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Amphilectane Diterpenes from Salvia sclarea: Biosynthetic ₂ Considerations

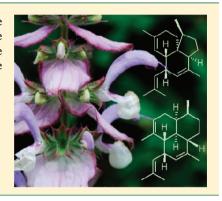
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- Supporting Information

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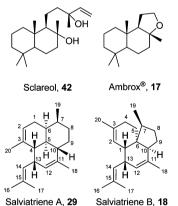
ABSTRACT: Salviatrienes A (29) and B (18), two new diterpenes belonging to the amphilectane/elisabethane family, have been isolated from an extract of clary sage (Salvia sclarea). These molecules are the first representatives of this family to be described from the plant kingdom. This study has led to consideration of the possible enzymatic machinery and biosynthesis pathways within S. sclarea.



15 Salvia sclarea (clary sage) is a biennial plant classified in the 16 Lamiaceae family. It has long been cultivated for the production of 17 a fragrant essential oil appreciated for its complex, tenacious, 18 herbaceous, sweaty, and amber odor. Recent studies have revealed 19 that clary sage essential oil (EO) and other solvent extracts are 20 active against a wide range of biological targets. 1-5 However, clary 21 sage is nowadays mainly cultivated for the extraction of sclareol 22 (42), a diterpene diol that mainly accumulates in the glandular 23 secretory trichomes of the flower calvces.⁶

Sclareol is of economic interest since it is used as a starting 25 product in the industrial synthesis of Ambrox (17), a basic 26 ingredient of most modern amber-based fragrances. ^{7,8} The high 27 demand for 42 has made its extraction from clary sage a crucial 28 issue for the flavor and fragrance industry. It is commonly 29 obtained by means of a two-step industrial process including a 30 hydrodistillation of the aerial parts followed by a solvent 31 extraction of the remaining plant material. An alternative 32 method such as the enzyme-mediated cyclization of (E,E,E)-33 geranylgeranyl diphosphate (43) using bioengineered terpene 34 synthases was tentatively applied, but with limited success. 35 With the aim of gathering information on diterpene 36 biosynthetic pathways in S. sclarea, we undertook the study of 37 the chemiodiversity of terpenes in clary sage flower extracts. 38 Salvia species and especially S. sclarea are known to provide 39 extracts where labdane derivatives, e.g., sclareol (42) and 40 manool (39), predominate over all other diterpenoids.

The high concentration of diterpenoids in the flower calyx 42 prompted us to investigate this particular part of the plant, where 43 compounds of interest are supposed to form. 6 GC-MS analyses of a calyx n-hexane extract led to the detection of several unknown 44 minor diterpenes co-occurring with the major labdane derivatives. 45 Two of these, salviatrienes A (29) and B (18), were isolated from 46 a folded essential oil (FEO) of S. sclarea that had previously been 47 assessed for their presence. Their structural analysis by means of 48



high-resolution NMR revealed carbon skeletons not previously 49 reported in the plant kingdom. 50 g

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Salvia sclarea Extracts Analysis. A full bloom stage calyx 52 n-hexane extract (CHE) was submitted to GC-MS analysis to 53

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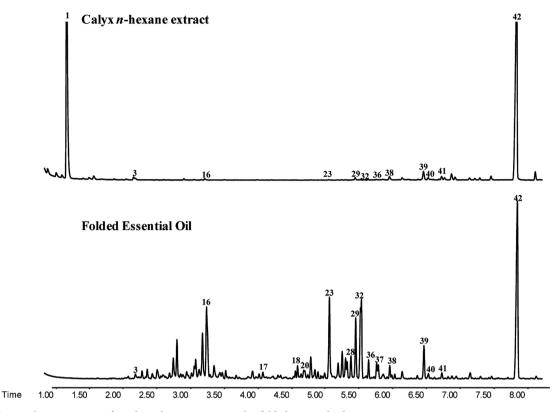


Figure 1. GC-FID chromatograms of a calyx n-hexane extract and a folded essential oil.

survey the volatile terpene chemiodiversity of living specimens of this plant tissue (Figure 1). The composition of our extract was similar to that described by Schmiderer et al. in 2008. However, more diterpenoid constituents were detected, and one in particular, salviatriene A (29), at retention index (R.I.) 1934 presented an unusual mass spectrum corresponding to a diterpene ($M^{+\bullet}$ 270 m/z). Other minor compounds that were identified such as $E_iE^-\alpha$ -farnesene (3), α -eudesmol (16), 13-62 epimanool oxide (38), manool (39), and 13-epimanool (40) have been described in previous studies. Only geranylgeraniol (41) has not previously been reported as a constituent of clary sage. Because of the limited amount of calyx extract, we searched for another clary sage extract in which the unknown salviatriene A (29) could also be found (Figure 1).

Accordingly, an approximately comparable diterpenoid distribution was determined in a folded clary sage essential oil from which most of the major volatile constituents had been distilled off. The chemical compositions of both CHE and FEO are given in Table 1 to compare the living plant extract composition (CHE) with the 20 times folded essential oil (FEO) and to be assured of the natural origin of salviatriene A (29).

Isolation and Structural Elucidation. FEO was submitted to column chromatography on silica gel and separated into six fractions of increasing polarity. GC-MS analysis of the apolar fraction permitted us to check for the presence of 29, along with several minor compounds (21, 22, 24–27, 34, 35) showing close similarities in their mass spectra. Two additional chromatographic separations on AgNO₃-impregnated silica gel (10% w/w) permitted the isolation of salviatriene A (29) and another minor constituent, salviatriene B (18), with sufficient purity (80% in GC-FID) for structural characterization, along with the known 2,6-dimethyl-10-p-tolyl-2,6(E)-undecadiene (32), whose structure was established according to literature

data. 19 These first two diterpenes were determined to represent 88 4.5% and 1.0% of the FEO, respectively. In spite of several 89 attempts with different chromatographic techniques, no other 90 diterpene derivative could be isolated with sufficient purity for 91 further characterization of this extract. However, the similarity 92 observed for all unknown mass spectra prompted us to consider 93 the presence of structurally close isomers highly possible. 94

Salviatriene A (29) was isolated as a colorless oil. Silver 95 cationization-mediated HRESIMS led to the molecular formula 96 $C_{20}H_{30}$ (m/z 377.1377 calculated for $C_{20}H_{30}Ag$, 377.1393, Δ 97 -4.2 ppm), which suggested six degrees of unsaturation. ¹H 98 and ¹³C NMR spectra of 29, presented in Table 2, associated 99 with COSY and HSQC experiments revealed the presence of a 100 prenyl unit, as suggested by the signals at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.68 (3H, s, H-16) 101 and 1.70 (3H, s, H-17) for the methyl groups, at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.17 (1H, s, 102 H-14) for the olefinic proton, and at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 129.5 for the 103 quaternary carbon (C-15). Two additional isoprenyl patterns 104 were deduced from the methyl resonances at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.60 (3H, s, 105 H-18) and 1.71 (3H, s, H-20), their respective olefinic protons 106 at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.18 (1H, s, H-2) and 5.32 (1H, s, H-10), and the 107 quaternary carbons at δ_C 134.9 and 136.2. The three remaining 108 unsaturations suggested a tricyclic diterpene, but the presence 109 of a prenyl group instead of the expected gem-dimethyl group 110 prevented us from assigning a usual labdane skeleton. COSY 111 correlations shed light on four different parts of the structure, as 112 shown in Figure 2a. Additionally, specific long-range ⁴J and ⁵J 113 $^{1}\mathrm{H}\mathrm{-}^{1}\mathrm{H}$ couplings transiting via the double-bond π -orbitals were $_{114}$ useful to trace the quaternary carbons, as illustrated by the 115 COSY correlations H-2/H-4, H-2/H-20, H-13/H-18, and 116

Finally, HMBC correlations presented in Figure 2a led us to 118 establish the structure of **29** as a new tricyclic diterpene, similar 119 to the well-known marine pseudopterosins, ²⁰ elisabatins, ²¹ 120 sinulobatins, ²² and isocyanoditerpene amphilectanes. ²³ 121

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Table 1. Chemical Volatile Composition of a Calyx n-Hexane Extract (CHE) and a Folded Essential Oil (FEO) Determined by GC-TIC Analysis

no.	R.I.a	R.I. lit.i	ref^i	compound name	СНЕ	FEO (% area) ^b	no.	R.I.a	R.I. lit.	ref ⁱ	compound name	СНЕ	FEO (% area) ^b
1	1253	1254	12	linalyl acetate ^h	d^c		21	1856			unknown D ^e		1.6
2	1502	1507	13	γ-cadinene		0.6	22	1860			unknown E ^e		0.4
3	1510	1505	12	α -farnesene $(E,E)^h$	d^c	0.2	23	1873	1876	18	sclareol oxideh	d^c	5.2
5	1516	1520	12	<i>cis</i> -dihydroagarofuran ^h		0.3	24	1881			unknown F ^e		0.5
4	1521	1520	13	δ -cadinene h		0.2	25	1906			unknown G ^e		0.5
6	1525	1511	12	δ -amorphene		0.6	26	1916			unknown H ^e		3.2
7	1540	1533	MS: 14	12-nor-caryophyll-5-en-		0.5	27	1924			unknown I ^e		1.7
			R.I.: 15	2-one ^h			28	1927	1922	18	β -springene		1.1
8	1550	1548	12	elemol		0.2	29	1934			salviatriene A ^d	d^c	4.2
9	1567	1565	MS: 14 R.I.: 16	1,5-epoxysalvial-4(14)- ene ^h		0.3	30	1939			unknown J ^e		0.3
10	1579	1577	12	spathulenol ^h		1.2	31	1950			unknown K ^f		2.7
11	1584	1582	12	caryophyllene oxide ^h		2.6	32	1953	1945	R.I.: 2	2,6-dimethyl-10-p-tolyl-	d^c	6.1
12	1594	1594	12	salvial-4(14)-en-1-one ^h		0.3				NMR: 19	$2,6(E)$ -undecadiene $^{\mathcal{A},h}$		
13	1625	1636	MS: 14	(E)-caryophyllen-12-al ^{h}		1.6	33	1965		1)	unknown \mathbf{L}^f		1.0
13	1023	1030	R.I.: 15	(L) caryophynen 12 ar		1.0	34	1969			unknown M ^e		0.3
14	1641	1649	MS: 14	(E)-9-epicaryophyllen-		2.9	35	1973			unknown N ^e		0.2
			R.I.: 17	12-al ^h			36	1980	1987	12	manool oxide ^h	d^c	1.5
15	1649	1649	12	β -eudesmol ^h		4.3	37	1982	1987	12	geranyllinalool ^h	· ·	0.9
16	1652	1652	12	α -eudesmol h	d	2.3	38	2000	2009	12	13-epimanool oxide ^h	d^c	0.4
17	1748	1756	12	Ambrox (or ambroxide)		0.3	39	2047		12	manool ^h	d^c	2.1
18	1831			salviatriene B^d		1.2	40	2056	2059	12	13-epimanool ^h	d^c	0.3
19	1842			unknown C ^e		0.8	41	2060	2192 ^g	18 ^g	geranylgeraniol isomer	d^c	0.2
20	1846	1838	18	6,10,14-trimethyl-		0.6	42	2216	2222	12	sclareol ^h	d^c	19.9
				pentadecan-2-one			42	2210	2222	14	Sciarcoi	u	17.7

"R.I.: retention index determined on HP-5 column using a homologous series of n-alkanes. "% area: relative percentage of volatile compounds obtained from TIC peak area. "d = presence detected. "Compounds identified by means of MS and NMR; spectra available as Supporting Information. "Diterperne M+•, 270 m/z. "Diterperne M+•, 272 m/z (mass spectra of unknown compounds are given as Supporting Information). "R.I. lit. given for (E,E,E)-geranylgeraniol. "Already found in Salvia sclarea." R.I. lit: published retention index; ref: published reference listing R.I. MS and NMR data.

122 Previously isolated from marine sponges, octocorals, and soft 123 corals, this type of diterpene is described here for the first time as 124 a naturally occurring compound from the terrestrial environment. 125 The relative configuration of 29 was established via NOESY 126 experiments (Figure 2b and c) and MM2 minimizing energy 127 modeling. The consecutive correlations between the methyl 128 protons at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.08 (1H, s, H-19), the methine protons at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.90 129 (1H, m, H-10), 2.05 (1H, m, H-4), and 3.20 (1H, dd, *J* = 9.1, 5.9 130 Hz, H-13) were in accordance with a cis-configuration of H-4, H-131 10, H-13, and Me-19. The correlations between the olefinic 132 proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.17 (1H, s, H-14) and the methine proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 133 1.92 (1H, s, H-5) asserted a trans-configuration between H-13 134 and H-5. Morevover the cis-configuration of H-5 and H-6 is 135 confirmed by their NOESY correlation. Compared to the marine 136 amphilectane coumpounds, the C-6 configuration is different in salviatriene A (29). The unambiguous NOESY correlation 138 between Me-19 and H-10 clearly indicates a "boat-like" 139 conformation of the cyclohexane moiety, consistent with the 140 cis-configuration between H-5 and H-6. A H-5/H-6 trans-141 configuration would prevent this conformation. Distance 142 calculations performed with respect to an H-5/H-6 cis-143 configuration placed the Me-19 at 2.1 Å from H-10, which is in 144 accordance with their NOESY correlation. In contrast, 145 calculations with a H-5/H-6 trans-configuration place the 146 Me-19 4.5 Å away from H-10, which would prevent any 147 NOESY correlation. Hopefully, these configurations will be 148 confirmed by X-ray spectroscopy when a crystal of salviatriene 149 A (29) can be obtained.

Salviatriene B (18) was isolated as a colorless oil, and its 150 molecular formula was determined as C₂₀H₃₀ (m/z 377.1395 151 calcd for $C_{20}H_{30}Ag$, 377.1393, Δ 0.5 ppm) by HRESIMS, 152 identical to 29. ¹H and ¹³C NMR analyses (Table 2) combined 153 with HSQC and COSY experiments revealed the presence of 154 the same prenyl group and isoprenyl patterns, which prompted 155 us to assume some structural similarities with 29. A closer look 156 at ¹H-¹H COSY and HMBC correlations (Figure 2d) allowed 157 us to elucidate two main parts of the structure: Cq-15/CH-14/ 158 CH-13/CH-12/Cq-11/Me-18 and CH-10/CH₂-9/CH₂-8/CH- 159 7/Me-19. A third part of the molecule starting from Me-20 to 160 CH-1 was established via long-range ¹H-¹H COSY correlations ₁₆₁ between these two hydrogen groups. Further NMR analysis 162 based on additional HMBC correlations indicated the spirane- 163 type structure presented in Figure 2d. As mentioned above for 164 29, this type of diterpene has not previously been detected in any 165 terrestrial source but is closely related to elisabethin A, a naturally 166 occurring compound isolated from some marine invertebrates 167 and the founding member of the elisabethane family.²⁴ The 168 relative configuration of 18 was determined via NOESY 169 correlations shown in Figure 2e and f. Me-19 correlated with 170 both H-13 and H-1, which suggested a cis-configuration. These 171 last correlations not only confirmed the configuration of the C-6 172 quaternary spiro-carbon, but also that of C-10, via the correlation 173 observed between H-10 and H-4. Such relative configurations 174 usually occur in α -acoradiene sesquiterpene derivatives.²

The two new diterpenes were assessed for biological activity 176 as antioxidant (DPPH assay) and in vitro tumor cell growth 177

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Table 2. ¹H and ¹³C NMR Data for Salviatrienes A (29) and B (18) (CDCl₃, 500 MHz)

- () (3))								
		sal	viatriene A (1)	salviatriene B (2)				
	no.	$\delta_{ m C}$	$\delta_{ m H}$ (J in Hz)	$\delta_{ m C}$	$\delta_{ m H}$ (J in Hz)			
	1	29.0, CH ₂	2.1, dd (15.3, 15.1)	40.1, CH	2.29, m			
			1.96, d (18.0)					
	2	122.1, CH	5.32, s	123.4, CH	5.20, s			
	3	134.9, C		139.9, C				
	4	43.9, CH	2.05, m	36.9, CH ₂	1.64, m			
					1.42, ddd (13.3, 6.4, 2.4)			
	5	32.9, CH	1.92, s	29.0, CH ₂	2.04, m			
					1.84, dd (17.8, 6.0)			
	6	39.9, CH	1.68, m	44.3, C				
	7	32.6, CH	1.66, m	48.1, CH	1.72, m			
	8	28.2, CH ₂	1.84, m	35.2, CH ₂	1.67, m			
			1.4, d (13.7)		1.20, dd (12.4, 5.5)			
	9	25.2, CH ₂	1.77, m	31.3, CH ₂	1.76, m			
			1.12, tdd (12.8, 12.4, 3.7)		1.56, m			
	10	34.4, CH	1.9, m	46.9, CH	2.11, d (8.4)			
	11	136.2, C		133.7, C				
	12	123.5, CH	5.18, s	123.6, CH	5.03, s			
	13	35.1, CH	3.2, dd (9.1, 5.9)	36.4, CH	3.05, m			
	14	130.0, CH	5.17, s	128.4, CH	5.22, ddt (9.2, 2.8, 1.5)			
	15	129.5, C		131.6, Cq				
	16	17.9, CH ₃	1.68, s	18.5, CH ₃	1.66, s			
	17	26.0, CH ₃	1.70, s	26.3, CH ₃	1.74, s			
	18	21.1, CH ₃	1.6, s	22.8, CH ₃	1.65, s			
	19	19.6, CH ₃	1.08, d (7.3)	15.3, CH ₃	1.08, d (6.9)			
	20	21.8, CH ₃	1.71, s	23.7, CH ₃	1.61, s			

178 inhibitor (MTT colorimetric assay). No antioxidant and 179 cytotoxic activities were observed.

Biosynthetic Considerations. The differences in structure and stereochemistry between 29 and 18 led us to consider the biosynthesis of these compounds in more detail. Indeed, the position of Me-20 and the relative configuration of C-10 did not indicate some direct biosynthetic link between 29 and 18 such as a Wagner—Meerwein rearrangement. Nevertheless, the occurrence of both amphilectane- and elisabethane-like diterpenes in the same plant is not surprising because both families were originally described in the same marine organism, the octooral *Pseudopterogorgia elabethae*. ^{24,26}

Pseudopterosins are the prominent members of the large marine diterpenoid family of amphilectanes. Because of their potent anti-inflammatory, anticancer, and antidermatis activies, several research groups have undertaken the detailed investigation of their biosynthetic pathways. Through radio-labeling studies, the bicyclic diterpene elisabethatriene was identified as the first biosynthetic intermediate and product of a type I diterpene cyclase, which was later purified and biochemically characterized. Subsequently, Kerr et al.

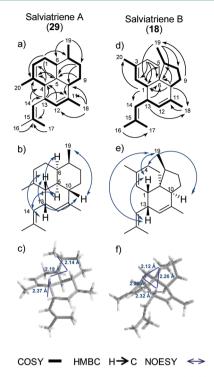


Figure 2. Structures determined for salviatriene A (29) and B (18). (a) Key COSY and HMBC correlations and key NOESY correlations, (b) in planar, and (c) in 3D minimized energy structures.

demonstrated that elisabethatriene (44) first undergoes half a $_{199}$ romatization, hydroxylation, and glycosylation of its bicyclic $_{200}$ structure before being subjected to differential dehydrogenation $_{201}$ of its isoheptenyl side chain to yield E or Z amphilectosines, $_{202}$ which are respectively at the origin of the cis- and trans-isomers $_{203}$ of tricyclic pseudopterosins (Figure 3). $^{28-30}$

Figure 3. Biosynthetic pathway reported for the formation of pseudopterosins from (E,E,E)-GGPP.

The identification of 29 as a nonaromatic tricyclic 205 amphilectane diterpenoid demonstrates that a different 206 biosynthetic pathway is active in clary sage. In view of the 207 long evolutionary history that separates clary sage from the 208 dinoflagellate microorganisms that are responsible for pseudo- 209 terosin biosynthesis in gorgonian coral, it is indeed possible that 210 amphilectanes biosynthesis might be the result of two 211

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Figure 4. Proposed mechanism for the biosynthesis of salviatrienes A (29) and B (18).

212 independent evolutionary events. Nevertheless, the most 213 realistic hypothesis suggests that both 18 and 29 also derive 214 from the first action of a class I diterpene synthase enzyme on (E,E,E)-GGPP (43) followed by an enzyme-linked oxidation 216 process (Figure 4). As part of the catalytic process, the terpene 217 synthase would generate a bisabolyl-like intermediate (45) after 218 removal of the pyrophosphate moiety. Intermediate 45 would 219 then undergo a planar hydride shift from C-1 to C-7 to give 46, 220 the last shared intermediate of diterpenes 18 and 29. From a stereochemical point of view, the critical step in the biosynthetic 222 pathway of 29 is the formation of the cis-fused bicyclic structure in 223 47. This could be reasonably obtained by the attack of the C-10/ 224 C-11 double bond on the C-1 carbocation. An alternative route 225 involving a germacrene-like intermediate, as described for 226 muurolene derivatives, is somewhat unlikely owing to the position 227 of the double bond in 47.31 Concerning salviatriene B (18), the 228 stabilization of the C-1 carbocation through the removal of a C-6 229 proton would generate the cyclohexadiene ring of 48, which could 230 be protonated to yield carbocationic cyclohexadiene 49. The next 231 step in the formation of 18 could involve the direct attack of the 232 C-10/C-11 double bond on the C-6 carbocation to yield 50, in 233 accordance with an acorane-like spirocyclization (Figure 4).³¹ These 234 early steps of the biosynthetic pathway are supported by the presence of 2,6-dimethyl-10-p-tolyl-2,6(E)-undecadiene (32) in our 236 extracts, which corresponded to the oxidative aromatization of 48. 237 It is indeed common for diterpene synthases to deroute carbon 238 fluxes at different carbocationic intermediates during their catalytic 239 process to generate multiple products.³² Despite our efforts, no 240 additional clary sage diterpene was unveiled to permit an educated 241 guess about the mechanism of the third cyclization step. 242 Nevetheless, the presence of three double bonds in both 18 and 243 29 suggests that these last steps involve an oxidizing enzyme.

Because of the similarities between the labdane diterpenes 245 sclareol 42 and manool 39 with (-)-ent-copalyl diphosphate, 246 the first intermediate in phytohormone gibberellins biosyn-247 thesis, their formation should follow a similar biosynthetic route and involves the early action of a class II diterpene synthase. 248 This suggests that at least two separate diterpene biosynthetic 249 pathways are active in clary sage. 33 250

The recent deep sequencing (454-pyrosequencing) of a clary 251 sage calyx gene expression (expressed sequence tag) library has 252 revealed that at least eight terpene synthase unigenes are active 253 in this tissue.³⁴ It is expected that the future functional analysis 254 of these diterpene synthase genes will shed light on diterpene 255 biosynthetic pathways in clary sage flowers. 256

257

■ EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Experimental Procedures. Optical rotations were 258 measured in CH₂Cl₂ on a Jasco P-2000 polarimeter. 1 H and 13 C NMR 259 spectra were recorded with a 500 MHz Bruker Avance NMR 260 spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) are expressed in ppm using CDCl₃ 261 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.26 and $\delta_{\rm C}$ 77.16) and acetone- $d_{\rm 6}$ ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.05 and $\delta_{\rm C}$ 29.84) as internal 262 references. HRMS data were recorded on a QTOF spectrometer QStar 263 Elite (Applied Biosystems SCIEX) with atmospheric pressure ionization. 264

Plant Material, Calyx *n*-Hexane Extract, and Folded Essential 265 Oil. S. sclarea plants (VS2 cultivar) were field-grown on the Plateau de 266 Valensole, in the Département des Alpes de Haute Provence, France, 267 at an altitude of 580 m under local agronomic practices. Calyces were 268 collected directly in the fields at full bloom stage, corresponding to 269 the higher content of sclareol. Oalyces (300 mg) were extracted with 270 2 mL of *n*-hexane. The essential oil was concentrated by vacuum 271 distillation to get rid of 95% w/w of the volatile constituents. The 272 distillation residue, 5% w/w of the starting oil, is a 20-fold essential oil, 273 called here folded essential oil, and was provided by Bontoux SA.

GC and GC-MS. CHE, FEO, and column chromatography 275 fractions were analyzed by GC using an Agilent 6890N system 276 equipped with an Equity-5 column (15 m × 0.1 mm; film thickness, 277 0.1 μm) and operated using the following conditions: carrier gas, 278 hydrogen; constant flow, 0.4 mL/min; injector and detector 279 temperatures, 250 °C; injected volume, 1 μL; split ratio, 1:100. The 280 GC oven temperature was set to 150 °C and increased to 250 °C at a 281 rate of 10 °C/min. GC-MS analyses were carried out using an Agilent 282 6890N/5973N system equipped with an HP5 column (30 m × 283 0.25 mm; film thickness, 0.25 μm) and operated using the following 284

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285 conditions: carrier gas, helium; constant flow, 1 mL/min; injector 286 temperature, 250 °C injected volume, 0.5 μ L; split ratio, 1:100. The 287 GC oven temperature was set to 110 °C and increased to 200 °C at a 288 rate of 2 °C/min, then increased to 250 °C at a rate of 10 °C/min. 289 Transfer line temperature: 270 °C. EIMS data were obtained at 70 eV 290 over a 35–350 amu range.

Isolation of Salviatrienes A (29) and B (18). The FEO (5 g) was 292 first submitted to silica gel column chromatography (100 g) and 293 separated into six fractions of increasing polarity (from light petroleum 294 to $\rm Et_2O$, 600 mL of each solvent system). The apolar fraction (1.42 g) 295 eluted with 100% light petroleum (40–60 °C grade) contained 13.5% 296 and 1.8% of salviatrienes A (29) and B (18), respectively. Two 297 additional column chromatographies on AgNO₃-impregnated silica gel 298 (10% w/w) using gradient mixtures of light petroleum— $\rm Et_2O$ (from 299 light petroleum to light petroleum— $\rm Et_2O$, 95:5) afforded compounds 300 (29) (12 mg) and 18 (7 mg) as colorless oils sufficiently pure for 301 structural characterization.

302 Salviatriene A (**29**): colorless oil; $[\alpha]^{20}_{D}$ +35 (c 0.9, CH₂Cl₂); IR 303 (KBr) ν_{max} 2953, 2929, 2876, 1715, 1455, 1376, 1185, 1068, 1035, 961 304 cm⁻¹; ¹H and ¹³C NMR, see Table 2; HRESIMS m/z 377.1377 (calcd 305 for C₂₀H₃₀Ag, 377.1393, Δ -4.2 ppm).

306 Salviatriene B (18): colorless oil; $[\alpha]^{20}_{\rm D}$ +5 (c 0.5, CH₂Cl₂); IR 307 (KBr) $\nu_{\rm max}$ 2956, 2933, 2876, 1715, 1454, 1376, 1261, 1185, 1060, 308 1035, 956 cm⁻¹; $^{1}{\rm H}$ and $^{13}{\rm C}$ NMR, see Table 2; HRESIMS m/z 309 377.1395 (calcd for ${\rm C}_{20}{\rm H}_{30}{\rm Ag}$, 377.1393, Δ 0.5 ppm).

310 ASSOCIATED CONTENT

311 S Supporting Information

312 HRESIMS, EIMS, and NMR spectra of compounds 18 and 29 313 are included in a supplementary file. The MS of unknown 314 diterpenes and the ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 32 are also 315 available. This material is available free of charge via the 316 Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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