la réaction de la manière usuelle. Après chromatographie sur une colonne de gel de silice on isole 165 mg de produit que l'on cristallise dans le méthanol. On obtient ainsi le Δ^7 -tirucal-lol 4, identique à celui préparé sous (a).

Dihydro-24,25Δ⁷-tirucallol 7. 120 mg de Δ^7 -tirucallol dissous dans 3 ml d'acétate d'éthyle sont hydrogénés à la pression ordinaire en présence de Pd sur charbon (10%). Après chromatographie du produit hydrogéné sur une colonne de gel de silice et cristallisation dans le méthanol on obtient 100 mg du composé 7, F = 110-111°, $[\alpha]_D = -49.7^\circ$ (c = 1.09; CHCl₃) (Anal. trouvé: C, 84-49; H, 12·33%; calc. pour C₃₀H₅₂ O: C, 84-04; H, 12·23). Spectre de masse: pics à m/e 428 (M⁺·), 413 (M-15), 395 (M-15-18).

RMM. 8 méthyles (signaux entre 091 et 098 ppm), H-3 (m à 3·28 ppm) et H-7 (m 5·30 ppm). Ce composé est identique à un échantillon authentique de 7 (identité des spectres de masse et de RMN).

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A 12-OXOWITHANOLIDE FROM DATURA QUERCIFOLIA

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Key Word Index-Datura quercifolia; Solanaceae; withanolide; daturalactone.

Datura quercifolia HBK. has recently been added to the group of withanolide bearing Solanaœae[1]. This communication reports the structure elucidation of one more withanolide from this plant.

Benzene extract of the leaves on chromatographic fractionation gave a colourless silky crystalline solid, mp

303–305°, $C_{28}H_{36}O_7$, M^+ 484, $[\alpha]_D^{18}+63^\circ$ (C, 1·0; CHCl₃). The UV spectrum shows a strong absorption at 225 nm indicating the presence of an $\alpha\beta$ -unsaturated ketone or unsaturated lactone chromophore. IR spectrum exhibits principal bands at 1683 (unsaturated ketone), 1730 (unsaturated six membered-ring lactone)

1700 (saturated six membered-ring ketone) and at 3526, 3510 cm⁻¹ (the OH groups). The compound remained unchanged attempted acetylation under mild conditions (Ac₁Cr C₅H₅N at room temp.) indicating the tertiary nature of both -OH groups.

The NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) gave bands at δ : 5·85d (10, showing a weak allylic coupling with C-4 hydrogens), 2-H: 6·60 dq (10:4·5:3), 3-H: 3·08d(4), 6-H; 3·42d 4:1), 7-H; 4·55m, 22-H; and methyl group signals for 18 H, 19 H, 21 H, 27 H and 28 H at 1·1s, 1·26s, 0·9d (7), 1·52s and 1·58s, respectively (coupling constants are in Hz and given in brackets).

Most of the NMR signals of (1) are similar to the corresponding signals of the withanolides[2]. However, a significant difference between the positions of the 27 and 28 methyl signals, which appear very much upfield in the present compound is observed. This can be explained if the stereochemistry of C-22, unlike that of the other withanolides, is S. In this case the plane of the lactone ring lies at about 90° with respect to C(20)-C(22) bond, with the result that 27 and 28 methyls face[3] the result of the molecule and in NMR, therefore, appear in the upfield. This, however, requires confirmation by CD studies.

MS of the compound shows trivial fragments at m/e 471 (M⁺-15) 466 (M⁺-18) and 448 (M⁺-2 × 18). Cleavage of the C(20)-C(22) bond common to all withanolides gives rise to base peak at m/e 125.

Upon catalytic hydrogenation the compound quickly absorbed one mole of hydrogen giving rise to a dihydro-

derivative, mp 278–80°, $\lambda_{\rm max}$ (MeOH) at 227 nm and a low intensity band between 320–260 nm. There is a significant lowering in the intensity of the UV obsorption band in the dihydroderivative. This shows that the double bond of the x β -unsaturated carbonyl chromophore only has been hydrogenated. MS of this compound shows M⁺ at 486 and other fragments at m/e 468, 450, 129, 125, 109, 105, 98, 97, 93, 81 etc. From the above data the compound can be assigned the structure as 5α , 17α -dihydroxy-1,12-dioxo- 6α , 7α -epoxy-22 S, witha-2, 24-dienolide. The compound was found identical with the product obtained by oxidation of daturalactone [1].

EXPERIMENTAL

Isolation Crushed fresh leaves of D. quercifolia were extracted with cold C_6H_6 . The extract on concentration deposited a pale green crystalline substance which was chromatographed over a column of Si gel and eluted with C_6H_6 -EtOAc (5:1). TLC (Si gel) R_f : 0·35 (C_6H_6 -EtOAc, 1:1), (Found: C, 67·1:H, 7·51. Calculated for $C_{28}H_{36}O_7$:C, 67·35; H, 7·43%).

Hydrogenation Compound was hydrogenated (1 mol H_2) over 10% Pd-C in EtOAc. The hydrogenated product was crystallized from C_6H_6 -EtOAc into microcrystalline needles, TLC, R_f ; 0.45 (C_6H_6 -EtOAc, 1:1), (Found: C, 66·88; H, 7·72. Calculated for $C_{28}H_{38}O_7$: C, 67·07; H, 7·81%).

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4β -HYDROXYWITHANOLIDE E, A NEW NATURAL STEROID WITH A 17α -ORIENTED SIDE-CHAIN

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To the best of our knowledge the withanolides are the first group of naturally occurring steroids including

members which possess the unusual 17α-oriented sidechain with all the carbon atoms present. Withanolides E (1a) and F (1b) [1] isolated from Withania somnifera chemotype III were recently followed by Nic-2 [2] and Nic-11 [3] from Nicandra physaloides|| and by withano-

^{||} The steroids isolated from N. physaloides and designated as Nic 1 ... etc., are biogenetically related to the withanolides.