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Supplementary material

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## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL TO Synthesis and bioactivity of *erythro*-nordihydroguaiaretic acid, *threo*-(–)-saururenin and their analogues

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## SPECTROSCOPIC DATA OF THE SYNTHESIZED COMPOUNDS

Diethyl 2-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzylidene)succinate (**2a**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 1.22 (3H, *t*, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.29 (3H, *t*, *J* = 7.3 Hz,), 3.51 (2H, *s*), 4.16 (2H, *q*, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 4.27 (2H, *q*, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 5.96 (2H, *s*), 6.76–6.87 (3H, *m*), 7.76 (1H, *s*). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 306 (M<sup>+</sup>, 70), 261 (20), 232 (34), 203 (52), 175 (59), 159 (100).

Diethyl 2-(3,4-dimethoxybenzylidene)succinate (**2b**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 1.33 (3H, *t*, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.26 (3H, *t*, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 3.58 (2H, *s*), 3.87 (3H, *s*), 3.90 (3H, *s*), 4.21 (2H, *q*, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 4.27 (2H, *q*, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 6.86–7.00 (3H, *m*), 7.84 (1H, *s*). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 322 (M<sup>+</sup>, 42), 276 (14), 249 (16), 175 (100).

Diethyl 2-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)-3-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzylidene)succinate (3a). m.p. 58–59 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 1.26 (3H, *t*, *J* = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.34 (3H, *t*, *J* = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.85 (1H, *dd*, *J* = 10.0, 14.2 Hz, H-7"  $\alpha$ ), 3.34 (1H, *dd*, *J* = 5.0, 14.2 Hz, H-7"  $\beta$ ), 3.98 (1H, *dd*, *J* = 5.0, 10.0 Hz, H-3), 4.15–4.32 (4H, *m*, 2×CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.88 (2H, *s*, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 5.97 (2H, *s*, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.35–6.73 (6H, *m*, ArH), 7.66 (1H, *s*, H-7"). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 14.4 (2×CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 36.0 (C-3), 45.8 (C-7"), 61.2 (2×OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 100.9 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 101.4 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 108.1 (C-5"), 108.4 (C-5"), 108.7 (C-2"), 109.7 (C-2"), 122.4 (C-6'), 122.7 (C-6"), 129.3 (C-1'), 130.1 (C-1"), 133.2 (C-2), 142.5 (C-7"), 146.1(C-4"), 147.5 (C-4"), 147.8 (C-3", C-3"), 166.9 (C=O), 172.9 (C=O). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 440 (M<sup>+</sup>, 4), 395 (1), 306 (5), 231 (40), 137 (100); HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (M+H<sup>+</sup>): 441.1544. Found: 441.1538.

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Diethyl 2-(3,4-dimethoxybenzylidene)-3-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)succinate (**3b**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 1.26 (3H, t, J = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.35 (3H, t, J = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.91 (1H, dd, J = 9.8, 14.2 Hz, H-7"  $\alpha$ ), 3.34 (1H, dd, J = 5.0, 14.2 Hz, H-7"  $\beta$ ), 3.78 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.88 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.10 (1H, dd, J = 5.0, 9.8 Hz, H-3), 4.18 (2H, q, J = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.30 (2H, q, J = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.85 (2H, s, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.35–6.80 (6H, m, ArH), 7.71 (1H, s, H-7'). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 14.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 35.7 (C--3), 45.5 (C-7''), 55.7 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 60.9 (2 × CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 100.7 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 107.7 (C-5'), 109.4 (C-5''), 110.7 (C-2'), 111.4 (C-2''), 121.1 (C-6'), 122.0 (C-6''), 127.9 (C-1'), 129.5 (C-1''), 132.9 (C-2), 142.3 (C-7'), 145.7 (C-4'), 147.2 (C-4''), 148.6 (C-3'), 149.1 (C-3''), 166.7 (C=O), 172.7 (C=O). EI-MS (m/z, %): 456 (M<sup>+</sup>, 3), 411 (1), 382 (1), 322 (4), 247 (51), 137 (100). HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>29</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (M+H<sup>+</sup>): 457.1857. Found: 457.1856.

(-)-2-(3,4-Methylenedioxybenzyl)-3-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzylidene)succinic acid (4a). M.p. 98–99 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.85 (1H, dd, J = 10.2, 13.8 Hz, H-7'' $\alpha$ ), 3.25 (1H, dd, J = 4.4, 13.8 Hz, H-7'' $\beta$ ), 3.93 (1H, dd, J = 4.4, 10.2 Hz, H-3), 5.92 (2H, s, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.04 (2H, s, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.37–6.90 (6H, m, ArH), 7.53 (1H, s, H-7'). EI-MS (m/z, %): 384 (M<sup>+</sup>, 1), 366 (1), 244 (1), 203 (3), 159 (2), 135 (100). [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = –95.3 (c 1.0, EtOH).

(+)-2-(3,4-Methylenedioxybenzyl)-3-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzylidene)succinic acid (4a'). M.p. 96–97 °C.  $[\alpha]_D^{16} = +94.8$  (c 0.8, EtOH). The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, IR and MS data of 4a' were in agreement with those of 4a.

(-)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxybenzylidene)-3-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)succinic acid (**4b**). M.p. 159–160 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.83 (1H, dd, J = 10.2, 14.0 Hz, H-7'' $\alpha$ ), 3.18 (1H, dd, J = 4.8, 14.0 Hz, H-7'' $\beta$ ), 3.64 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.95 (1H, dd, J = 4.8, 10.2 Hz, H-3), 5.87 (2H, d, J = 8.2 Hz, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.35–6.89 (6H, m, ArH), 7.52 (1H, s, H-7'). EI-MS (m/z, %): 400 (M<sup>+</sup>, 1), 382 (17), 260 (5), 219 (12), 175 (26), 135 (100); HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (M+H<sup>+</sup>): 401.1231. Found: 401.1239. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = -143.2 (*c* 0.7, EtOH).

(+)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxybenzylidene)-3-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)succinic acid (4b'). M.p. 89–91 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{16} = +142.6$  (c 0.6, EtOH). The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, IR and MS of 4b' were in agreement with those of 4b.

(-)-Diethyl 2-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)-3-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzylidene)succinate (5a).  $[\alpha]_D{}^{16} = -68.4$  (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, IR, MS and HRMS data of 5a were in agreement with those of 3a.

(-)-Diethyl 2-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)-3-(3,4-dimethoxybenzylidene)succinate (**5b**).  $[\alpha]_D^{16} = -170.1$  (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, IR, MS and HRMS data of **5b** were in agreement with those of **3b**.

(-)-*Dihydrocubebin* (*6a*). M.p. 112–113 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ / / ppm): 1.80–1.84 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.55–2.81 (4H, m, 2×ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.48 (2H, d,

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*J* = 11.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 3.72 (2H, *s*, 2×OH), 3.74 (2H, *d*, *J* = 11.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 5.91 (4H, *s*, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.58–6.73 (6H, *m*, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 35.8 (C-2, C-3), 44.2 (C-7', C-7''), 59.9 (C-1, C-4), 100.7 (2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 108.1 (C-5', C-5''), 109.2 (C-2', C-2''), 121.8 (C-6', C-6''), 134.3 (C-1', C-1''), 145.6 (C-4', C-4''), 147.5 (C-3', C-3''). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 358 (M<sup>+</sup>, 2), 340 (0.1), 204 (0.3), 161 (3), 135 (100); HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> (M+NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>): 376.1755. Found: 376.1760. [ $\alpha$ ]D<sup>16</sup> = -41.9 (*c* 0.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The spectral data are in agreement with the literature.<sup>22</sup>

(2R,3R)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxybenzyl)-3-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)-1,4-butanediol (**6b**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 1.85–1.87 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.60–2.80 (4H, m, 2×H-7', 2×H-7''), 3.50 (2H, d, J = 11.6 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 3.56 (2H, s, 2×OH), 3.80 (2H, d, J = 11.6 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 3.82 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.84 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.90 (2H, s, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.57–6.80 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 35.7 (C-2), 35.9 (C-3), 43.9 (C-7'), 44.1 (C-7''), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.9 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 60.2 (C-1), 60.3 (C-4), 100.7 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 108.0 (C-5'), 109.3 (C-5''), 111.2 (C-2'), 112.1 (C-2''), 121.0 (C-6'), 121.8 (C-6''), 133.1 (C-1'), 134.3 (C-1''), 145.7 (C-4'), 147.3 (C-4''), 147.5 (C-3'), 148.8 (C-3''). EI--MS (m/z, %): 374 (M<sup>+</sup>, 4), 356 (0.4), 220 (3), 203 (3), 151 (100). HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> (M+NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>): 392.2068. Found: 392.2063. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = -36.8 (*c* 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The spectral data are in agreement with the literature.<sup>23</sup>

meso-2,3-Bis(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)butane-1,4-diol (7a). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 1.99–2.05 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.49–2.63 (4H, m, 2×ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.45–3.61 (4H, m, 2×CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 3.71 (2H, s, 2×OH), 5.92 (4H, s, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.61–6.76 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 33.4 (C-2, C-3), 45.2 (C-7', C-7''), 62.9 (C-1, C-4), 100.8 (2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 108.1 (C-5', C-5''), 109.2 (C-2', C-2''), 121.8 (C-6', C-6''), 134.1 (C-1', C-1''), 145.8 (C-4', C-4''), 147.6 (C-3', C-3''). EI-MS (m/z, %): 358 (M<sup>+</sup>, 3), 340 (0.3), 204 (0.8), 161 (4), 135 (100); HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> (M+NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>): 376.1755. Found: 376.1760.

(2R,3S)-2-(3,4-Dimethoxybenzyl)-3-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)-1,4-butanediol (7b). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 1.84–1.86 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.56–2.82 (4H, m, 2×H-7', 2×H-7''), 3.50 (2H, d, J = 11.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 3.75 (2H, d, J = 11.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 3.81 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.83 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.95 (2H, s, 2×OH), 5.89 (2H, s, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.56–6.78 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 33.1 (C-2), 33.4 (C-3), 45.0 (C-7'), 45.2 (C-7''), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.9 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 62.9 (C-1), 63.0 (C-4), 100.8 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 108.1 (C-5'), 109.3 (C-5''), 111.2 (C-2'), 112.1 (C-2''), 121.0 (C-6'), 121.8 (C-6''), 133.0 (C--1'), 134.2 (C-1''), 145.8 (C-4'), 147.3 (C-4''), 147.6 (C-3'), 148.8 (C-3''). EI--MS (*m*/*z*, %): 374 (M<sup>+</sup>, 4.7), 356 (0.23), 220 (1.8), 203 (2.5), 151 (100). HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> (M+NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>): 392.2068. Found: 392.2063. [*a*]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = -1.7 (*c* 0.3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The spectral data were in agreement with the literature.<sup>24</sup>

(-)-*Dehydroxycubebin* (*8a*). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.07– -2.18 (2H, *m*, H-3, H-4), 2.42–2.59 (4H, *m*, 2×ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.49 (2H, *dd*, *J* = 5.8, 8.6 Hz, 2×H-2), 3.89 (2H, *dd*, *J* = 6.8, 8.8 Hz, 2×H-5), 5.91 (4H, *s*, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.51–6.75 (6H, *m*, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 39.1 (C-3, C-4), 46.4 (C-7', C-7''), 73.2 (C-2, C-5), 100.7 (2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 107.9 (C-5', C-5''), 108.9 (C-2', C-2''), 121.4 (C-6', C-6''), 134.0 (C-1', C-1''), 145.7 (C-4', C-4''), 147.5 (C-3', C-3''). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 340 (M<sup>+</sup>, 11), 204 (2), 187 (3), 161 (2), 136 (100). [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = –54.2 (*c* 0.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

(-)-5-{[(3R,4R)-4-(3,4-Dimethoxybenzyl)-tetrahydro-3-furanyl]methyl}-1,3--benzodioxole (**8b**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.15–2.18 (2H, m, H-3, H-4), 2.45–2.59 (4H, m, 2 × ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.46–3.54 (2H, m, 2 × H-2), 3.84 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.85 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.89–3.93 (2H, m, 2×H-5), 5.91 (2H, s, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.51–6.78 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 39.0 (C-3), 39.1 (C-4), 46.5 (C-7'), 46.6 (C-7''), 55.7 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 73.2 (C-2), 73.3 (C-5), 100.8 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 108.0 (C-5'), 108.9 (C-5''), 111.1 (C-2'), 111.8 (C-2'), 120.5 (C-6'), 121.4 (C-6''), 132.9 (C-1'), 134.1 (C-1''), 145.8 (C-4'), 147.4 (C-4''), 147.6 (C-3'), 148.8 (C-3''). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 356 (M<sup>+</sup>, 15), 220 (3), 177 (6), 151 (100). HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (M+H<sup>+</sup>): 357.1697. Found: 357.1701. [*a*]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = -104.7 (*c* 0.6, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

(+)-5.5'-[(2R,3R)-2,3-Bis(methoxymethyl)-1,4-butanediyl]bis(1,3-dioxole) (**9a**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.00–2.03 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.52–2.69 (4H, m, 2×ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.28 (10H, s, 2×OCH<sub>3</sub>, 2×H-1, 2×H-4), 5.92 (4H, s, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.55–6.71 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 35.1 (C-2, C-3), 41.2 (C-7', C-7''), 58.9 (C-7', C-7''), 72.7 (C-1, C-4), 100.9 (2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 108.2 (C-5', C-5''), 109.7 (C-2', C-2''), 122.1 (C-6', C-6''), 135.1 (C-1', C-1''), 145.8 (C-4', C-4''), 147.7 (C-3', C-3''). EI-MS (m/z, %): 386 (M<sup>+</sup>, 5), 354 (7), 218 (9), 187 (19), 161 (8), 135 (100). [ $\alpha$ ]D<sup>16</sup> +12.3 (c 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

(+)-5-[(2-(2R,3R)-4-(3,4-Dimethoxybenzyl)-2,3-bis(methoxymethyl)-butyl]--1,3-benzodioxole (**9b**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.00–2.03 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.61–2.64 (4H, m, 2×ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.29 (10H, s, 2×OCH<sub>3</sub>, 2×H-1, 2×H-4), 3.82 (3H, s, ArOCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.86 (3H, s, ArOCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.92 (2H, s, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.55–6.78 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 34.8 (C-2), 34.9 (C-3), 40.7 (C-7'), 40.9 (C-7''), 55.7 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.9 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 58.7 (ArOCH<sub>3</sub>), 58.8 (ArOCH<sub>3</sub>), 72.4 (C-1), 72.6 (C-4), 100.7 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 107.9 (C-5'), 109.4 (C-5''), 110.9 (C-2'), 111.9 (C-2'), 121.1 (C-6'), 121.9 (C-6''), 133.5 (C-1'), 134.9 (C--1''), 145.5 (C-4'), 147.1 (C-4''), 147.4 (C-3'), 148.7 (C-3''). EI-MS (m/z, %): 402 (M<sup>+</sup>, 21), 370 (6), 203 (17), 151 (100). [ $\alpha$ ]D<sup>16</sup> = +14.8 (c 0.6, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

(-)-*Austrobailignan-5* (*10a*). M.p. 44–45 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ / / ppm): 0.81 (6H, *d*, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.67–1.77 (2H, *m*, H-2, H-3), 2.33 (2H, *dd*, *J* = 8.2, 13.6 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.55 (2H, *dd*, *J* = 6.0, 13.6 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.92 (4H,



s, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.52–6.75 (6H, *m*, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 13.9 (C-1, C-4), 38.2 (C-2, C-3), 41.2 (C-7', C-7''), 100.7 (2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 107.9 (C-5', C-5''), 109.3 (C-2', C-2''), 121.8 (C-6', C-6''), 135.5 (C-1', C-1''), 145.5 (C-4', C-4''), 147.4 (C-3', C-3''). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 326 (M<sup>+</sup>, 1), 135 (20), 123 (100). [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = -36.3 (*c* 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The spectral data are in agreement with the literature.<sup>25</sup>

(-)-Saururenin (10b). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 0.82 (6H, d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.71–1.77 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.30–2.42 (2H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.49–2.59 (2H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.83 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.85 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.90 (2H, s, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.51–6.78 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 13.7 (C-1), 13.8 (C-4), 37.7 (C-2), 37.9 (C-3), 40.9 (C-7'), 41.1 (C-7''), 55.7 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 100.6 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 107.8 (C-5'), 109.2 (C-5''), 111.0 (C-2'), 112.0 (C-2''), 120.8 (C-6'), 121.7 (C-6''), 134.1 (C-1'), 135.4 (C-1''), 145.4 (C-4'), 147.0 (C-4''), 147.3 (C-3'), 148.7 (C-3''). EI-MS (m/z, %): 342 (M<sup>+</sup>, 8), 206(2), 151 (100). [ $\alpha$ ]D<sup>16</sup> = -33.0 (*c* 0.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The spectral data were in agreement with the literature.<sup>10</sup>

meso-5,5'-[(Tetrahydro-3,4-furandiyl)bis(methylene)]bis(1,3-benzodioxole) (**11a**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.49–2.53 (4H, m, H-3, H-4, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.75–2.84 (2H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.62 (2H, dd, J = 5.6, 8.2 Hz, 2×H-2), 3.79 (2H, dd, J = 5.6, 8.2 Hz, 2×H-5), 5.95 (4H, s, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.57–6.78 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 33.2 (C-3, C-4), 43.6 (C-7', C-7''), 71.9 (C-2, C-5), 100.8 (2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 108.2 (C-5', C-5''), 108.9 (C-2', C-2''), 121.5 (C-6', C-6''), 134.3 (C-1', C-1''), 145.8 (C-4', C-4''), 147.7 (C-3', C-3''). EI-MS (m/z, %): 340 (M<sup>+</sup>, 9), 204 (5), 187(2), 161 (5), 136 (100). HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (M+NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>): 358.1649. Found: 358.1648. [a]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = 0 (c 0.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

(+)-5-{[(3S,4R)-4-[(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)methyl]tetrahydro-3-furanyl]methyl]-1,3-benzodioxole (**11b**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.15–2.18 (2H, *m*, H-3, H-4), 2.45–2.59 (4H, *m*, 2×ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.46–3.54 (2H, *m*, 2×H-2), 3.84 (3H, *s*, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.85 (3H, *s*, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.89–3.93 (2H, *m*, 2×H-5), 5.91 (2H, *s*, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.51–6.78 (6H, *m*, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 39.0 (C-3), 39.1 (C-4), 46.5 (C-7'), 46.6 (C-7''), 55.7 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 73.2 (C-2), 73.3 (C-5), 100.8 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 108.0 (C-5'), 108.9 (C-5''), 111.1 (C-2'), 111.8 (C-2'), 120.5 (C-6'), 121.4 (C-6''), 132.9 (C-1'), 134.1 (C-1''), 145.8 (C-4'), 147.4 (C-4''), 147.6 (C-3'), 148.8 (C-3''). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 356 (M<sup>+</sup>, 15), 220 (3), 177 (6), 151 (100); HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (M+H<sup>+</sup>): 357.1697. Found: 357.1695. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = +2.5 (*c* 0.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

meso-5,5'-[*Bis(methoxymethyl)*-1,4-butanediyl]bis(1,3-benzodioxole) (**12a**). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.04–2.08 (2H, *m*, H-2, H-3), 2.51–2.69 (4H, *m*, 2×ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.26 (6H, *s*, 2×OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.26–3.38 (4H, *m*, H-1, H-4), 5.92 (4H, *s*, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.58–6.74 (6H, *m*, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 34.4

(C-2, C-3), 40.9 (C-7', C-7''), 58.6 (C-7', C-7''), 72.7 (C-1, C-4), 100.7 (2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 107.9 (C-5', C-5''), 109.3 (C-2', C-2''), 121.8 (C-6', C-6''), 134.9 (C-1', C-1''), 145.6 (C-4', C-4''), 147.5 (C-3', C-3''). EI-MS, (*m*/*z*, %): 386 (M<sup>+</sup>, 5), 354 (5), 322 (3), 218 (11), 187 (21), 173 (12), 135 (100). HRMS Calcd. for  $C_{22}H_{27}O_6$  (M+H<sup>+</sup>): 387.1802. Found: 387.1812. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = 0 (*c* 0.4, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

(+)-5-{[(3S,4R)-4-[(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-2,3-bis(methoxymetyl)butyl]-1,3--benzodioxole (12b). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 2.07–2.11 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.58–2.66 (4H, m, 2×ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.29 (6H, s, 2×OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.26–3.38 (4H, m, 2×ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.85 (3H, s, ArOCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.86 (3H, s, ArOCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.92 (2H, s, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.60–6.80 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 34.8 (C-2), 34.9 (C-3), 40.7 (C-7'), 40.8 (C-7''), 55.6 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 58.7 (ArOCH<sub>3</sub>), 58.8 (ArOCH<sub>3</sub>), 72.4 (C-1), 72.6 (C-4), 100.7 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 107.8 (C-5'), 109.4 (C-5''), 110.9 (C-2'), 120.0 (C-2'), 121.0 (C-6'), 121.9 (C-6''), 133.5 (C-1'), 134.8 (C-1''), 145.5 (C-4'), 147.1 (C-4''), 147.4 (C-3'), 148.7 (C-3''). HRMS Calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>34</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> (M+NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>): 420.2381. Found: 420.2384. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = = +2.7 (*c* 0.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

meso-*Machilin A* (13*a*). M.p. 47–48 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / / ppm): 0.83 (6H, *d*, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.72–1.76 (2H, *m*, H-2, H-3), 2.26 (2H, *dd*, *J* = 9.4, 13.4 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.72 (2H, *dd*, *J* = 4.8, 13.4 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.93 (4H, *s*, 2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.58–6.76 (6H, *m*, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 16.1 (C-1, C-4), 39.0 (C-2, C-3), 39.3 (C-7', C-7''), 100.6 (2×OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 107.9 (C-5', C-5''), 109.2 (C-2', C-2''), 121.8 (C-6', C-6''), 135.6 (C-1', C-1''), 145.4 (C-4', C-4''), 147.4 (C-3', C-3''). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 326 (M<sup>+</sup>, 3), 135(58), 123 (100). [ $\alpha$ ]D<sup>16</sup> = 0 (*c* 0.4, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The spectral data are in agreement with the literature.<sup>26</sup>

(-)-*Isosaururenin* (13b). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 0.82 (3H, *d*, *J* = 6.6 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.85 (3H, *d*, *J* = 6.6 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.62–1.79 (2H, *m*, H-2, H-3), 2.20–2.35 (2H, *m*, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.68–2.78 (2H, *m*, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.86 (6H, *s*, 2×OCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.90 (2H, *s*, OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 6.59–6.81 (6H, *m*, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  / ppm): 16.0 (C-1), 16.2 (C-4), 38.7 (C-2), 39.0 (C-3), 39.1 (C-7'), 39.3 (C-7''), 55.7 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.9 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 100.6 (OCH<sub>2</sub>O), 107.9 (C-5'), 109.3 (C-5''), 111.0 (C-2'), 112.2 (C-2''), 120.9 (C-6'), 121.7 (C-6''), 134.4 (C-1'), 135.6 (C-1''), 145.4 (C-4'), 147.0 (C-4''), 147.4 (C-3'), 148.7 (C-3''). EI-MS (*m*/*z*, %): 342 (M<sup>+</sup>, 6), 206(10), 151 (100). [*a*]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = –1.9 (*c* 0.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

meso-*Nordihydroguaiaretic acid* (14). M.p. 184–185 °C. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, acetone- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$  / ppm): 0.86 (6H, d, J = 6.3 Hz, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.80–1.85 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.49 (2H, dd, J = 9.6, 12.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.96 (2H, dd, J = 5.4, 12.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.14–7.33 (6H, m, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, acetone- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$  / ppm): 16.1 (C-1, C-4), 39.5 (C-2, C-3), 40.3 (C-7', C-7''), 110.6 (C-5', C-5''), 111.5 (C-2', C-2''), 126.1 (C-6', C-6''), 140.2 (C-1', C-1''), 142.4 (C-4', C-4''), 144.3 (C-3', C-3''). EI–MS (m/z, %): 302 (M<sup>+</sup>, 4), 178 (1), 151 (2), 137 (4), 123 (100).

