

The Microbial Oxidation of (–)- β -Pinene by *Botrytis cinerea*[§]

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Z. Naturforsch. **57c**, 686–690 (2002); received March 19, 2002

Microbial Transformation, (–)- β -Pinene, *Botrytis cinerea*

(–)- β -pinene, a flavor and fragrance monoterpene is an important constituent of essential oils of many aromatic plants. It was oxidized by a plant-pathogenic fungus, *Botrytis cinerea* to afford four metabolites characterized as (–)-6 α -hydroxy- β -pinene, (–)-4 β ,5 β -dihydroxy- β -pinene, (–)-2 β ,3 β -dihydroxypinane, and (–)-4 β -hydroxy- β -pinene-6-one by detailed spectroscopic studies along with other known metabolites.