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# Two new subergane-based sesquiterpenes from a Taiwanese Gorgonian coral *Subergorgia suberosa*.

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**Table 1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Chemical Shifts of Compounds **1**–**4**

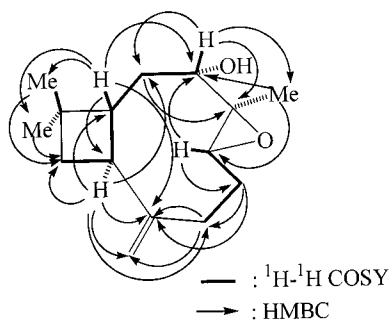
	<b>1</b> <sup>a</sup>	<b>2</b> <sup>b</sup>	<b>3</b> <sup>b</sup>	<b>4</b> <sup>b</sup>
H-1	1.69 t (10.5) <sup>c</sup>	2.09 t (10.0)	1.60 m	1.67 t (10.4)
H-2	1.54 dd (8, 14.0)	1.69 m	1.57 d m	1.55 m
	1.81 dd (5.5, 13.5)	1.87 ddd (1, 3.3, 15.3)	1.66 m	1.55 m
H-3	3.16 q (5.5)	3.88 t (3)	4.09 dd (5.3, 9.9)	4.66 dd (4.6, 10.6)
H-5	2.87 dd (4.5, 10.5)	3.35 dd (3.9, 11.1)	5.44 br dd (5.0, 8.8)	5.40 t (8.0)
H-6	1.40 m	1.30 m	2.05 m	2.19 m
	2.26 m	2.26 m	2.46 m	2.29 m
H-7	2.15 m	2.15 m	2.05 m	2.09 m
	2.33 m	2.29 m	2.20 m	2.29 m
H-9	2.65 q (9.5)	2.64 q (8.5)	2.38 q (10.5)	2.56 q (8.9)
H-10	1.60 m	1.57–1.69 m	1.57 m	1.51 t (10.5)
	1.72 t (9.0)		1.66 m	1.74 dd (8.5, 10.6)
12-Me	1.00 3H, s	1.00 3H, s	0.97 3H, s	1.00 3H, s
13-Me	1.03 3H, s	1.02 3H, s	0.99 3H, s	1.04 3H, s
14-Me	1.23 3H, s	1.22 3H, s	1.64 3H, s	1.65 3H, s
H-15	4.88 s	4.84 s	4.84 s	4.74 s
	4.99 s	4.95 s	4.95 s	4.84 s

<sup>a</sup> Spectra recorded at 500 MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 25 °C. <sup>b</sup> 300 MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 25 °C. <sup>c</sup> The  $J$  values are in Hz in parentheses.

**Table 2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Chemical Shifts of Compounds **1**–**4**

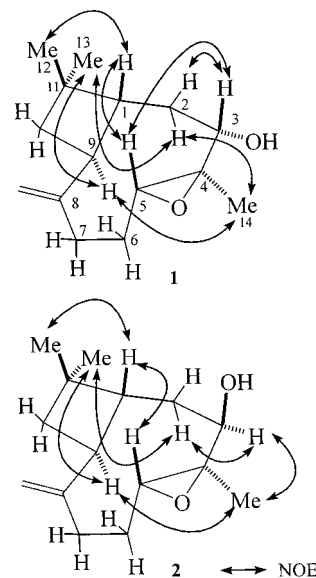
	<b>1</b> <sup>a</sup>	<b>2</b> <sup>b</sup>	<b>3</b> <sup>b</sup>	<b>4</b> <sup>b</sup>
C-1	47.3 (d) <sup>c</sup>	43.2 (d)	51.0 (d)	47.4 (d)
C-2	35.3 (t)	33.6 (t)	37.7 (t)	34.3 (t)
C-3	79.2 (d)	69.0 (d)	78.7 (d)	68.0 (d)
C-4	62.3 (s)	61.5 (s)	137.2 (s)	137.4 (s)
C-5	61.4 (d)	57.9 (d)	123.6 (d)	126.8 (d)
C-6	29.3 (t)	29.7 (t)	27.8 (t)	28.4 (t)
C-7	29.6 (t)	29.1 (t)	34.3 (t)	34.0 (t)
C-8	151.3 (s)	151.5 (s)	154.2 (s)	155.3 (s)
C-9	47.6 (d)	48.7 (d)	47.1 (d)	40.9 (d)
C-10	39.8 (t)	40.1 (t)	40.1 (t)	40.5 (t)
C-11	34.0 (s)	34.2 (s)	33.0 (s)	33.5 (s)
C-12	29.8 (q)	29.6 (q)	30.0 (q)	29.9 (q)
C-13	21.7 (q)	21.7 (q)	22.8 (q)	23.0 (q)
C-14	11.4 (q)	16.4 (q)	10.8 (q)	16.3 (q)
C-15	113.2 (t)	113.2 (t)	112.2 (t)	113.4 (t)

<sup>a</sup> Spectra recorded at 125 MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 25 °C. <sup>b</sup> 75 MHz in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 25 °C. <sup>c</sup> Multiplicity deduced by DEPT and indicated by usual symbols. The values are in ppm downfield from TMS.

**Figure 1.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY and key HMBC correlations for **1**.

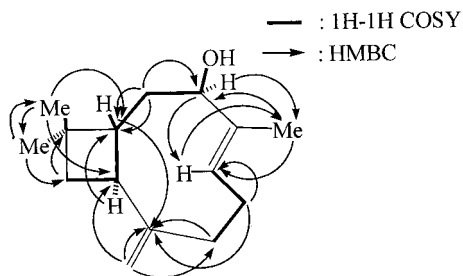
be a bicyclic sesquiterpene possessing an exomethylene-containing carbon–carbon double bond, a hydroxy-bearing methine, and a trisubstituted epoxide. By  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY, it was possible to establish two partial structures (Figure 1). Furthermore, the HMBC spectrum showed key correlations (Figure 1) of H-1 to C-3, C-8, C-9, C-11, C-12, and C-13; H<sub>2</sub>-2 to C-3, C-4, and C-11; H-3 to C-2, C-4, and C-14; H-5 to C-3 and C-6; H<sub>2</sub>-6 to C-7 and C-8; H<sub>2</sub>-7 to C-8, C-9, and C-15; H-9 to C-1, C-2, C-7, C-8, C-10, and C-15; both H<sub>3</sub>-12 and H<sub>3</sub>-13 to C-1 and C-10, and H<sub>3</sub>-14 to C-3 and C-5, successfully establishing the molecular framework of **1**. Thus, **1** was suggested to be a 4,5-epoxy-3-hydroxycaryophyllene.

The relative stereochemistry of **1** was disclosed by the key NOESY correlations as shown in Figure 2. It was found that H-1 showed NOE interactions with H-5 and H<sub>3</sub>-12,

**Figure 2.** Key NOESY correlations of **1** and **2**.

but not with H-9, H<sub>3</sub>-13, and H<sub>3</sub>-14, and H-3 showed NOE responses with H-5, but not with H<sub>3</sub>-14, indicating that H-1, H-3, H-5, and H<sub>3</sub>-12 are situated on the same face and H-9, H<sub>3</sub>-13, and H<sub>3</sub>-14 should be positioned on the other face. This could be further confirmed, as H-9 exhibited NOE interactions with both H<sub>3</sub>-13 and H<sub>3</sub>-14. Based on the above analyses, the structure of suberosol A was established as (1*R*\*,3*S*\*,4*S*\*,5*R*\*,9*S*\*)-4,5-epoxy-3-hydroxy- $\beta$ -caryophyllene, as described by formula **1**.

Suberosol B (**2**) was isolated as a colorless oil,  $[\alpha]_D^{29} -10.7^\circ$  ( $c$  0.24,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). On the basis of its HRFABMS ( $m/z$  237.1855,  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ ) and the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data, the molecular formula of **2** was established as  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_2$ . Inspection of the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data (Table 2) for compound **2**, including a DEPT spectrum, revealed the presence of three methyl carbons ( $\delta$  16.4, 21.7, and 29.6), four  $\text{sp}^3$  methylene carbons ( $\delta$  33.6, 29.7, 29.1, and 40.1), one olefinic exomethylene carbon ( $\delta$  113.2), and two methine and two oxygenated methine carbons ( $\delta$  43.2, 48.7, 57.9, and 69.0, respectively). The remaining three carbon signals derived from one olefinic quaternary carbon ( $\delta$  151.5) and two  $\text{sp}^3$  quaternary carbons ( $\delta$  34.2 and 61.5). It was found that  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data of **2** were very similar to those of suberosol A (**1**), suggesting that **2** could be the stereoisomer of **1**. By the assistance of 2D NMR spectra, including COSY, HMQC, and HMBC, **2** was shown to possess the same

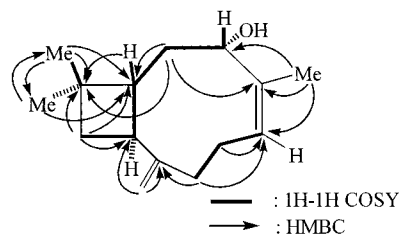


**Figure 3.**  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  COSY and key HMBC correlations for **3**.

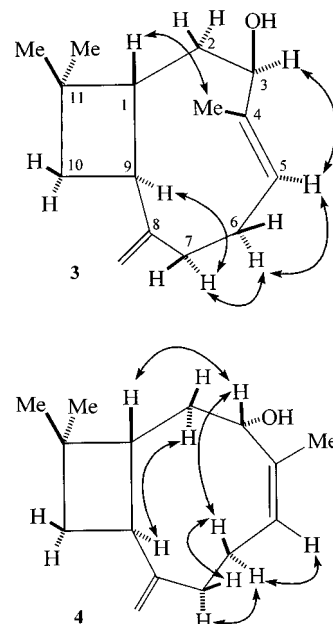
molecular framework as that of **1**. However, the significant downfield shifts for H-3 ( $\Delta\delta +0.72$  ppm), H-5 ( $\Delta\delta +0.48$  ppm), H-1 ( $\Delta\delta +0.40$  ppm), and C-14 ( $\Delta\delta +5.0$ ) and upfield shifts for C-3 ( $\Delta\delta -10.2$  ppm), C-1 ( $\Delta\delta -4.1$  ppm), and C-5 ( $\Delta\delta -3.5$  ppm) of **2**, in comparison with those of **1**, suggested that **2** could be the C-3 epimer of **1**. By careful study of the NOESY spectrum of **2** (Figure 3), it was found that H-1 showed NOE interactions with both H-5 and H<sub>3</sub>-12 but not with H-3, H-9, and H<sub>3</sub>-14, and H-3 exhibited interactions with H-2 $\alpha$  ( $\delta$  1.82) and H<sub>3</sub>-14 but not with H-1 and H-5. Thus, compound **2** was described as the C-3 epimer of **1**, and the structure of suberosol B (**2**) was identified as (1*R*\*,3*R*\*,4*S*\*,5*R*\*,9*S*\*)-4,5-epoxy-3-hydroxy- $\beta$ -caryophyllene.

Suberosol C (**3**) was obtained as a colorless oil,  $[\alpha]_D^{29} -67.9^\circ$  (*c* 0.14,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). According to the HREIMS ( $m/z$  220.1821,  $[\text{M}]^+$ ) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data, its molecular formula was established as  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}$ . Thus, four degrees of unsaturation were determined for **3**. The EIMS of **3** exhibited a peak at  $m/z$  202  $[\text{M} - \text{H}_2\text{O}]^+$ , indicating the presence of a hydroxy group in **3**. The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **3** (Table 1) showed signals of two methyls ( $\delta$  0.97, 3H, s; 0.99, 3H, s) and an olefinic exomethylene ( $\delta$  4.84, 1H, s; 4.95, 1H, s) group. In addition, a methyl-bearing trisubstituted carbon–carbon double bond could be further identified by the proton resonances at  $\delta$  1.64 (3H, s) and 5.44 (1H, dd,  $J = 5.0, 8.8$  Hz). A signal appearing at  $\delta$  4.09 (1H, dd,  $J = 5.3, 9.9$  Hz) was attributed to a hydroxy-bearing methine proton. The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectral data (Table 2), assigned by the assistance of a DEPT spectrum, revealed the presence of three methyl ( $\delta$  10.8, 22.8, and 30.0), four  $\text{sp}^3$  methylene ( $\delta$  27.8, 34.3, 37.7, and 40.1), one  $\text{sp}^2$  methylene ( $\delta$  112.2), one  $\text{sp}^3$  oxygenated methine ( $\delta$  78.7), one  $\text{sp}^2$  methine ( $\delta$  123.6), and two normal  $\text{sp}^3$  methine ( $\delta$  47.1 and 51.0) carbons. The remaining three carbon signals were a  $\text{sp}^3$  quaternary ( $\delta$  33.0) carbon and two olefinic ( $\delta$  137.2 and 154.2) carbons. On the basis of the above results and by comparing the molecular formula and spectral data of **1**, it was suggested that **3** is the 4,5-deoxygenated product of **1**. These findings, together with the connectivities observed in the  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  COSY and HMBC spectra (Figure 3), established the  $\beta$ -caryophyllene-based molecular skeleton of suberosol C (**3**).

The relative stereochemistry of **3** was tentatively assigned through the inspection of the available NOE correlations (Figure 5) and other steric considerations. The *E* geometry of the 4,5-endocyclic double bond in **3** was established by the lack of NOE correlation between the methyl protons attached at C-4 ( $\delta$  1.64) and H-5 ( $\delta$  5.44) and the chemical shift of C-14 ( $\delta$  10.8). It is worthwhile to mention that the abnormal upfield-shifted  $\delta_c$  observed for that of C-14 in **3**, as in the case of **1**, can be explained by the strong  $\gamma$ -effect arising from the steric compression of a *gauche* interaction between the methyl group attached at C-4 and the hydroxy group attached at C-3. The above observation, together with the NOE correlations observed



**Figure 4.**  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  COSY and key HMBC correlations for **4**.



**Figure 5.** Distinguishing NOESY correlations of **3** and **4**.

between H-3 and H-5, H-5 and H-6 $\alpha$ , H-6 $\alpha$  and H-7 $\alpha$ , and H-7 $\alpha$  and H-9 (see Figure 5), indicated that the structure of suberosol C should be established as (1*R*\*,3*R*\*,9*S*\*)-3-hydroxy- $\beta$ -caryophyllene (**3**).

Suberosol D (**4**) was isolated as a colorless oil,  $[\alpha]_D^{29} +2.5^\circ$  (*c* 0.045,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). The EIMS established a molecular formula of  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}$  ( $m/z$  220) for this metabolite; thus **4** was an isomer of **3**. Similar to those of **3**, the  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data of **4** (Tables 1 and 2) revealed the presence of three methyl, four  $\text{sp}^3$  methylene, and three  $\text{sp}^3$  methine (including one oxygenated) groups and four olefinic carbons attributed to a 1,1-disubstituted and a trisubstituted double bond. These findings, together with the  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  COSY and HMBC correlations of **4** (Figure 4), revealed that **4** had a molecular framework similar to that of **3**. Despite the above findings, the NMR data (Tables 1 and 2) of **4** showed significant differences in comparison with those of **3**. For example, a significant downfield shift for H-3 ( $\Delta\delta +0.57$  ppm) and an upfield shift for C-3 ( $\Delta\delta -10.7$  ppm), a marked downfield shift for H-9 ( $\Delta\delta +0.18$  ppm) and an upfield shift for C-9 ( $\Delta\delta -6.2$  ppm), and a downfield shift for C-14 ( $\Delta\delta +5.5$  ppm) of **4** were shown when these data were compared with the corresponding chemical shifts of **3**.

By NOESY, it was found that **4** showed an NOE correlation between H-1 and H-3, proving the  $\alpha$ -configuration of the 3-hydroxy group. No NOE response between H-1 and H-9 could be found, indicating the probable  $\alpha$ -orientation of H-9. H<sub>3</sub>-14 showed weak NOE interaction with H-5, suggesting the *cis*-geometry of a 4,5-double bond, which could be further supported by the downfield shift of C-14 of **4** in comparison with that of **3**. On the basis of the above findings and other key NOE interactions (Figure 5), the structure of suberosol D (**4**) was established as



**Table 3.** Cytotoxicity of Sesquiterpenes **1–6**<sup>a</sup>

compound	cell lines ED <sub>50</sub> (μg/mL)		
	P-388	A549	HT-29
<b>1</b>	3.8	>50	>50
<b>2</b>	7.4	>50	>50
<b>3</b>	2.1	5.6	2.3
<b>4</b>	3.3	4.2	3.8
<b>5</b>	4.6	3.8	3.6
<b>6</b>	6.3	8.9	6.6

<sup>a</sup> For significant activity of pure compounds, an ED<sub>50</sub> value of ≤4.0 μg/mL is required. See Geran et al.<sup>23</sup>

(1*R*\*,3*S*\*,9*S*\*)-3-hydroxy-β-caryophyllene as demonstrated by formula **4**.

The isolated less polar compounds **5** and **6** were found to be identical with the known buddledins C and D, respectively, according to the previously published MS and <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data.<sup>10,16</sup>

The cytotoxicity of metabolites **1–6** against the growth of P-388, A549, and HT-29 cancer cells was studied, and the results are shown in Table 3. These data revealed that metabolites **1**, **3**, and **4** exhibited significant cytotoxicity against P-388 cancer cells. Compound **5** exhibited significant cytotoxicity toward A549 cancer cells. Compounds **3–5** were found to exhibit significant activity against the growth of HT-29 cells.

Although the caryophyllene-based sesquiterpenes are known to be widespread in terrestrial plants<sup>10,16–20</sup> and less frequently in higher fungi,<sup>21,22</sup> it is worthwhile to mention that this is the first report of the isolation of new sesquiterpenes of this type from marine organisms.

## Experimental Section

**General Experimental Procedures.** Optical rotations were measured on a Jasco DIP-1000 digital polarimeter. IR spectra were recorded on a Hitachi I-2001 infrared spectrophotometer. EIMS and FABMS were obtained with a VG Quattro GC/MS spectrometer. The NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AMX-300/5 FT-NMR at 300 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 75 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C or on a Varian Unity INOVA 500 FT-NMR at 500 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 125 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C, respectively, in CDCl<sub>3</sub> using TMS as internal standard. Si gel (Merck, 230–400 mesh) was used for column chromatography. Precoated Si gel plates (Merck, Kieselgel 60 F-254, 0.2 mm) were used for analytical TLC.

**Organism.** *Subergorgia suberosa* was collected by hand via scuba on the coast of Green Island, Taiwan, in July 1998, at a depth of 10–15 m, and stored in a freezer until extraction. A voucher sample was deposited at the Department of Marine Resources, Sun Yat-Sen University (specimen no. GIS-C-103).

**Extraction and Isolation.** The organism *S. suberosa* (1.4 kg, wet wt) was freeze-dried and then exhaustively extracted with EtOAc. The EtOAc extract was filtered and concentrated under vacuum to provide a brownish semisolid crude extract (24.8 g). The extract was subjected to column chromatography on Si gel 60. Elution was performed with EtOAc–*n*-hexane (stepwise, 0–100% EtOAc) to yield 18 fractions. Fraction 5 eluted with 5% EtOAc and was further chromatographed on Si gel 60 using a EtOAc–*n*-hexane gradient to yield **5** (6.0 mg) and **6** (25.5 mg). Fraction 6 eluted with 10% EtOAc was further chromatographed on Si gel 60 using a EtOAc–*n*-hexane (1:10 to 1:2) gradient to yield **1** (2.6 mg) and **2** (2.8 mg). Fraction 7 eluted with 20% EtOAc and was further chromatographed on Si gel 60 by HPLC using EtOAc–CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1:20) to yield **3** (3.1 mg) and **4** (2.8 mg).

**Suberosol A (1):** colorless oil; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> –17.4° (c 0.13, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat) ν<sub>max</sub> 3435, 1643, 1454, 1385, 1370, 1044 cm<sup>–1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz), see Tables 1 and 2, respectively; EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* 236 [1.0, (M)<sup>+</sup>], 221 [2.5, (M – Me)<sup>+</sup>], 218 [0.7, (M – H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>], 203 [1.6, (M –

Me – H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>], 185 [2.2, (M – Me – 2H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>]; HREIMS *m/z* 236.1776 (calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 236.1777).

**Suberosol B (2):** colorless oil; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> –10.7° (c 0.24, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat) ν<sub>max</sub> 3445, 1630, 1456, 1383, 1368, 1117, 1074, 1055 cm<sup>–1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz), see Tables 1 and 2, respectively; FABMS *m/z* 237 [0.6, (M + H)<sup>+</sup>], 219 [1.0, (M + H – H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>], 204 [0.6, (M + H – Me – H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>]; HRFABMS *m/z* 237.1855 (calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub> + H, 237.1856).

**Suberosol C (3):** colorless oil; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> –67.9° (c 0.14, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat) ν<sub>max</sub> 3433, 1633, 1456, 1385, 1370, 1044 cm<sup>–1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz), see Tables 1 and 2, respectively; EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* 220 [1.2, (M)<sup>+</sup>], 205 [4.1, (M – Me)<sup>+</sup>], 202 [3.1, (M – H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>], 187 [6.6, (M – Me – H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>]; HREIMS *m/z* 220.1821 (calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O, 220.1828).

**Suberosol D (4):** colorless oil; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> +2.5° (c 0.045, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat) ν<sub>max</sub> 3420, 1630, 1456, 1375, 1028 cm<sup>–1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz), see Tables 1 and 2, respectively; EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* 220 (0.8, [M]<sup>+</sup>), 205 [3.2, (M – Me)<sup>+</sup>], 202 [3.3, (M – H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>], 187 [4.5, (M – Me – H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>].

**Buddledin C (5):** colorless oil; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> –300° (c 1.28, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) (lit.,<sup>10</sup> –316°); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 6.32 (1H, ddd, *J* = 9.9, 8.0, 1.5 Hz, H-5), 4.95, 4.90 (2H, s, each, H-15), 2.95 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.5, 12.1 Hz, H-2), 2.64 (1H, dt, *J* = 12.0, 4.2 Hz, H-7), 2.44 (2H, m, H-6), 2.43 (1H, ddd, *J* = 10.4, 9.8, 8.3 Hz, H-9), 2.29 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.5, 1.6 Hz, H-2), 2.24 (1H, m, H-7), 1.83 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.4, 8.3 Hz, H-10), 1.65 (1H, m, H-1); 1.65 (3H, s, H-14), 1.57 (1H, t, *J* = 10.4 Hz, H-10), 1.01 (6H, s, H-12, 13); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 206.8 (C-3), 153.2 (C-8), 143.7 (C-5), 136.4 (C-4), 111.7 (C-15), 55.6 (C-1), 47.5 (C-9), 45.0 (C-2), 41.0 (C-7), 40.5 (C-10), 33.3 (C-11), 30.9 (C-6), 29.3 (C-12), 21.9 (C-13), 13.1 (C-14); EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* 218 [0.3, (M)<sup>+</sup>], 203 [0.4, (M – Me)<sup>+</sup>]. The above data were found to be in full agreement with those reported previously.<sup>10</sup>

**Buddledin D (6):** colorless oil; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> –152° (c 1.28, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) (lit.,<sup>10</sup> –164°); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 5.53 (1H, ddd, *J* = 12.1, 5.3, 1.4 Hz, H-5), 4.89, 4.83 (2H, s, each, H-15), 2.76 (1H, dd, *J* = 18.4, 10.9 Hz, H-2), 2.56 (1H, dd, *J* = 18.4, 1.7 Hz, H-2), 2.47 (1H, m, H-9), 2.46 (1H, m, H-6), 2.13 (1H, m, H-6), 2.32 (2H, m, H-7), 1.87 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.4, 3.2 Hz, H-10), 1.79 (1H, m, H-1), 1.79 (3H, m, H-14), 1.66 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.4, 8.0 Hz, H-10), 1.03 (3H, s, H-13), 1.01 (3H, s, H-12); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 209.3 (C-3), 151.0 (C-8), 137.4 (C-4), 132.4 (C-5), 110.1 (C-15), 50.2 (C-1), 46.0 (C-2), 42.6 (C-9), 38.0 (C-7), 36.7 (C-10), 34.0 (C-11), 29.8 (C-12), 27.0 (C-6), 22.5 (C-13), 20.8 (C-14); EIMS (70 eV) *m/z* 218 [1.0, (M)<sup>+</sup>], 203 [1.0, (M – Me)<sup>+</sup>]. The above data were found to be in full agreement with those reported previously.<sup>10</sup>

**Cytotoxicity Testing.** P-388 cells were kindly provided by Prof. J. M. Pezzuto, University of Illinois at Chicago. A549 and HT-29 cells were purchased from the American Type Culture collection. The cytotoxic activities of tested compounds against the above three cancer cells were assayed with a modification of the MTT [3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide] colorimetric methods.<sup>24</sup> Cytotoxicity assays were carried out according to the procedure described previously.<sup>25</sup>

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