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## NEW DITERPENES FROM SALVIA TEXANA. CHEMICAL AND BIOGENETIC ASPECTS

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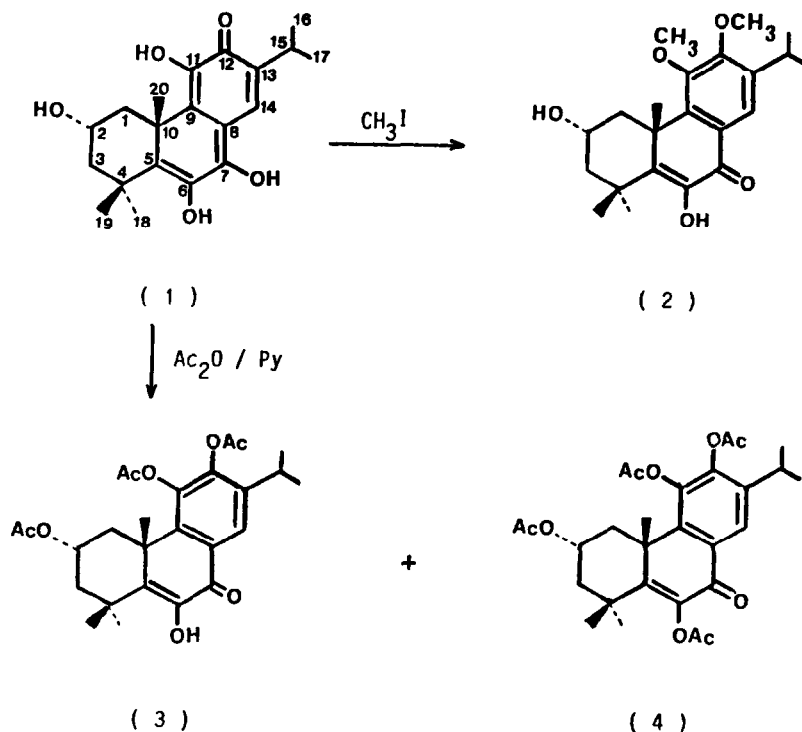
(Received in UK 25 May 1989)

**Abstract** - Two new diterpenes, the quinone methide 5,6-dehydro-2 $\alpha$ ,7-dihydroxytaxodone (**1**) and 2 $\alpha$ -hydroxysalvicanic acid (**5b**) were isolated from the roots of Salvia texana Torr. Their structure was established by spectroscopic and chemical means. Transformation of **1** into **5b** points to **1** being an intermediate in the biogenesis of **5b**.

A member of the Labiatae family, the genus Salvia consists of some five hundred species found worldwide. Since ancient times, many species of this genus have been credited with medicinal properties<sup>1,2</sup> and, therefore, reward investigation. As part of an intensive study of the chemical composition of the flora used in Latin American popular medicine, following the recent isolation<sup>3</sup> of four diterpene methylene quinones, new 6,7-dehydrosalviol and two secoditerpenes<sup>4</sup> from the roots of Salvia texana Torr. collected in Mexico, we are now reporting the isolation and structure determination of two minor constituents, a quinone methide, **1**, and a hemiacetal diterpenic acid, **5b**, as well as touching on some of the chemical and biogenetic aspects involved.

The structure of **1** was established as 5,6-dehydro-2 $\alpha$ ,7-dihydroxytaxodone from the following. Low resolution m.s. showed the molecular ion M<sup>+</sup> at m/z 346 (molecular formula C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>5</sub> by h r m s). The i r spectrum had bands for phenols and alcohols (3580, 3520 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and for a methylene quinone grouping (1600 and 1570 cm<sup>-1</sup>), which was confirmed by the u v spectrum ( $\lambda_{max}$  345, 290 and 255 nm). In the <sup>1</sup>H n.m.r. spectrum, signals for an isopropyl group on an aromatic ring and three angular methyls were observed. In the low-field region of the spectrum one proton at  $\delta$  7.14, interchangeable with deuterium oxide, could be assigned to the phenolic hydroxy group on C-11 while only one proton of the quinone methide system,

the 14-H, was observed. Its low chemical shift ( $\delta$  7.72) indicated the presence of a coplanar hydroxy group on C-7, which was corroborated when the 14-H signal appeared at  $\delta$  8.25 when the spectrum was run in  $py-d_5$ . The  $CDCl_3$  spectrum showed the proton geminal to the alcohol group as a very broad multiplet centred at  $\delta$  4.45; in this type of diterpene, the breadth and multiplicity of this signal is compatible only with a 2-H $\beta$  and the stereochemistry of the alcohol group was thus determined as 2 $\alpha$ . No signals were observed for the 5-H $\beta$  or for protons allylic to any unsaturated function so the remaining oxygen atom must be part of a C $_8$ -C $_9$  enolic system. By means of double resonance and n.o.e. difference experiments and a comparison of the  $^1H$  n.m.r. spectra of 1 taken in  $CDCl_3$  and  $py-d_5$ , the chemical shifts of all the protons and methyl groups could be ascertained. All the above data are in agreement with the structure given for compound 1.



SCHEME 1

Chemical proof for structure 1 for this new compound was forthcoming as treatment of 1 with methyl iodide and potassium carbonate in acetone gave the dimethylether derivative 2 (Scheme 1) which, in its low resolution  $ms$ , showed the molecular ion  $M^+$  at  $m/z$  374 (molecular formula  $C_{22}H_{30}O_5$  by  $hrms$ ). The  $ir$  spectrum had bands for enols and alcohols (3590 and

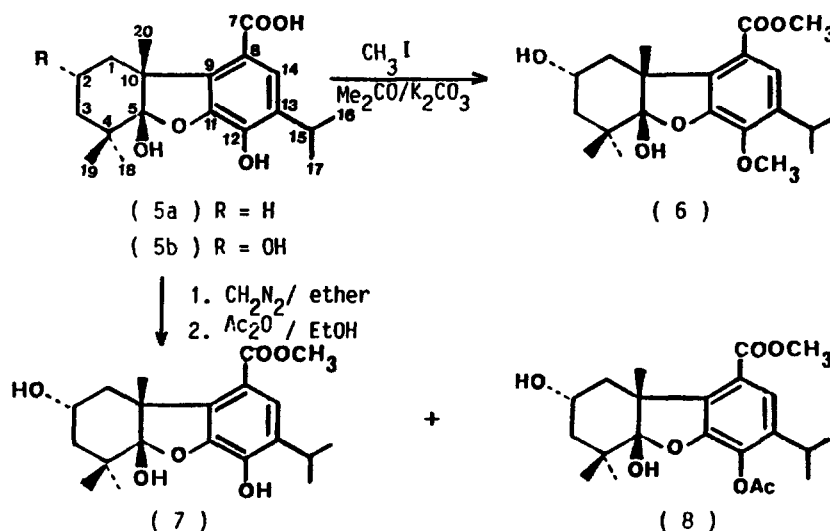
3370  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and for a conjugated carbonyl (1620  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) The  $^1\text{H}$  n m r spectrum, in addition to the signals for methyl groups and for the 2-H $\beta$  as a multiplet centred at  $\delta$  4.43, showed two methoxy groups as three-proton singlets at  $\delta$  3.84 and 3.92, one proton singlet at  $\delta$  7.10, interchangeable with deuterium oxide, assigned to 6-OH and the aromatic proton 14-H as a singlet at  $\delta$  7.90, a chemical shift characteristic of this type of diterpene when there is a carbonyl group on C-7<sup>6-7</sup> These data agree with structure 2 which was formed from 1 by tautomerization in basic medium followed by methylation of the phenol groups Treatment of 1 with acetic anhydride in pyridine gave a mixture of two products which were separated by preparative t l c on silica gel The major product was 3 (Scheme 1), low resolution m s showed the molecular ion [ $\text{M}^+$ ] at  $m/z$  472 (molecular formula  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_8$  by h r m s ) In its  $^1\text{H}$  n m r spectrum, signals appeared for one aliphatic and two aromatic acetates, the 14-H aromatic proton at  $\delta$  8.16, consonant with a ketone group on C-7, and a proton singlet interchangeable with  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  at  $\delta$  7.05 assignable to 6-OH The minor product, compound 4, (Scheme 1), had the molecular ion [ $\text{M}^+$ ] at  $m/z$  514 (molecular formula  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_9$  by h r m s ) In the  $^1\text{H}$  n m r , signals appeared for one aliphatic and three aromatic acetates In the low-field region of the spectrum, only the H-14 aromatic proton was observed, as a singlet at  $\delta$  8.11 These data are in accordance with structures 3 and 4 for the acetylderivatives of 1.

2 $\alpha$ -Hydroxysalvicanaric acid (5b) was isolated as a foam that could not be crystallized H r m s gave the molecular formula,  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_8$  Bands for acid and aromatic groups and a conjugated carbonyl (1685  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) were seen in i r In the  $^1\text{H}$  n m r spectrum in  $\text{py-d}_5$ , signals for an isopropyl group on an aromatic ring and three angular methyls were observed In the low-field region of the spectrum one proton at  $\delta$  6.53, interchangeable with deuterium oxide, was assigned to a phenol group and a one-proton singlet at  $\delta$  7.75 to the aromatic 14-H The proton geminal to the 2 $\alpha$ -hydroxy group appeared as a very broad multiplet centred at  $\delta$  4.47

Treatment of 5b with diazomethane and then with acetic anhydride and ethanol (Scheme 2) gave a mixture of the methyl ester 7 and the acetoxy methyl ester 8

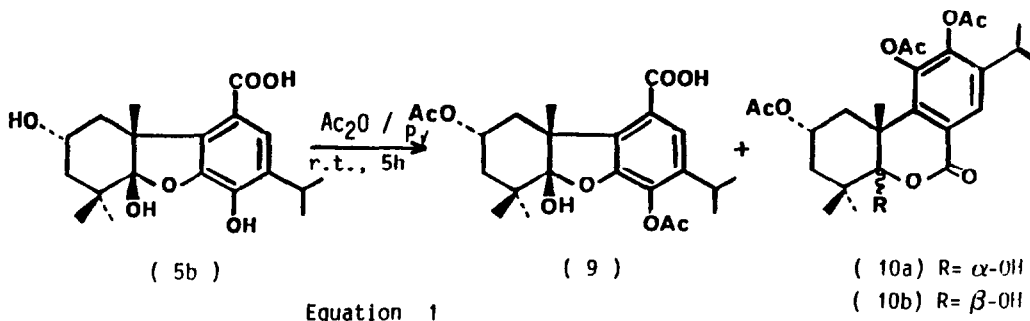
The main difference between the  $^1\text{H}$  n m r spectra of 7 ( $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_8$  by h r m s ) and 5b was the appearance of a carbomethoxy group as a three-proton singlet at  $\delta$  3.86 There were signals for only one aromatic acetate group, as a three-proton singlet at  $\delta$  2.32, in the  $^1\text{H}$  n m r spectrum of 8 ( $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_7$  by h r m s ) Treatment of 5b with methyl iodide

and potassium carbonate in acetone (Scheme 2) gave the dimethoxy derivative **6** ( $C_{21}H_{30}O_4$  by h r m.s.) the  $^1H$  n.m.r of which is very close to that of **7** with one extra signal for a methoxy group as a three-proton singlet at  $\delta$  3.98



S C H E M E 2

When **5b** was treated with acetic anhydride in pyridine for five hours (Equation 1), t l c. detected a mixture of two products, **9** and **10**. When the reaction was prolonged overnight, only **10** was obtained. The i r spectrum of **9** ( $C_{23}H_{30}O_5$  by h.r.m.s.) showed bands for alcohol, carboxylic acid and ester groups. In the  $^1H$  n.m.r spectrum, signals were observed for one aromatic and one aliphatic acetate group as singlets at  $\delta$  2.34 and  $\delta$  1.96, respectively. The 2-H $\beta$  appeared as a broad multiplet centred at  $\delta$

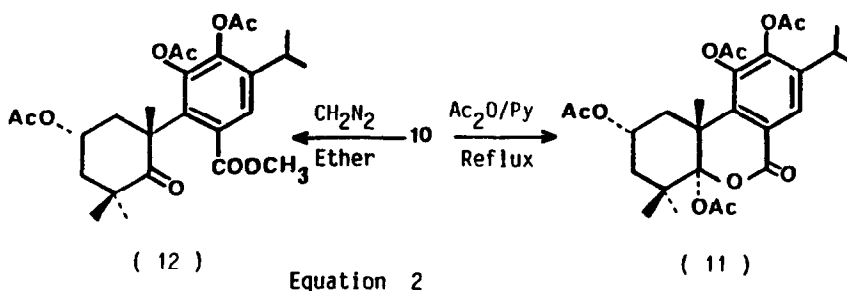


5.13 No geminal proton was observed for the non-acetylated alcohol group, demonstrating its tertiary nature. The hemiacetalic nature of the B ring and consequently of the remaining oxygen atom in the molecule could be deduced

from the  $^{13}\text{C}$  n m r spectrum of **5b** where a singlet at 114.9 ppm must be attributed to C-5. This spectrum is very similar to that of salvicanaric acid (**5a**), previously isolated from *Salvia canariensis*<sup>9</sup>, except for the chemical shifts of the C-1, C-2 (in **5b**, a doublet at 63.1 ppm) and C-3. These data all accord with the structure of 2 $\alpha$ -hydroxysalvicanaric acid for **5b**.

Chemical proof for structure **5b** was provided by **10** being formed when **5b** was acetylated.  $^1\text{H}$  n m r. of **10** showed it to be a mixture of **10a** and **10b** which behave as one on g c ( $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_7$  by h r m s.) The  $^1\text{H}$  n.m.r. spectra of the two isomers showed signals for an aliphatic acetate and two aromatic acetates in each. The i r. of the mixture did not have any carboxylic acid absorptions but did have a signal for an alcohol group as well as a lactone at  $1750\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The alcohol group had to be tertiary, since it did not acetylate under the usual conditions and no protons geminal to the hydroxy were observed in  $^1\text{H}$  n m r. The chemical shift of the aromatic 14-H to  $\delta$  8.03 (in **10a**) and to  $\delta$  8.08 (in **10b**) places the lactone group carbonyl on C-7. All these data indicate a lactol structure for **10**, which must have been formed by the opening of **5b** to its ketophenol tautomer and subsequent acid group attack on the ketone.

Reflux of **10** with acetic anhydride in pyridine (Equation 2) gave the tetra-cetoxy derivative **11** ( $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_{10}$  by h r m s.) The  $^1\text{H}$  n m r spectrum had

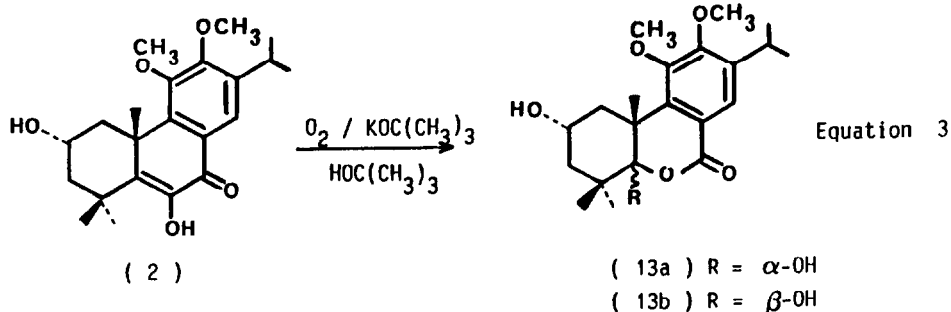


signals for two aliphatic and two aromatic acetate groups; the aromatic 14-H appeared as a singlet at  $\delta$  8.02. When **10** was treated with diazomethane in ether, the ketotriacetoxymethyl ester **12** was obtained as sole product. Compound **12** ( $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_7$  by h.r.m.s.) had i r. signals characteristic of a cyclohexanone and conjugated carboxylate groups. In the  $^1\text{H}$  n.m.r. spectrum signals were seen for one aliphatic and two aromatic acetate groups, and also for a carbomethoxy group as a three-proton singlet at  $\delta$  3.83. All these data accord with the structure **12** which must have been formed via the tautomeric keto-acids of **10**.

Comparison of the  $^1\text{H}$  n.m.r. spectra of **10a** + **10b** run in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  and  $\text{py-d}_5$  shows that the minor isomer is **10b** with a  $5\beta\text{-OH}$ . In the spectrum run in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , the 19-Me and 20-Me appear at  $\delta$  1.20 and 1.30, respectively, and when taken in  $\text{py-d}_5$ , at  $\delta$  1.44 and 1.59. These shifts were not observed for the major isomer, **10a**.

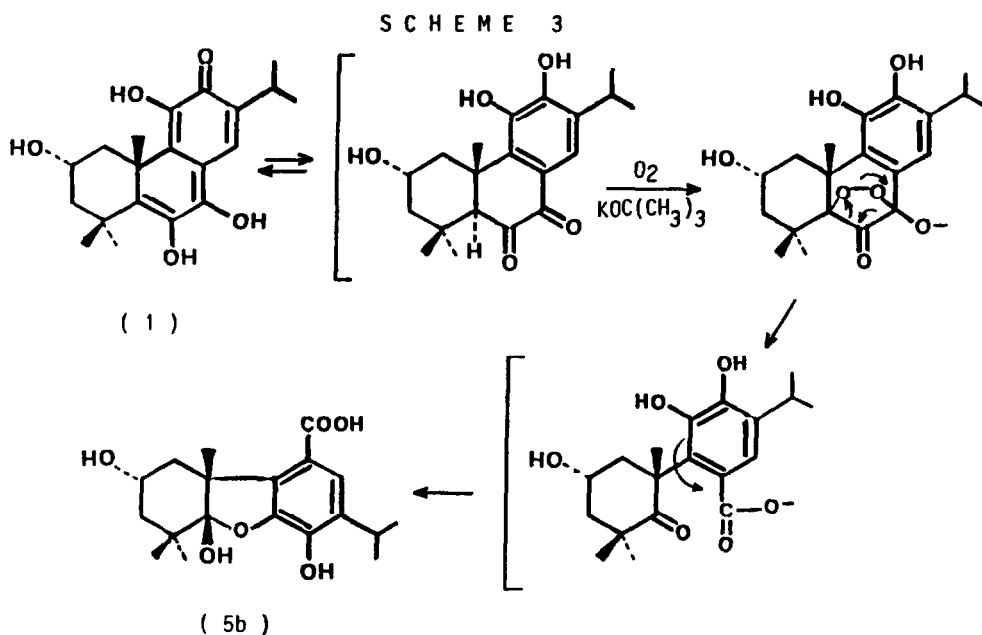
The cis nature of the A/B ring junction in **5b** was established from the following; in the  $^1\text{H}$  n.m.r. spectrum of **5b**, the C-20 methyl appears as a three-proton singlet at  $\delta$  1.68; when the same spectrum was run in  $\text{py-d}_5$  it appeared at  $\delta$  2.20 in accordance with the cis coplanarity with  $\text{C}_5\text{-OH}$ . In a n O e difference experiment, irradiation of C-20 methyl produced a strong n O e effect on both the H-2 $\beta$  and the C-19 methyl, which agrees with the stereochemistry shown for **5b**.

In a previous paper<sup>2</sup>, we postulated the biogenetic origin of salvicanaric acid (**5a**) from the biosynthetic oxidation of demethylcryptojaponol. To

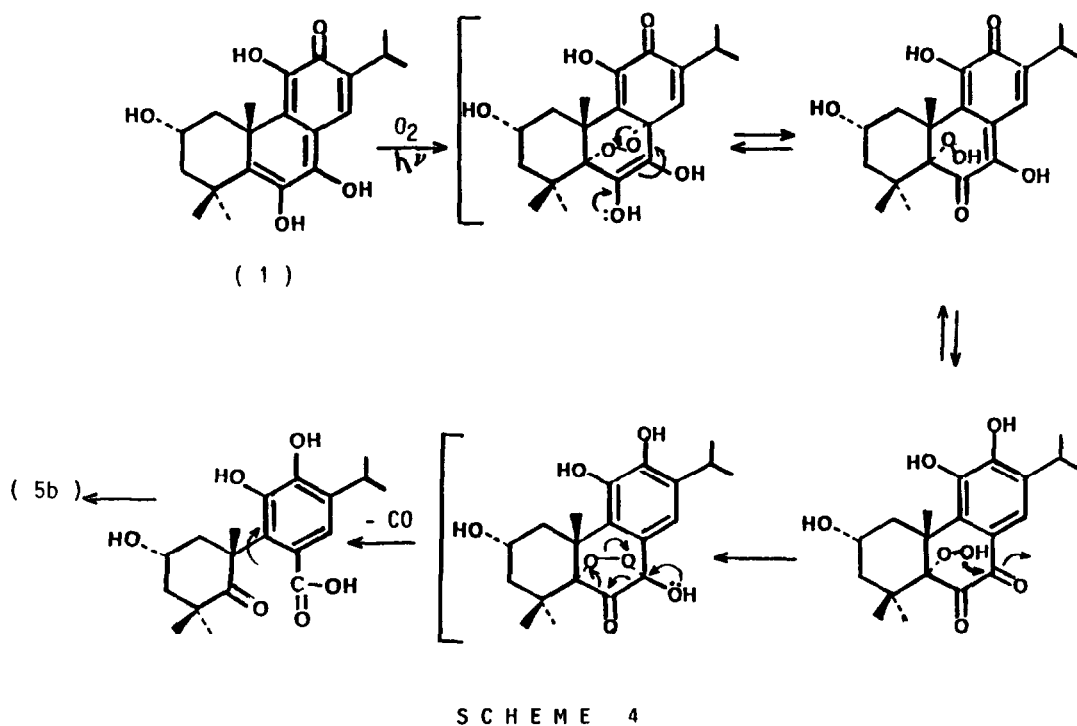


confirm this, **1** was auto-oxidated with molecular oxygen in *t*-butanol and potassium *t*-butoxide, and an intractable mixture was obtained. Under identical conditions, the dimethoxy derivative **2** (Equation 3) gave a product which showed one spot on t.l.c. but in  $^1\text{H}$  n.m.r. proved to consist of a mixture of the lactols **13a** and **13b** ( $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_4$  by h.r.m.s.) with **13b** as the major product. Comparison of the  $^1\text{H}$  n.m.r. spectra of **13b** and **13a** taken in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  and  $\text{py-d}_5$  show a great downfield chemical shift of the 18-, 19- and 20-Me for the major isomer which must, therefore, have an A/B cis junction. An unusual cis ring junction in a similar lactol has already been described<sup>7</sup>. The aromatic 14-H protons appeared at  $\delta$  7.79 in **13b** and at  $\delta$  7.80 in **13a**. If the phenol groups are free, cyclization after auto-oxidation should give **5b** (Scheme 3). When **1**, dissolved in *n*-hex-EtOAc, was irradiated with u.v. light (240 nm) for 1/2 hr, two spots were observed on t.l.c. the less polar being unreacted starting material. When the solution was left to stand, the more polar product slowly evolved to give **5b**. Heating the





solution accelerated the process. Scheme 4 outlines the proposed mechanism via oxygen singlet activation of the substrate as autosensitizer. No intermediate could be isolated.



Compound 1 was stable after 24 hr when a solution in n-hex-EtOAc was stirred under oxygen atmosphere, alone or with silica gel added. It was also stable under silica gel chromatography. The above reactions suggest that 5b may have been formed by the biosynthetic oxidation of 1.

### EXPERIMENTAL

Gas chromatography was carried out on a Perkin-Elmer 900 with a flame ionization detector.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  n.m.r. were collected on Bruker AC80 and WP-200SY (200MHz) spectrometers with  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\text{Py-d}_5$  or  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  as solvents and TMS as internal standard. The i.r. spectra were taken on a Perkin-Elmer 681 spectrophotometer with sodium chloride cells (0.1 mm) and  $\text{CHCl}_3$  as solvent. UV spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 550SE spectrophotometer with quartz cells (1 and 5 mm) and EtOH as solvent. Mass spectra and accurate mass measurements were determined on a VG-Micromass ZAB-2F at an ionizing potential of 70 Kev. Dry column chromatography used silica gel (0.05-0.2 mm). Preparative t.l.c. was developed on precoated Schleicher & Schull foils, F-1500/LS 254. Voucher plant specimens are lodged with the Herbarium of the Dept. of Botany, Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico.

The finely-cut roots of Salvia texana Torr. (3 kg) were extracted with cold MeOH (5 l). Filtration and evaporation of the solvent with a rotavapor in vacuo gave a reddish-brown extract (48 g) which was chromatographed on Sephadex using a mixture of n-hexane- $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH (1:1:2) as solvent. 500 ml fractions were collected. Only Fractions 40-58 were studied. After repeated chromatography on silica gel using mixtures of n-hexane-EtOAc as solvent, the following compounds were isolated -

>

5,6-Dehydro-2 $\alpha$ ,7-Dihydroxytaxodone (1) was isolated from the more polar fractions of the chromatography and purified by repeated crystallization in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ . (Found  $M^+$ , 346.1781.  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_5$  requires  $M$  346.1782).  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 3580s, 3520s, 3000m, 2960s, 2920s, 1600vs, 1570w, 1470m, 1370w, 1350vs and 1270m;  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (EtOH) nm, 345, 290 and 255,  $\delta^{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS) 1.28 (1H, s, 2-H), 1.32 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me and 17-Me), 1.41, 1.65 (2H, m, 1-H $_{\alpha}$  and 3-H $_{\alpha}$ ), 1.46 (3H, s, 19-Me), 1.54 (3H, s, 20-Me), 1.58 (3H, s, 18-Me), 2.30 (1H, dd, J 6.2, 15Hz, 3-H $_{\beta}$ ), 3.05 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3.74 (1H, dd, J 7.2, 13.4Hz, 1-H $_{\beta}$ ), 4.45 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H $_{\beta}$ ), 7.14 (1H, s, Ar-OH), 7.72 (1H, s, 14-H),  $\delta^{\text{C}}$  (200 MHz,  $\text{Py-d}_5$ , TMS), 1.29, 1.30 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me and 17-Me), 1.71 (3H, s, 19-Me), 1.95 (3H, s, 20-Me), 2.00 (3H, s, 18-Me), 2.02 (2H, m, 1-H $_{\alpha}$  and 3-H $_{\alpha}$ ), 2.54 (1H, dd, J 6.2, 16Hz, 3-H $_{\beta}$ ), 3.66 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 4.62 (1H, dd, J 7.3, 13Hz, 1-H $_{\beta}$ ), 4.87 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H $_{\beta}$ ), 8.25 (1H, s, 14-H),  $m/z$  (e 1) 346 ( $M^+$ , 6%), 328(4), 313(7), 303(4), 290(40), 285(11), 272(42), 261(20) and 247(94).

Treatment of 1 with Methyl Iodide in Acetone 1 (10 mg), dissolved in dry acetone (7 ml), was chilled to 5° and potassium carbonate (400 mg) and methyl iodide (1 ml) were then added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temp for 8 hr, filtered and taken to dryness and after preparative chromatography gave 2. (Found:  $M^+$ , 374 2102  $C_{22}H_{30}O_5$  requires  $M$  374 2111),  $\nu_{max}$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $cm^{-1}$ , 3590m, 3370m, 3000w, 2960s, 2920s, 1620s, 1595m, 1470m, 1425w, 1330vs, 1270w and 1040s;  $\nu_{max}$  (EtOH) nm, 352, 325, 283 and 255;  $\delta^M$  (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS) 1 24, 1 27 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me and 17-Me), 1 47 (3H, s, 19-Me), 1 54 (3H, s, 20-Me), 1 56 (3H, s, 18-Me), 1.60 (2H, m, 1-H<sub>a</sub> and 3-H<sub>a</sub>), 2 29 (1H, dd, J 7, 14Hz, 3-H<sub>b</sub>), 3 30 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3 56 (1H, dd, J 7.5, 16Hz, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 3 84, 3.92 (each 3H, s, 2xOMe), 4 43 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 7 10 (1H, s, 6-OH), 7 90 (1H, s, 14-H); m/z (e<sub>1</sub>) 374 ( $M^+$ , 17%), 356(12), 341(19), 331(8), 325(12), 318(32), 313(17), 303(12), 287(100) and 275(99)

Acetylation of 1 Treatment of 1 (3 mg) with Ac<sub>2</sub>O (0.1 ml) in py (0.2 ml) at room temp after 4 hr gave a mixture of 3 and 4, separated by preparative plate chromatography using benzene-EtOAc (5:5) as eluent. 3 was the major product (Found:  $M^+$ , 472 2086.  $C_{24}H_{32}O_6$  requires  $M$  472 2097),  $\delta^M$  (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS) 1 24, 1 28 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me and 17-Me), 1 48 (3H, s, 19-Me), 1 51 (3H, s, 20-Me), 1 54 (3H, s, 18-Me), 2 01 (3H, s, 2-OAc), 2 32, 2 39 (each 3H, s, 2xAr-OAc), 2 94 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 5 35 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 7 05 (1H, s, 6-OH), 8 16 (1H, s, 14-H), m/z (e<sub>1</sub>) 472 ( $M^+$ , 4%), 430(2), 412(16), 402(2), 370(82), 328(100) and 300(8). The minor product 4 (found:  $M^+$ , 514 2169  $C_{26}H_{34}O_6$  requires  $M$  514 2202),  $\delta^M$  (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS) 1 24, 1 25 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me and 17-Me), 1 43 (3H, s, 19-Me), 1 52 (3H, s, 20-Me), 1 57 (3H, s, 18-Me), 2 00 (3H, s, 2-OAc), 2 31, 2 36 (each 3H, s, 2xAr-OAc), 2 34 (3H, s, 6-OAc), 3 00 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 5 31 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 8 11 (1H, s, 14-H), m/z (e<sub>1</sub>) 514 ( $M^+$ , 4%), 472(6), 454(17), 412(68), 388(3), 370(100), 328(85) and 272(20)

2 $\alpha$ -Hydroxysalvicanaric Acid (5b) was isolated as a foam that would not crystallize (Found:  $M^+$ , 350 1732  $C_{19}H_{24}O_6$  requires  $M$  350 1735),  $\nu_{max}$  (film)  $cm^{-1}$ , 3700-2300vs, 1685vs, 1620m, 1590w, 1470w, 1425vs, 1370m, 1238s, 1090m, 1045m, 1015m, 960w and 910w,  $\nu_{max}$  (EtOH) nm, 330, 290 and 250;  $\delta^M$  (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS) 1 23, 1 26 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me and 17-Me), 1 25, 1 27 (each 3H, s, 18-Me, 19-Me), 1 68 (3H, s, 20-Me), 1 80 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 2 80 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 3 25 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 4 07 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 7 45 (1H, s, 14-H),  $\delta^M$  (200 MHz, Py-d<sub>5</sub>, TMS), 1 24 (3H, s, 18-Me), 1 30, 1 33 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me and 17-Me), 1 49 (3H, s, 19-Me), 2 07 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 2 24 (3H, s, 20-Me), 3 68 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3 74 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 4 52 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 7 84 (1H, s, 14-H),  $\delta^M$  (200 MHz, Py-d<sub>5</sub>+D<sub>2</sub>O, TMS), 1 25, 1 28 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me and 17-Me), 1 32 (3H, s, 18-Me), 1 43 (3H, s, 19-Me), 2 10 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 2 23 (3H, s, 20-Me), 3 62 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3 78 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 4 50 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 7 78 (1H, s, 14-H),  $\delta^M$  (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD, TMS), 1 19 (6H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me, 17-Me), 1 28 (3H, s, 18-Me), 1 59 (3H, s, 19-Me), 1 90 (3H, s, 20-Me), 2 68 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 3 85 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 6 90 (1H, s, 14-H),  $\delta_c$  (50MHz, Py-d<sub>5</sub>), 18 9 (q, C-20), 22 97 (q, C-16), 23 03 (q, C-17), 25 8 (q, C-18), 27 3 (q, C-19), 27 4 (d, C-15), 39 6 (s, C-4), 48 1 (t, C-3), 49 2 (t, C-1), 52 4 (s, C-10), 63 1 (d, C-2), 114 9 (s, C-5), 120 7 (s, C-9), 122 0 (d, C-14), 135 2 (s, C-8), 139 3 (s, C-11), 144 5 (s, C-13), 145 3 (s, C-12) and 170 4 (s, C-7), m/z (e<sub>1</sub>) 350 ( $M^+$ , 4%), 332(3), 322(3), 304(2), 288(5), 273(3), 250(38), 237(28), 219(15), 189(11), 161(8), 119(16) and 55(100)

Treatment of 5b with Diazomethane **5b** (8.7 mg), dissolved in ether (5 ml), was treated with an ether soln of  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}_2$  (2 ml, 0.4M). After 20 min the reaction was halted by the addition of  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$  and the excess eliminated by addition of EtOH. Evaporation of the soln in rotavapor in vacuo gave a mixture of **7** and **8**, separated by preparative tlc: **7**: (found  $M^+$ , 364.1903  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_6$  requires  $M$  364.1920),  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 3670m, 3590s, 3550m, 3000m, 2950m, 2920m, 1710vs, 1610m, 1600m, 1440m, 1420s, 1370m, 1335m, 1210vs, 1100s and 1040m,  $\delta^{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS) 1.23, 1.27 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me and 17-Me), 1.24, 1.25 (each 3H, s, 18-Me, 19-Me), 1.60 (3H, s, 20-Me), 1.76 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 2.72 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 3.25 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3.86 (3H, s, -COOMe), 4.03 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 5.30 (1H, br s, ArOH), 7.29 (1H, s, 14-H),  $m/z$  ( $e_1$ ) 364 ( $M^+$ , 18%), 346(16), 333(3), 315(12), 305(1), 302(16), 287(10), 264(100), 249(37) and 221(38). **8**: (found  $M^+$ , 406.1998  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_7$  requires  $M$  406.2005),  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS) 1.19, 1.21 (each 3H, s, 18-Me, 19-Me), 1.21 (6H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me, 17-Me), 1.60 (3H, s, 20-Me), 1.72 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 2.32 (3H, s, Ar-OAc), 2.72 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 3.10 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3.59 (3H, s, -COOMe), 4.02 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 7.26 (1H, s, 14-H),  $m/z$  ( $e_1$ ) 406 ( $M^+$ , 11%), 364(12), 346(1), 333(1), 315(2), 306(53), 302(1), 287(5), 278(10) and 264(100).

Acetylation of 5b Treatment of **5b** (10 mg) with  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$  (0.3 ml) in py (0.6 ml) at room temp for 5 hr gave **9** + **10**. If the reaction was left to stand overnight only **10** was obtained.

**9**: (found  $M^+$ , 434.1943  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_8$  requires  $M$  434.1946),  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 3670w, 3020w, 2860m, 2820w, 1750m, 1735vs, 1420s, 1370s, 1250vs, 1190s, 1095m and 1020m,  $\delta^{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS) 1.20 (6H, s, 18-Me, 19-Me), 1.22, 1.26 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me, 17-Me), 1.68 (3H, br s, 20-Me), 1.96 (3H, s, 2-OAc<sub>a</sub>), 2.34 (3H, s, Ar-OAc), 2.70 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 3.06 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 5.13 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 7.42 (1H, s, 14-H),  $\delta^{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz,  $\text{Py-d}_6$ , TMS) 1.15, 1.17 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me, 17-Me), 1.46, 1.59 (each 3H, s, 18-Me, 19-Me), 1.97 (3H, s, 2-OAc<sub>a</sub>), 2.14 (3H, s, 20-Me), 2.37 (3H, s, Ar-OAc), 3.12 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3.31 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 5.30 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 7.67 (1H, s, 14-H),  $m/z$  ( $e_1$ ) 434 ( $M^+$ , 1%), 392(3), 332(3), 314(2), 292(17), 279(10), 265(4), 250(25), 167(20) and 149(100). **10**: (found  $M^+$ , 476.2059  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_9$  requires  $M$  476.2072),  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 3660m, 3580m, 3000s, 2960s, 2920s, 1780vs, 1750vs, 1620w, 1380m, 1325m, 1250s, 1195s, 1180m, 1100m and 1040s,  $\delta^{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS) **10a**: 1.20 (3H, s, 18-Me), 1.23 (6H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me, 17-Me), 1.36 (3H, s, 19-Me), 1.51 (3H, s, 20-Me), 2.05 (3H, s, 2-OAc<sub>a</sub>), 2.27, 2.31 (each 3H, s, 2xAr-OAc), 2.67 (1H, dd, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 2.95 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3.26 (1H, br s, 5-OH), 5.24 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 8.03 (1H, s, 14-H), **10b**: 1.20 (3H, s, 18-Me), 1.20 (3H, s, 19-Me), 1.22 (6H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me, 17-Me), 1.30 (3H, s, 20-Me), 1.97 (3H, s, 2-OAc<sub>a</sub>), 2.31, 2.32 (each 3H, s, 2xAr-OAc), 2.67 (1H, dd, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 2.95 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3.21 (1H, br s, 5-OH), 5.24 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 8.08 (1H, s, 14-H),  $\delta^{\text{H}}$  (200 MHz,  $\text{Py-d}_6$ , TMS) **10a**: 0.94, 0.96 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me, 17-Me), 1.36 (6H, s, 18-Me, 19-Me), 1.45 (3H, s, 20-Me), 2.09 (3H, s, 2-OAc<sub>a</sub>), 2.37, 2.39 (each 3H, s, 2xAr-OAc), 2.56 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 2.97 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3.13 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 5.42 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 8.28 (1H, s, 14-H), **10b**: 1.06, 1.10 (each 3H, d, J 7Hz, 16-Me, 17-Me), 1.36 (3H, s, 18-Me), 1.44 (3H, s, 19-Me), 1.59 (3H, s, 20-Me), 2.01 (3H, s, 2-OAc<sub>a</sub>), 2.37, 2.40 (each 3H, s, 2xAr-OAc), 2.56 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 2.97 (1H, hept, J 7Hz, 15-H), 3.13 (1H, dq, 1-H<sub>a</sub>), 5.42 (1H, br m,  $W_{1/2}$  33Hz, 2-H<sub>a</sub>), 8.35 (1H, s, 14-H),  $m/z$  ( $e_1$ ) 476 ( $M^+$ , 1%), 416(4), 374(6), 356(8), 314(47), 303(21), 292(33), 285(8), 270(6), 264(12), 247(23), 203(59) and 55(100).