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# CYCLOARTANE TRITERPENES FROM THE FRUIT PEEL OF MUSA SAPIENTUM

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**Key Word Index**—Musa sapientum; Musaceae; banana peel; triterpene; cycloartane.

Abstract—Five novel cycloartane-type triterpenes were isolated from the nonsaponifiable lipids obtained from the methanol extract of the fruit peel of *Musa sapientum* L. (banana). Their structures were determined to be 3-epicycloeucalenol, 3-epicyclomusalenol, 24-methylenepollinastanone, 28-norcyclomusalenone and 24-oxo-29-norcycloartanone by spectroscopic and chemical methods. © 1998 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved

### INTRODUCTION

The lipids of the fruit peel of banana (Musa sapientum L.) characteristically contain considerable amounts of two 3-oxo-29-norcycloartane-type triterpenes, cycloeucalenone [24-methyl-29-norcycloart-24(241)-en-3one; 4a] and cyclomusalenone [(24S)-24-methyl-29norcycloart-25-en-3-one; 4b] [1, 2]. Our recent investigation on the 3-oxotriterpene fraction led to the isolation and characterization of two 3-oxo-28-norcycloartane-type triterpenes, 4-epicycloeucalenone [24-methyl-28-norcycloart-24(24<sup>1</sup>)-en-3-one] and 4epicyclomusalenone [(24S)-24-methyl-28-norcycloart-25-en-3-one], the  $4\beta$ -methyl-isomers of the above two 29-norcycloartanes, respectively [3]. In the present paper, we report on the isolation and characterization of five novel cycloartane-type triterpenes, 1a, 1b, 3a, 3b and 4c, from the nonsaponifiable lipids of the methanol extract of banana peel.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Column chromatography on silica gel followed by argentation TLC and reversed-phase HPLC of the nonsaponifiable lipid obtained by alkaline hydrolysis from the methanol extract of the dried banana peel yielded five cycloartane-type triterpenes, 1a, 1b, 3a, 3b and 4c.

The IR spectrum of 1a indicated the presence of a hydroxyl group (3428 cm<sup>-1</sup>), a terminal methylene group (3079, 1641 and 887 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and a cyclopropyl group (3032 cm<sup>-1</sup>). The mass spectrum of 1 showed

nostic fragment ions at m/z 408 [M-H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>, 342 [M- $C_6H_{12}$  {part of side-chain (s.c.)}]<sup>+</sup>, 301 [M-C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>17</sub> (s.c.)<sup>+</sup>, 300  $[M-C_8H_{14}O (ring A)]$ <sup>+</sup>, 259  $[M-C_{12}H_{23}]$ (ring D + s.c.)]<sup>+</sup> and 245  $(m/z 259-CH_2)$  which were almost indistinguishable from those of cycloeucalenol [24-methyl-29-norcycloart-24(24<sup>1</sup>)-en-3 $\beta$ -ol; **2a**] [1, 4]. Compound 1a showed a hydroxymethine signal at  $\delta$ 3.83 as a broad singlet ( $W_{1/2} = 9$  Hz) in the 'H NMR spectrum suggesting that it possessed an axially oriented hydroxyl group [5]. The other 'H signals of 1a were similar to those of 2a [6] and, hence, 1a was considered to be a stereoisomer at C-3 of 2a, i.e., 24-methyl-29-norcycloart-24(24<sup>1</sup>)-en-3α-ol dimethyl-9 $\beta$ ,19-cycloergost-24(24<sup>1</sup>)-en-3 $\alpha$ -ol; cycloeucalenol], which was confirmed by chemical correlation with cycloeucalenone (4a). Thus, LiAlH<sub>4</sub> reduction of 4a yielded 1a, in addition to 2a, which was identical by chromatographic and spectral comparison with natural la.

 $[M]^+$  at m/z 426 ( $C_{30}H_{50}O$ ) accompanied with diag-

The IR spectrum of compound 1b showed the presence of a hydroxyl group (3445 cm<sup>-1</sup>), a terminal methylene group (3069, 1645 and 886 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and a cyclopropyl group (3033 cm<sup>-1</sup>). The mass spectrum displayed [M]<sup>+</sup> at m/z 426 (C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>s0</sub>O) accompanied with diagnostic fragment ions at m/z 408 [M-H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>, 356  $[M-C_5H_{10} \text{ (part of s.c.)}]^+$ , 301  $[M-C_9H_{17} \text{ (s.c.)}]^+$ , 300  $[M-C_8H_{14}O \text{ (ring A)}]^+$ . 259  $[M-C_{12}H_{23} \text{ (ring A)}]^+$ D + s.c.)] and 245 (m/z 259- $CH_2$ ) which were almost indistinguishable from those of cyclomusalenol [(24S)-24-methyl-29-norcycloart-25-en-3 $\beta$ -ol; **2b**] [1]. The skeletal and side chain 'H signals in the 'H NMR spectrum (see Experimental Section) of 1b were quite similar to the corresponding signals of 1a and 2b [2], respectively, and, hence 1b appeared to be (24S)-24methyl-29-norcycloart-25-en-3α-ol  $[(24S)-4\alpha,14\alpha-$ 

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## Side chain (R)

dimethyl-9 $\beta$ ,19-cycloergost-25-en-3 $\alpha$ -ol; 3-epicyclomusalenol]. This was confirmed by its synthesis from **4b** by LiAlH<sub>4</sub> reduction. The semi-synthetic **1b** was identical by chromatographic and spectral comparison with natural **1b**.

The IR spectrum of 3a showed the presence of an oxo group (1719 cm<sup>-1</sup>), a terminal methylene group (3084, 1637 and 885 cm<sup>-1</sup>), a cyclopropyl group (3040 cm<sup>--1</sup>) and no hydroxyl group. Its mass spectrum showed [M]<sup>+</sup> at m/z 410 (C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>46</sub>O) accompanied with diagnostic fragment ions at m/z 395 [M-Me]<sup>+</sup>. 367  $[M-C_3H_7(C_{25} \sim C_{27})]^+$ , 326  $[M-C_6H_{12}$  (part of s.c.)]<sup>+</sup>,  $300 [M-C_7H_{10}O (ring A)]^+$ , 285  $[M-C_9H_{17} (s.c.)]^+$ , 243  $[M-C_{12}H_{23} \text{ (ring } D+s.c.)]^+ \text{ and } 229 \text{ } (m/z \text{ } 243-CH_2).$ This implied that 3a possesses a 24-methylene-substituted C<sub>9</sub>-side chain attached to a C-14 methylated 3-oxo- $9\beta$ ,19-cyclosteroid nucleus. The skeletal <sup>†</sup>H signals observed in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3a at  $\delta$  1.00  $(3H, s, H_3-18), 0.35$  and 0.61 (each 1H and d.  $H_2$ -19), and 0.92 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-30) were consistent with the corresponding signals for cyclopholidone (14a,24, 24-trimethyl-9 $\beta$ ,19-cyclocholest-25-en-3-one) whereas its side chain signals at  $\delta$  0.91 (3H, d, H<sub>3</sub>-21), 1.03 and 1.04 (each 3H and d,  $H_3$ -26 and  $H_3$ -27), and 4.67 (1H, d, J = 1.5 Hz) and 4.72 (1H, br s) (H<sub>2</sub>-24<sup>1</sup>) were very close to the corresponding signals of 1a. Based on the spectral evidence cited above, 3a was considered to have the structure  $14\alpha$ -methyl- $9\beta$ , 19-cycloergost-24(241)-en-3-one (24-methylenepollinastanone).

Compound 3b displayed the IR absorptions due to

an oxo group (1718 cm<sup>-1</sup>), a terminal methylene group (3077, 1644 and 896 cm<sup>-1</sup>), a cyclopropyl group (3040 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and no hydroxyl group. Its mass spectrum showed [M]<sup>+</sup> at m/z 410 (C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>46</sub>O) accompanied with diagnostic fragment ions at m/z 395 [M-Me]<sup>+</sup>, 340  $[M-C_5H_{10} \text{ (part of s.c.)}]^+$ , 300  $[M-C_7H_{10}O \text{ (ring }]$ A)]<sup>+</sup>, 285 [M-C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>17</sub> (s.c.)]<sup>+</sup>, 243 [M-C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>23</sub> (ring D+s.c.)]<sup>+</sup> and 229 (m/z 243-CH<sub>2</sub>). The skeletal <sup>1</sup>H signals of 3b in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum were almost identical with the corresponding signals of 3a, whereas the side-chain <sup>1</sup>H signals [ $\delta$  0.87 (3H, d, H<sub>3</sub>-21), 1.64  $(3H, s, H_3-26), 4.67 (2H, br s, H_2-27)$  and 1.00 (3H, d, d)H<sub>3</sub>-24<sup>1</sup>)] were very close to those observed for 1b. Based on these spectral evidence, we concluded that **3b** had the structure (24S)- $14\alpha$ -methyl- $9\beta$ , 19-cycloergost-25-en-3-one (28-norcyclomusalenone).

The IR spectrum of **4c** showed the presence of an oxo group (1712 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and cyclopropyl group (3040 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and no hydroxyl group. Its mass spectrum showed [M]<sup>+</sup> at m/z 426 (C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>46</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) accompanied with diagnostic fragment ions at m/z 411 [M-Me]<sup>-</sup>, 340 [M-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O (part of s.c.)]<sup>+</sup>, 302 [M-C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O (ring A)]<sup>-</sup>, 299 [M-C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O (s.c.)]<sup>+</sup>, 257 (M-C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O (ring D+s.c.)]<sup>+</sup> and 243 (m/z 257-CH<sub>2</sub>). The skeletal <sup>1</sup>H signals [ $\delta$  1.00 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-18), 0.40 and 0.62 (each 1H and d, H<sub>2</sub>-19), 0.99 (3H, d, H<sub>3</sub>-28), and 0.91 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-30)] in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **4c** were in agreement with the corresponding signals for **4a** [2], whereas its side chain <sup>1</sup>H signals [ $\delta$  0.87 (3H, d, H<sub>3</sub>-26 and H<sub>3</sub>-27)] were consistent with those of 24-exocy-

cloartanyl acetate [24-oxocycloartan-3 $\beta$ -yl acetate] [7]. The combined evidence confirmed that **4c** was 24-oxo-29-norcycloartan-3-one (24-oxo-9 $\beta$ ,19-cyclo-4 $\alpha$ , 14 $\alpha$ -dimethylcholestan-3-one; 24-oxo-29-norcycloartanone).

The five cycloartane-type triterpenes, 1a, 1b, 3a, 3b and 4c, described above are considered to be new natural products. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR data for the five cycloartanes, and the <sup>13</sup>C NMR data for 1a, 1b and 3a are shown in the Experimental Section.

### EXPERIMENTAL

General. Crystallizations were performed in Me<sub>2</sub>CO-MeOH. Mp: uncorr; Prep (0.5 mm thick)  $Ag^+$ -TLC: silica gel- $AgNO_3$  (4:1) developed  $\times 2$  with CCl<sub>4</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4:1); HPLC: C<sub>18</sub> silica column [Superiorex ODS S-5  $\mu m$  column, 25 cm  $\times$  10 mm i.d. (Shiseido Co., Tokyo), temp. 25°], MeOH as mobile phase (flow rate 4 ml min<sup>-1</sup>); GC: DB-17 fused-silica capillary column (30 m  $\times$  0.3 mm i.d.), column temp. 275 RR, on HPLC and GC expressed relative to cholest-5-en-3 $\beta$ -ol (cholesterol). IR: KBt discs; El MS (70 eV); probe; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz): CDCl<sub>3</sub> with TMS ( ${}^{1}$ H NMR) and CDCl<sub>3</sub> at  $\delta$ 77.0 (13C NMR) as int. standard. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR signal assignments for 1a, 1b and 3a were performed by comparison with the lit. data for 2a [6], and further with the aid of following NMR experiments: <sup>13</sup>C DEPT, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C COSY, HMBC and NOE spectroscopy. Banana, which was free of post-harvest agricultural chemicals and imported from Philippines, was purchased at a market in Tokyo. Cycloeucalenone (4a) [2, 3] and cyclomusalenone (4b) [2, 3] were used in this study for the prepn of reference compounds of 1a and 1b, respectively.

Isolation procedure. Banana peel (2.75 kg) was airdried and the tissue (280 g) was extracted at room temp. ×3 for 3 days each with MeOH. The nonsaponifiable lipid (4.42 g) obtained from the MeOH extract (71 g) by alkaline hydrolysis (5% KOH in MeOH, reflux 3 hr) were subjected to CC on silica gel (250 g) with *n*-hexane and *n*-hexane–EtOAc (18:1, 9:1and 4:1) as eluents. The residue of the *n*-hexane-EtOAc (18:1) eluate, after rechromatography over silica gel, yielded a fr. (1.8 g) which was constituted mainly with 4a [2] followed by 4b [2]. This, upon further chromatography on prep. Ag+-TLC, yielded two frs: one (1.3 g), recovered from the less-polar band, was a mixt. of 4a and 4b, and the other (80 mg), from the more-polar band, was a mixt. of several compounds. Prep. HPLC of the fr. from the morepolar band gave 1a (2.5 mg), 1b (2.0 mg), 3a (2.7 mg), **3b** (0.4 mg) and **4c** (1.2 mg).

3-Epicycloeucalenol (1a). Mp 99–101 ,  $RR_i$ : 0.97 (HPLC), 1.74 (GC). IR  $v_{\text{max}}$  cm  $^{-1}$ : 3428 (OH), 3079. 1641, 887 (>C=CH<sub>2</sub>), 3032 (cyclopropyl): MS m/z (rel. int.): 426 (13) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 411 (18), 408 (39), 393 (29), 383 (2), 353 (3), 343 (2), 342 (2), 327 (2), 325 (2), 309

(2), 301 (10), 300 (16), 285 (5), 283 (6), 273 (3), 269 (3), 259 (2), 257 (3), 245 (6), 243 (2), 241 (4), 227 (4), 55 (100); HRMS m/z: 426.3882 ( $C_{30}H_{50}O$  [M]<sup>+</sup>, requires 426.3859), 408.3742 ( $C_{30}H_{48}$ ), 393.3486  $(C_{29}H_{45})$ , 342.2949  $(C_{24}H_{38}O)$ , 301.2697  $(C_{21}H_{33}O)$ , 300.2781 ( $C_{22}H_{36}$ ), 259.2196 ( $C_{18}H_{27}O$ ), 245.2038  $(C_{17}H_{25}O)$ ; NMR  $\delta_C$  and  $\delta_H$ : C-1 [26.8; 1.06 ( $\beta$ ), 1.84 ( $\alpha$ )], C-2 [33.0; 1.67 ( $\beta$ ), 1.80 ( $\alpha$ )], C-3 [72.3; 3.83 (br s,  $W_{1/2} = 9$  Hz)], C-4 [41.0; 1.42], C-5 [37.9; 1.66], C-6 [24.5; 0.55 (dq, J = 2.9, 12.5 Hz;  $\beta$ ), 1.55 ( $\alpha$ )], C-7 [24.8; 1.10 ( $\alpha$ ), 1.28 ( $\beta$ )], C-8 [46.9; 1.60], C-9 [23.2], C-10 [30.2], C-11 [26.9, 1.22 ( $\beta$ ), 1.98 ( $\alpha$ )], C-12 [32.9; 1.63 (2H)], C-13 [45.3], C-14 [49.0], C-15 [35.3; 1.30 (2H)], C-16 [28.2; 1.31 ( $\beta$ ), 1.92 ( $\alpha$ )], C-17 [52.2; 1.61], C-18 [17.8; 0.97 (s)], C-19 [26.2; 0.10 (d, J = 4.1 Hz; (exo), 0.37 (d, J = 3.9 Hz; endo)], C-20 [36.2; 1.41], C-21 [18.3; 0.90 (3H, d, J = 6.1 Hz)], C-22 [35.0; 1.15, 1.57], C-23 [31.3; 1.90, 2.12], C-24 [157.0], C-25 [33.8; 2.24 (*sept.*, J = 6.9 Hz)], C-26 and C-27 [21.9, 22.0; 1.03 (6H, d, J = 6.9 Hz)], C-24<sup>1</sup> [105.9; 4.67 (br s), 4.71 (br s)], C-28 [15.5; 0.94 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz)], C-30 [19.1; 0.91 (3H, s)].

Preparation of 3-epicycloeucalenol (1a) from cycloeucalenone (4a). Reduction of 4a (50 mg) with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (100 mg) in dry THF (10 ml) under N<sub>2</sub> at room temp. for 3 hr followed by the usual work-up and HPLC yielded 1a (7 mg) and cycloeucalenol (2a) [2] (33 mg). Semi-synthetic 1a was identical by chromatographic and spectral comparison with the natural product (1a).

3-Epicyclomusalenol (**1b**). Mp 121–122<sup>-</sup>, RR<sub>i</sub>: 0.94 (HPLC), 1.70 (GC). IR  $v_{\text{max}}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3445 (OH), 3069, 1645, 886 (>C=CH<sub>2</sub>), 3033 (cyclopropyl); MS m/z(rel. int.): 426 (25) [M]+, 411 (37), 408 (5), 393 (4), 356 (2), 328 (2), 301 (15), 300 (22), 285 (7), 283 (8), 259 (3), 245 (6), 233 (4), 227 (3), 215 (6), 201 (10), 55 (100); HRMS m/z: 426.3864 (C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>50</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup>, requires 426.3859), 408.3717 ( $C_{30}H_{48}$ ), 356.3044 ( $C_{25}H_{40}O$ ), 301.2639 (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O), 300.2758 (C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>36</sub>), 259.2194 $(C_{18}H_{27}O)$ , 245.2052  $(C_{17}H_{25}O)$ ; NMR  $\delta_C$  and  $\delta_H$ : C-1 [26.8; 1.06 ( $\beta$ ), 1.83 ( $\alpha$ )], C-2 [33.0; 1.68 ( $\beta$ ), 1.84 ( $\alpha$ )], C-3 [72.3; 3.83 (br s,  $W_{1/2} = 9$  Hz)], C-4 [41.0; 1.44], C-5 [37.9; 1.66], C-6 [24.5; 0.55 (dq. J = 2.9, 12.5 Hz,  $\beta$ ). 1.56 ( $\alpha$ )], C-7 [24.8; 1.10 ( $\alpha$ ), 1.30 ( $\beta$ )], C-8 [46.9; 1.61], C-9 [23.2], C-10 [30.2], C-11 [26.9; 1.20  $(\beta)$ , 1.97 (α)], C-12 [32.9; 1.62 (2H)], C-13 [45.3], C-14 [49.0], C-15 [35.3; 1.29 (2H)], C-16 [28.0; 1.27 ( $\beta$ ), 1.89 ( $\alpha$ )], C-17 [52.2; 1.58], C-18 [17.7; 0.96 (s)], C-18 [26.2; 0.10 (d, J = 3.7 Hz; exo), 0.37 (d, J = 3.7 Hz; endo)], C-20[36.1; 1.36], C-21 [18.4; 0.86 (d, J = 6.6 Hz)], C-22 [33.9; 0.96, 1.34], C-23 [31.5; 1.17, 1.41], C-24 [41.6; 2.09 (hextet like, J = 7.0 Hz), C-25 [150.3], C-26 [18.6; 1.64 (t, J = 1.4 Hz)], C-27 [109.7; 4.67 (t, J = 1.4 Hz),  $C-24^{\dagger}$  [20.2; 1.00 (d, J = 6.9 Hz)], C-28 [15.5; 0.94 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, C-30 [19.1; 0.89 (s)].

Preparation of 3-epicyclomusalenol (1b) from cyclomusalenone (4b). Reduction of 4b (25 mg) with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (50 mg) in dry THF (10 ml) under N<sub>2</sub> at room temp. for 3 hr followed by the usual work-up and HPLC yielded 1b (2 mg) and cyclomusalenol (2a) [2] (9 mg).

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Semi-synthetic 1b was identical by chromatographic and spectral comparison with the natural product (1b).

24-Methylenepollinastanone (3a). Mp 65-67°, RR; 0.83 (HPLC), 1.78 (GC). IR  $v_{\text{max}}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1719 (>C=O), 3084, 1637, 885  $(>C=CH_2)$ , 3040 (cyclopropyl); MS m/z (rel. int.): 410 (20) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 395 (7), 367 (10), 327 (9), 326 (9), 313 (7), 311 (4), 301 (2), 300 (2), 285 (20), 283 (7), 273 (3), 258 (3), 243 (5), 229 (3), 219 (8), 55 (100); HR MS m/z: 410.3547 ( $C_{29}H_{46}O$  [M]<sup>+</sup>, requires 410.3546), 395.3323 (C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>43</sub>O), 326.2571  $(C_{23}H_{34}O)$ , 300.2854  $(C_{22}H_{36})$ , 285.2225  $(C_{20}H_{29}O)$ , 243.1788 ( $C_{17}H_{23}O$ ), 229.1677 ( $C_{16}H_{21}O$ ); NMR  $\delta_C$ and  $\delta_H$ : C-1 [32.1; 1.61 ( $\beta$ ), 1.90 ( $\alpha$ )], C-2 [41.3; 2.39 (2H)], C-3 [212.9], C-4 [48.5; 2.16, 2.29], C-5 [39.8; 1.95], C-6 [28.4; 0.82 (dq, J = 3.2, 12.4 Hz;  $\beta$ ), 1.50  $(\alpha)$ ], C-7 [24.9; 1.18  $(\alpha)$ , 1.37  $(\beta)$ ], C-8 [46.9; 1.72], C-9 [24.5], C-10 [29.2], C-11 [27.2; 1.31 ( $\beta$ ), 2.04 ( $\alpha$ )], C-12 [32.7; 1.67 (2H)], C-13 [45.4], C-14 [48.9], C-15 [35.3; 1.34 (2H)], C-16 [28.1; 1.33 ( $\beta$ ), 1.98 ( $\alpha$ )], C-17 [52.2; 1.64], C-18 [17.8; 1.00 (s)], C-19 [25.9; 0.35 (d, J = 4.0Hz; exo), 0.61 (d, J = 0.61; endo)], C-20 [36.1; 1.42], C-21 [18.3; 0.91 (d, J = 7.1 Hz)], C-22 [35.0; 1.16, 1.58], C-23 [31.3; 1.88, 2.14], C-24 [156.9], C-25 [33.8; 2.24 (sept., J = 6.6 Hz)], C-26 and C-27 [21.9, 22.0; 1.03 (d, J = 7.0 Hz), 1.04 (d, J = 7.0 Hz)], C-24<sup>1</sup> [106.0; 4.67 (d, J = 1.5 Hz), 4.72 (br s)], C-30 [19.1; 0.92(s)].

28-Norcyclomusalenone (**3b**).  $RR_i$ : 0.82 (HPLC), 1.75 (GC). IR  $v_{\text{max}}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1718 (> C=O), 3077, 1644, 896 (> C=CH<sub>2</sub>), 3040 (cyclopropyl); MS m/z (rel. int.): 410 (24) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 395 (9), 340 (4), 327 (3), 314 (5), 313 (5), 312 (5), 301 (3), 300 (3), 285 (34), 275 (3), 273 (3), 271 (3), 245 (5), 243 (5), 229 (7), 219 (7), 217 (6), 215 (6), 203 (7). 189 (9), 55 (100); HRMS m/z: 410.3532 ( $C_{29}H_{46}O$  [M]<sup>+</sup>, requires 410.3546), 395.3342 ( $C_{28}H_{43}O$ ), 340.2708 ( $C_{24}H_{36}O$ ), 300.2769 ( $C_{22}H_{36}$ ), 285.2214 ( $C_{20}H_{29}O$ ), 243.1799 ( $C_{17}H_{23}O$ ), 229.1673 ( $C_{16}H_{21}O$ ); <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  0.34 (1H, d, d) = 4.4 Hz, H-19

exo), 0.61 (1H, d, J = 4.0 Hz, H-19 endo), 0.87 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz, H<sub>3</sub>-21), 0.91 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-30), 0.99 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-18), 1.00 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz, H<sub>3</sub>-24<sup>1</sup>), 1.64 (3H, br s, H<sub>3</sub>-26), 2.10 (1H, hextet like, J = 7.0 Hz, H-24), 4.67 (2H, br s, H<sub>2</sub>-27).

24-Oxo-28-norcycloartanone (4c).  $RR_i$ : 0.32 (HPLC), 3.14 (GC). IR  $v_{\text{max}}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1712 (>C=O), 3040 (cyclopropyl); MS m/z (rel. int.): 426 (23) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 411 (7), 340 (12), 325 (2), 302 (5), 299 (27), 287 (2), 257 (3), 243 (3), 221 (6), 136 (21), 43 (100); HRMS m/z: 426.3471 ( $C_{29}H_{46}O_2$  [M]<sup>+</sup>, requires 426.3495), 411.3264 ( $C_{28}H_{43}O_2$ ), 340.2760 ( $C_{24}H_{36}O$ ), 302.2582 ( $C_{21}H_{34}O$ ), 299.2349 ( $C_{21}H_{31}O$ ), 257.2003 ( $C_{18}H_{25}O$ ), 243.1795 ( $C_{17}H_{23}O$ ); <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  0.40 (1H, d, J = 4.4 Hz, H-19 exo), 0.62 (1H, d, J = 4.0 Hz, H-19 endo), 0.87 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz, H<sub>3</sub>-21), 0.91 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-30), 0.99 (3H, d, J = 6.2 Hz, H<sub>3</sub>-28), 1.00 (3H, s, H<sub>3</sub>-18), 1.10 (6H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, H<sub>3</sub>-26, H<sub>3</sub>-27), 2.62 (1H, hept, J = 7.0 Hz, H-25).

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