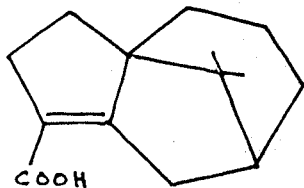


A NOVEL CYPERANE ACID FROM CROTON AROMATICUS (EUPHORBIACEAE)

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Continuing our work¹ on Croton aromaticus, we isolated acid¹, a new sesquiterpene from the root extracts. Chromatographic fractionation of the hot chloroform extract of the roots afforded (-)-hardwickiiic acid² and a more polar crystalline compound (C₁₅H₂₂O₂), m.p. 163-164°C, [α]_D²⁰ -8.5° (CHCl₃, c, 1.42). Spectroscopic data (UV, IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and Mass) of aromatenic acid were consistent with the structure of an αβ-unsaturated acid derivative of cyperane, cedrane, pentalane, zizaane or prezizaane. A single crystal X-ray analysis of this compound³ corresponded to the structure of the cyperane derivative: 2,3,4,5,6,7,8-heptahydro-4β,9,9-trimethyl-3αβ,7β-methanoazulene-1-carboxylic acid.



(1)

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