25-METHYLGRAMISTEROL AND OTHER 4α-METHYLSTEROLS FROM PHASEOLUS VULGARIS SEEDS

TOSHIHIRO AKIHISA, TAKAO YOKOTA,* NOBUTAKA TAKAHASHI,* TOSHITAKE TAMURA and TARO MATSUMOTO

College of Science and Technology, Nihon University, 1-8, Kanda Surugadai, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 101 Japan; *Department of Agricultural Chemistry, The University of Tokyo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, 113 Japan

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Abstract—The structures of five new 4α -methylsterols isolated from the immature seeds of *Phaseolus vulgaris* have been shown to be 25-methylgramisterol, 24Z-ethylidene- 4α -methyl- 5α -cholest-8(14)-en- 3β -ol, 24E- and 24Z-ethylidene- 4α , 14α -dimethyl- 5α -cholest-9(11)-en- 3β -ol. In addition, four known but uncommon 4α -methylsterols, 28-isocitrostadienol, 4α -methylfecosterol, 24Z-ethylidene- 4α -methylcholest-8-en- 3β -ol, and 24-methylene- 4α , 14α -dimethyl- 5α -cholest-9(11)-en- 3β -ol, together with several common 4α -methylsterols were isolated from the seeds and identified

INTRODUCTION

Our recent study has shown that the immature seeds of Phaseolus vulgaris cv Kentucky Wonder contained 24methylene-25-methylcholest-5-en-3 β -ol (24-methylene-25-methylcholesterol, 7f) as one of the sterol constituents [1]. The structure of 7f is unusual because it possesses a tertiary butyl moiety in the side chain. Moreover, detection of 7f in the seeds of P. vulgaris was of interest from the standpoint of structural correlation between sterols and brassinosteroids since the seeds have been demonstrated to contain 25-methyldolichosterone [(22R,23R)-2α,3α,22,23-tetrahydroxy-25-methyl-5α-ergost-24(28)-en-6-one], a brassinosteroid possessing a 24-methylene-25methyl moiety in the side chain, as one of the major brassinosteroids [2]. This paper describes an investigation on the 4α -methylsterols, intermediates for (4demethyl)sterol biosynthesis [3,4], which led to the isolation and characterization of a new 4α -methylsterol possessing a 24-methylene-25-methyl-cholestane side chain, 25-methylgramisterol (1f), in addition to several other new and known 4a-methyl sterols

RESULTS

 4α -Methylsterols were isolated as the acetyl derivatives from P. vulgaris seeds by the procedure described in the Experimental section. The composition of the 4α -methylsterol fraction, and molecular ion peaks, mp, and RRt in GC and HPLC of the 15 4α -methylsterols isolated and identified or newly characterized are given in Table 1. Composition of the 4α -methylsterol fraction was determined based on the argentation TLC and GC data. Identification of the following eight 4α -methylsterols (see Table 1 for the name of compounds) was performed by

comparison of the mp, chromatographic (GC [5], HPLC and argenation TLC), MS and ¹H NMR data with those of authentic compounds as the acetates: 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 4b, 5b, and 6b The ¹H NMR signal assignments were performed by comparison with the literature data [6–9]. Identification of two further known compounds, 2b and 2d, for which reference specimens were unavailable, was performed by comparison of ¹H NMR [6, 10, 11] and mass spectral [11] data. The characterization of the five 4 α -methylsterols, 1f, 3d, 5d, 5e, and 6d, the natural occurrence of which has so far been unreported, is described below.

The mass spectrum of 1f-acetate showed $[M]^+$ at m/z468 (C₃₂H₅₂O₂) accompanied with fragmentation ions at m/z 453 [M-Me]⁺, 393 [M-Me-HOAc]⁺, and 327 [M-C₁₀H₁₉ (side chain) -2H]⁺ indicating that it was an acetate of a C₃₀ 4 α -methylsterol with two double bonds, one of which was in the C₁₀ side chain and the other in the ring system [12, 13]. The presence of a further ion at m/z 370 [M-C₇H₁₃ (part of side chain)-1H]⁺, due to a McLafferty rearrangement involving cleavage of the C-22, C-23 bond with one H transfer from C-20, suggested that the side chain double bond was located at C-24 [12-14]. The ¹H NMR spectrum of 1f-acetate showed signals due to the side chain protons at δ 0.969 (3H, d, J $=6.4 \text{ Hz}, 21\text{-H}_3), 1.059 (9\text{H}, s, 26\text{-H}_3, 27\text{-H}_3, 29\text{-H}_3), \text{ and}$ 4.661 (1H, d, J = 1.0 Hz) and 4.837 (1H, s) (28-H₂), in addition to those arising from the 3β -acetoxy- 4α -methyl- Δ^7 5\alpha-steroid skeleton [6] (Table 2). The ¹H NMR spectral signals for the side chain protons were almost consistent with those of 7f-acetate [1, 15] (Table 2) and its Δ^7 -isomer, 24-methylene-25-methyl-5 α -cholest-7-en-3 β ol acetate [16], and hence, 1f was considered to have the structure 24-methylene-4α,25-dimethyl-5α-cholest-7-en-(25-methylgramisterol or 3*B*−o1 24-methylene-25methyllophenol)

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Table 1 Composition, the molecular ion [M]⁺, mp and chromtographic data of the 4α -methylsterols from *Phaseolus vulgaris* seeds

		Acetate				
4α-Methylsterol*	Composition	[M] ⁺ (m/z)	Mp (~)	RR _t (GC)†	RRt (HPLC)†	
1a 24α-Methyllophenol (4α, 24α-dimethylcholest-7-enol)	0.9	456	140-141	1 72	1 34	
1b Gramisterol (24-methylenelophenol)	56	454	137-138	1 79	0 97	
1c 24α-Ethyllophenol	63	470	156-157	2 10	1 54	
1d Citrostadienol (24Z-ethylidenelophenol)	22 2	468	146-148	2 40	1 21	
le 28-Isocitrostadienol (24E-ethylidenelophenol)	09	468	138-141	2 29	1.21	
1f 25-Methylgramisterol (24-methylene-25-methyllophenol)	03	468	137-140	2 20	1 14	
2b 4α-Methylfecosterol (24-methylene-4α-methylcolest-8-enol)	40	454	111-113	1.58	091	
2d 24Z-Ethylidene-4α-methylcholest-8-enol	3 3	468	130-132	2 13	1 13	
3d 24Z-Ethylidene-4α-methylcholest-8(14)-enol	3 1	468	116-117	2 03	1 10	
4b Cycloeucalenol (24-methylene-9 β , 19-cyclo-4 α , 14 α -dimethylche	oles-					
tanol)	62	468	110-112	1 77	0 96	
5b Obtusifoliol (24-methylene-4α, 14α-dimethylcholest-8-enol)	276	468	111-113	1 49	0 84	
5d 24Z-Ethylidene-4α, 14α-dimethylcholest-8-enol	61	482		197	1 08	
5e 24 <i>E</i> -Ethylidene-4α, 14α-dimethylcholest-8-enol	23	482		1 88	1 08	
6b 24-Methylene-4α, 14α-dimethylcholest-9(11)-enol	08	468	105-107	1 69	0.84	
6d 24Z-Ethylidene- 4α , 14α -dimethylcholest- $9(11)$ -en- 3β -ol	30	482	125-127	2 25	1 07	
Others, unidentified	74			****		

^{*}All 4α -methylsterols possess the 3β -hydroxy- 5α -steroid structure

 $[\]dagger RR_t$ were expressed relative to cholesterol acetate

The mass spectrum of 3d-acetate showed $[M]^+$ at m/z468 $(C_{32}H_{52}O_2)$ accompanied with the fragmentation ions at m/z 453 [M-Me]⁺, 393 [M-Me-HOAc]⁺, $370 [M - C_7 H_{13} (part of side chain) - 1H]^+$, and 327 [M $-C_{10}H_{19}$ (side chain) -2H]⁺ suggesting that it was an acetate of a C_{30} 4 α -methylsterol with two double bonds, one of which was in the ring system and the other was at C-24 in the C₁₀ side chain [12-14] The ¹H NMR spectrum of 3d-acetate showed the side chain 'H signals almost consistent with those of 1d-acetate (Table 2) indicating that it possesses 24Z-ethylidene-cholestane side chain. The ¹H NMR spectral signals for the skeletal protons at $\delta 0.728$ (s, 19-H₃), 0.841 (s, 18-H₃), 0.849 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz, 30-H₃), 2.050 (s, 3 β -OAc), and 4.415 (1H, dt, J = 4 4, 10.4 Hz, 3α -H) were almost indistinguishable from those of authentic $\Delta^{8(14)}$ -4 α -methylsterol acetate, 3aacetate (Table 2), and thus, 3d-was regarded to have the structure 24Z-ethylidene-4α-methyl-5α-cholest-8(14)-en- 3β -ol.

The mass spectrum of 5d-acetate showed $[M]^+$ at m/z482 ($C_{33}H_{54}O_2$) accompanied with the fragmentation ions at m/z 467 [M-Me]⁺, 407 [M-Me-HOAc]⁺, $384 [M - C_7 H_{13} (part of side chain) - 1H]^+, 369 (m/z 384 - Me), and <math>341 [M - C_{10} H_{19} (side chain) - 2H]^+ sugges$ ting that it was an acetate of C_{31} 4 α -methylsterol with two double bonds, one of which was in the skeleton and the other was at C-24 in the C_{10} side chain [12-14] Further ions at m/z 301 [M - ring D] + and 287 (m/z 301 - CH₂) suggested the presence of a 14α -methyl group [17]. The ¹H NMR spectrum of **5d**-acetate displayed signals due to the side chain protons at δ 0.926 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz, 21- H_3), 0.980 (6H, d, J = 7 1 Hz, 26- H_3 , 27- H_3), 1.593 (3H, t, J $=6.6 \text{ Hz}, 29\text{-H}_3$), 2.834 (1H, sept, J = 6.9 Hz, 25-H), and 5.124 (1H, q, J = 6.6 Hz, 28-H), in addition to the signals arising from the 3β -acetoxy-4 α , 14α -dimethyl- Δ ⁸ 5α -steroid skeleton which were almost consistent with those of **5b**-acetate (Table 2). The ¹H NMR signals for the side chain protons of 5d-acetate were indistinguishable from those of 24Z-ethyliene-5 α -lanost-8-en-3 β -ol acetate [18] and very similar to those of 1d-acetate (Table 2), and hence, 5d was considered to have the structure 24Zethylidene- 4α , 14α -dimethyl- 5α -cholest-8-en- 3β -ol. The mass spectral data of 5e-acetate were indistinguishable from those of 5d-acetate. While the ¹H NMR spectrum of 5e-acetate showed the signals arising from the skeletal protons consistent with those of 5d-acetate (Table 2), it showed the signals due to the side chain protons at δ 0.969 $(3H, d, J = 6.6 \text{ Hz}, 29-H_3), 2.202 (1H, sept, J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}, 25-$ H), and 5 124 (1H, q, J = 6.6 Hz, 28-H), which were indistinguishable from those of 24E-ethylidene- 5α -lanost-8-en-3 β -ol acetate [18] and very similar to those of 1eacetate (Table 2). Thus, 5e was considered to be the 24Eisomer of 5d, i.e. 24E-ethylidene-4α, 14α-dimethyl-5αcholest-8-en-3 β -ol.

6d-Acetate showed [M]⁺ at m/z 482 (C₃₃H₅₄O₂) accompanied by the prominent fragmentation ions at m/z 467, 407, 384, 369, 341, 301, and 287 in the mass spectrum, analogous to those of **5d**- and **5e**-acetates described above, suggesting that **6d** also was a C₃₁ 4 α -methylsterol with a methyl group at C-14 and two double bonds, one of which was in the skeleton and the other was at C-24 in the C₁₀ side chain [12–14, 17]. The ¹H NMR spectrum of **6d**-acetate showed signals arising from the skeletal protons at δ 0.658 (s, 18-H₃), 0.748 (s, 32-H₃), 0.845 (3H, d, J = 6.3 Hz, 30-H₃), 1.006 (s, 19-H₃), 2.053 (s, 3 β -OAc), 4.366 (1H, dt, J = 50, 10.8 Hz, 3 α -H), and 5 303 (1H, m, 11-

H), in addition to those due to a 24Z-ethylidene side chain. The skeletal proton signals were consistent with those of **6b**-acetate possessing a 3β -acetoxy- 4α , 14α -dimethyl- $\Delta^{9(11)}$ 5α -steroid skeleton, and hence, **6d** was regarded to be 24Z-ethylidene- 4α , 14α -dimethyl- 5α -cholest-9(11)-en- 3β -ol

DISCUSSION

We have identified or newly characterized the fifteen 4α-methylsterols isolated from the immature seeds of Phaseolus vulgaris in this study (Table 1). Among them, five 4α -methylsterols, 1f, 3d, 5d, 5e, and 6d, were new 4α methylsterols from natural sources. On the other hand, the other four 4α -methylsterols, 1e, 2b, 2d, and 6b, have so far been reported to occur only in a few restricted higher plants, for example, 1e in ricebran oil, some species of Solanaceae, and olive oil [19], 2b and 2d in suspension cultures of bramble cells [11], and 6b in banana peel and [19]. Although two 24-alkyl- Δ^7 -4 α -Oil methylsterols, 1a (24 ξ) and 1c (24 ξ), are known to present as the minor 4α-methylsterols in several higher plants [19, 20], this study seems to be one of the rare cases [19,21] where the configuration at C-24 of these compounds was unambiguously determined. The remaining four 4α -methylsterols, 1d, 5b, 1b, and 4b, of which the first two were the most abundant 4α -methylsterols of P. vulgaris seeds (Table 1), are known to be the most common and dominant 4α-methylsterols in the great majority of higher plants [3, 19, 21, 22].

The occurrence of 1f in *P. vulgaris* seeds is of interest from the structural as well as the biogenetic point of view concerning sterols and brassinosteroids since it has recently been demonstrated that the seeds contain 24-methylene-25-methylcholesterol (7f) [1] and 25-methyldolicohosterone [2], both of which possess a 24-methylene-25-methyl moiety in the side chain. 4-Demethyl sterols are biosynthesized via 4α -methylsterols as intermediates [3, 4], and taking this into account, the 4α -methylsterol 1f might be expected to be an intermediate of the biosynthesis of 7f in *P. vulgaris* seeds. Moreover, 1f and 7f are considered to be closely correlated to the biosynthesis of 25-methyldolichosterone.

Although $\Delta^{8(14)}$ - 4α -methylsterols are reported to constitute the dominant 4α -methylsterols of an oyster [23], the occurrence of this type of 4α -methyl sterol in higher plants is rare. 4α -Methyl- 5α -cholest-8(14)-en- 3β -ol, detected in several species of Solanaceae [19], might be the only $\Delta^{8(14)}$ - 4α -methylsterol so far been detected in higher plants, and this study seems to be the second instance for the detection of this type of compound, i. e. 3d, in a higher plant. $\Delta^{8(14)}$ -Sterols have been suggested as intermediates arising during sterol biosynthesis as a consequence of the C-14 demethylation [21, 24], and hence, the co-occurrence of 3d with 1d, 2d, and 5d in P. vulgaris seeds may imply that the biosynthetic pathway of sterols in this study proceeds in the following way: $5d \rightarrow 3d \rightarrow 2d \rightarrow 1d$.

Co-occurrence of two 24*E*-ethylidene-4 α -methylsterols, 1e and 5e, in the 4 α -methylsterol fraction, and fucosterol (24*E*-ethylidenecholesterol, 7e) in the 4-demethyl sterol fraction [1], in *P. vulgaris* seeds might suggest the presence of the 24*E*-ethylidene route of sterol biosynthesis via 5e and 1e to afford 7e in the seeds. Two $\Delta^{9(11)}$ -4 α , 14 α -dimethylsterols, 6b and 6d, have been detected in *P. vulgaris* seeds in this study, and one possible origin of these 4 α -methylsterols is the $\Delta^{9(11)}$ -

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Table 2 ¹H NMR data of the acetates of the 4α-methylsterols from *Phaseolus*

Acet- ate	18-H ₃ (s)	19-H ₃ (s) or19-H ₂	30-H ₃ (d)	32-H ₃ (s)	21-H ₃ (d)	26-H ₃ (d)	27-H ₃ (d)	28-H ₃ or 28-H ₂	29-H ₃ (<i>d</i> or <i>t</i>)
12	0.533.0	9.840.	0.852(6.6).		0.915(6.6).	0.852(6.6). (1805 (7-1).	0.776(d, 6.6).	
1b.	0.537.0	840	0.853.(6.4).		0.955(6.4).	1.024.(1.030.(4.659 (1.5)± 4.716 (1H,s)	
lc.	0.535.0).829	0.853(5.4).		0.926.(6.4).	0.838(6.8). (8.17 (6.4).	-	0.846(8.3).
<u>ld</u>	0.537.0	0.841	0.853(6.1).	-	0.951 (6.6).	0.978.	6H,7 1).		1.591(7.1).
1e	0.542.0).843.	0.853.(6.4).	-	0.995.(5.9).	0.980 (0.983 (,	-	1.574 (7.2).
1f	0 544 0	842	0 853 (6 4)		0 969 (6 4)	1 059 (6H, s)	4 661 (1.0)‡ 4 837 (1H,s)	1 059 (s)
2b.	0.619 ().987	0.856.(6:5):	a specific	0.959(6.5).	1,0 <u>24</u> (1 031 (,	4.659(1.5)‡. 4.714(1H,s)	-
2 d	0-609-0):987	0.856(6-6)		0-955-(6-6)	0-978-(6H,7-1)		1-59-1-(7-1)-
3a+	0-835-0).727	0:847 (6-4)		0.928(6-3)	0-8 63 (0-867 (
3d.	0.841 ().728.	0.849 (6.6).		0.959(6.6).	0.976(0.977(75. ¥	1, 593 (6.4).
4h.) 151(39)‡) 402(38)‡	0.845(6.6).	0.902	. 0.899 (6.6).	1.027.0 1.032.0		4.665 (1.7)‡ 4.718 (1H,s)	-
5h	0.710.0	1983	0.859 (6.6).	0.891	0.929(6.6).	1.025 (1.031 (,	4.665(1.6)± 4.716(1H,s)	
5d.	0.710.0	9.84.	0.859 (6.6).	0.888	0.926 (6.6).	0.980	6H.7 1).	•	1.593(6.6).
5e.	0.715.0	984	0.859(6.6).	0.888	0.969 (6.0).	0.980	6HL7 1).		1.579 (6.6).
6b.	0.660 1	.003	0.842(6.3).		0.912(6.4).	1.026(1.031(6.8).	4.664.(1.5)‡ 4.717.(1H,s)	
6d.	0.658.1	. 006.	0.845.(6.0).	0.748	0,909 (6.5).		6H,7.0).		1.594.(6.8).
7f	0 688 1	021			0 964 (6 6)	1 057 (6H,s)	4 661 (1 1)‡ 4 833 (0 8)	1 057 (s)

^{*}Figures in parentheses denote coupling constants (J values) as for d, t, q, and sept signals, whereas half-width

lanostene compound, 24-methylene- 5α -lanost-9(11)-en- 3β -ol, the occurrence of which was shown in the 4, 4-dimethylsterol fraction of the seeds (unpublished results). The $\Delta^{9(11)}$ - 4α , 14α -dimethylsterols can lead to $\Delta^{9(11)}$ - 14α -methylsterols through enzymatic demethylation at C-4 and the presence of this type of sterol is known in some higher plants [19, 25] It is worth noting that whereas the 4α , 24-dimethylsterol 1a isolated from P vulgaris seeds in this study was shown to possess a 24α -methyl configuration, 24-methylcholesterol isolated from the seeds has been demonstrated to be a mixture of C-24 epimers, campesterol (24α) and 22-dihydrobrassicasterol (24β) [1] This suggests that the formation of the 24β -methylsterol occurs during the later stage of sterol biosynthesis, i.e. at the 4-demethylsterol level

EXPERIMENTAL

Crystallizations were performed in MeOH Mp uncorr Argentation TLC. silica gel-AgNO₃ (4.1) developed x3 with CCl_4 - CH_2Cl_2 (5.1). HPLC Altex Ultrasphere ODS column (Beckman Altex, 5 μ m, 25 cm × 10 mm 1 d.), MeOH-H₂O (98.2) as mobile phase (flow rate, 4 ml/min) GC OV-17 SCOT glass capillary column (30 m × 0.3 mm 1 d.), column temp 255° RR, on HPLC and GC expressed relative to cholesterol acetate EIMS (70 eV). probe; ¹H NMR 400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS as int standard, acetylation Ac₂O-pyridine at room temp overnight The

acetates of the following 4α -methylsterols were used as the reference specimens 1a, 1b, 4b, and 5b [26], 1c [20], 1d and 1e [27], 3a [28], 6b [29], and 7f [1,15] The 24E- and 24Z-isomers of 24-ethylidene- 4α -methylsterols showed the same mobility in the HPLC under the conditions used, and hence, the separation of these isomers from each other was performed by the argentation TLC (cf [27]) (The separation factor for 24E-/24Z-isomers was ca 1 14)

Isolation of 4\alpha-methylsterols Immature seeds of P vulgaris (136 kg) were homogenized and extracted ×3 with excess MeOH The combined extract was reduced to the aq phase in vacuo, and then subjected to solvent partitioning between CHCl₃ and H₂O The CHCl₃ fraction was coned and partitioned further between hexane and 85% MeOH, and the hexane fraction afforded an oil (800 g) after evapn. A portion (87 g) of the oil was saponified by reflux with 5% KOH in 80% EtOH The unsaponifiable lipid (102g) extracted with hexane was chromatographed on silica gel (300 g), eluted with a mixture of hexane and CH₂Cl₂ (1 1) in which the eluate was collected in 20 ml each fraction The fractions 145-165 corresponding to 4\u03c4\u03c4-methylsterol (the elution was monitored by TLC on precoated silica gel) was acetylated, and the acetate fraction (167 mg) was subjected to argentation TLC which afforded four bands (referred to as bands 1-4 in the order of polarity, beginning with the least polar) The least polar fraction (11 mg) from band 1 (R_f 0 74–0.82) was a mixture mainly constituted of the acetates of 1a and 1c Band 2 $(R_f \ 0.31-0.41)$ gave a mixture (13 mg) contained the acetates of

[†]Authentic compounds

 $[\]ddagger 1H$ and d

vulgaris seeds (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS as int. standard)*

3β-OAc (s)	3α- H (dt)	7-H or 6-H(m)	11-H (m)	25-H (sept)	28-H (q)
2 050	4.404 (3.8,11.0)	5.174(10)			
2 051	4.404 (3.9,10.7)	5.177 (9.4)		2 381 (6 8)	
2 052	4 404 (3.9,10 7)	5 176 (9 4)			_
2.053	4.404 (4 4,11.0)	5.176(10)		2.831 (6 9)	5 109 (7.0)
2.054	4 406 (3 9,10.8)	5.177(10)	-	2 201 (6.8)	5 185 (6 8)
2 053	4 405 (3.9,10.7)	5 181 (10)	~	W. Land	
2 055	4.375 (5.0,11.2)	-	-	2.233 (6 8)	******
2 053	4 375 (4 9,11.0)			~	5.109 (6.6)
2 048	4 413 (4.4,10.8)	_	_	-	
2.050	4.415 (4 4,10.4)	Parisin	-	_	5.1141 (6 6
2.054	4 510 (4 4,10 4)	_	·	2.237 (6.6)	
2 050	4 379 (4.9,11.0)	_	-	2.236 (6.6)	~
2.050	4.380(4.9,107)	_	_	2.834(6.9)	5 124 (6.6)
2.050	4.380 (4 9,10 7)	_	_	2 202 (6.8)	5.186 (6.6)
2.052	4 368 (4.9,10.7)		5.302(11)	2.236 (6.8)	
2.053	4.366 (5.0,10.8)		5.303 (11)	2.833 (6.5)	5.115 (6.8)
2.032	4 602 (m,2.5)	5 376 (10)			~

 (W_{max}) values as for multiplet signals.

3d, 5d, and 5e Band 3 (R_f 0.21–0.31) yielded a mixture (52 mg) of the acetates of 1d, 1e, 2d, 4b, and 5b. Band 4 (R_f 0 07–0 21) afforded a mixture (27 mg) of the acetates of 1b, 1f, 2b, 5d, and 6b. Isolation of the acetates of individual 4α -methylsterols from each fraction was performed by the combination of argentation TLC and HPLC The MS data of the acetates of 1e, 1f, 2b, 2d, 3d, 5d, 6b, and 6d isolated from P vulgaris seeds in this study are as follows. (The MS data 5e-acetate were very similar to those of 5d-acetate and, hence, these were omitted from below)

28-Isocitrostadienol (1e) acetate. MS m/z (rel int.): 468 4012 [M]⁺ (12, $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$, requires 468.3964), 453 (10), 393 (9), 370 (66), 355 (5), 327 (100), 310 (8), 302 (5), 295 (5), 287 (4), 269 (19), 267 (9), 243 (9), 242 (5), 241 (9), 227 (22), 215 (8), 213 (6)

25-Methylgramsterol (1f) acetate. MS m/z (rel. int.): 468 3945 [M] $^+$ (9, C₃₂H₅₂O₂), 453.3666 (13, C₃₁H₄₉O₂), 408.3708 (2, C₃₀H₄₈), 393.3568 (4, C₂₉H₄₅), 370.2821 (49, C₂₅H₃₈O₂), 356 2664 (9, C₂₄H₃₆O₂), 341.2513 (4, C₂₃H₃₃O₂), 327.2285 (97, C₂₂H₃₁O₂), 310.2617 (4, C₂₃H₃₄), 302.2198 (6, C₂₀H₃₀O₂), 295 2486 (4, C₂₂H₃₁), 287.2039 (5, C₁₉H₂₇O₂), 269.2219 (12, C₂₀H₂₉), 267.2115 (9, C₂₀H₂₇), 241.1945 (13, C₁₈H₂₅), 227.1829 (18, C₁₇H₂₃), 215 1839 (6, C₁₆H₂₃), 213 1690 (6, C₁₆H₂₁), 43.0545 (C₂H₃O₁) and 43.0175 (C₃H₇) (100)

 $4\alpha\text{-}Methylfecosterol~(2b)~acetate~MS~m/z~(rel~int.)~454.3802~[M]^+~(80, C_{31}H_{50}O_2, requires~454.3808),~439~(28),~394~(10),~379~(14),~353~(7),~342~(3),~327~(19),~313~(5),~302~(4),~295~(4),~287~(4),~269~(8),~253~(6),~243~(14),~241~(26),~227~(30),~225~(12),~215~(7),~213~(11),~55~(100)$

24Z-Ethylidene-4 α -methyl-5 α -cholest-8-en-3 β -ol (**2d**) acetate MS m/z (rel int) 468.3971 [M] $^+$ (38, $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$), 453 (13), 422

(2), 408 (3), 393 (8), 370 (9), 341 (1), 327 (9), 302 (2), 295 (3), 287 (2), 269 (5), 255 (2), 253 (2), 243 (9), 241 (6), 227 (16), 213 (4), 55 (100).

 $24Z\text{-}Ethylidene-4\alpha\text{-}methyl-5\alpha\text{-}cholest-8(14)-en-3\beta\text{-}ol \ (3d)$ acetate. MS m/z (rel. int.): 468.4003 [M] $^+$ (80, $C_{32}H_{52}O_2$), 453.3754 (24, $C_{31}H_{49}O_2$), 408.3348 (8, $C_{30}H_{48}$), 393.3552 (9, $C_{29}H_{45}$), 370.2841 (18, $C_{25}H_{38}O_2$), $356\,2719$ (4, $C_{24}H_{36}O_2$), 327.2319 (13, $C_{22}H_{31}O_2$), $302\,2212$ (5, $C_{20}H_{30}O_2$), $295\,2418$ (2, $C_{22}H_{31}$), 287.1989 (4, $C_{19}H_{27}O_2$), 269.2258 (8, $C_{20}H_{29}$), 267.2123 (3, $C_{20}H_{27}$), 255.2109 (2, $C_{19}H_{27}$), $243\,2115$ (15, $C_{18}H_{27}$), $241\,1969$ (12, $C_{18}H_{25}$), 227.1806 (20, $C_{17}H_{23}$), $215\,1846$ (4, $C_{16}H_{23}$), $213\,1668$ (3, $C_{167}H_{21}$), 55.0541 (100, $C_{4}H_{7}$).

24-Methylene- 4α ,14 α -dimethyl- 5α -cholest-9(11)-en- 3β -ol (6b) acetate MS m/z (rel. int.): 468 3943 [M] $^+$ (14, C₃₂H₅₁O₂), 453 (36), 425 (19), 393 (18), 383 (7), 369 (7), 341 (70), 309 (8), 301 (10), 299 (5), 287 (13), 275 (9), 241 (13), 227 (11), 215 (12), 43 (100).

24Z-Ethylidene-4 α ,14 α -dimethyl-5 α -lanost-9(11)-en-3 β -ol (6d) acetate MS m/z (rel int): 482 4129 [M]⁺ (9, C₃₃H₅₄O₂), 467.3919 (16, C₃₂H₅₁O₂), 439.3536 (4, C₃₀H₄₇O₂), 407 3644 (11, C₃₀H₄₇), 384.3008 (53, C₂₆H₄₀O₂), 369.2799 (14, C₂₅H₃₇O₂),

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341 2454 (34, $C_{23}H_{33}O_2$), 328 2396 (4, $C_{22}H_{32}O_2$), 325 2981 (3, $C_{24}H_{37}$), 316.2445 (4, $C_{21}H_{32}O_2$), 309 2590 (13, $C_{23}H_{33}$), 302 2202 (27, $C_{20}H_{30}O_2$), 301 2155 (29, $C_{20}H_{29}O_2$), 300 2100 (10, $C_{20}H_{28}O_2$), 299 1997 (19, $C_{20}H_{27}O_2$), 287 1988 (6, $C_{19}H_{27}O_2$), 275 1987 (7, $C_{18}H_{27}O_2$), 274 1926 (7, $C_{18}H_{26}O_2$), 269 2250 (4, $C_{20}H_{29}$), 256 2184 (3, $C_{19}H_{28}$), 253 1949 (2, $C_{19}H_{25}$), 241 1959 (27, $C_{18}H_{25}$), 227 1845 (8, $C_{17}H_{23}$), 215 1846 (9, $C_{16}H_{23}$), 55 0543 (100, $C_{4}H_{7}$)

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