

SECTION E

E-46 21 (α), 29-DIHYDROXYFRIEDELAN-3-ONE—A NEW TRIOXYGENATED FRIEDELAN FROM *SALACIA RETICULATA* (CELASTRACEAE)

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We report the isolation and characterisation of a new triterpene 21(α) 29-dihydroxyfriedelan-3-one (mp 280–282°C, (α) D_{400}) from the benzene extract of the outerbark of *Salacia reticulata*, in addition to the previously reported friedelin; canophyllal; canophyllol; 3,29-dioxofriedelan; 29-hydroxyfriedelan-3-one; 3-oxofriedelan-29-oic acid; friedelan-3, 21-dione; 21 (α)-hydroxyfriedelan-3-one and pristimerin.

Since the compound was very insoluble in common organic solvents it was acetylated and studies carried out on the acetyl derivative. Spectroscopic evidence suggested the presence of a ring acetoxy group and an angular methyl-oxygenation in the form of a $-\text{CH}_2 \text{OAc}$ group. Deacetylation followed by $\text{CrO}_3/\text{pyridine}$ oxidation gave a diketo-aldehyde, the $-\text{CHO}$ signal at δ 9.6 in the p.m.r. spectrum confirming the angular methyl-oxygenation. The comparison of spectral data with the known dioxygenated friedelans and chemical transformations confirmed the position of the alcohol groups as 21 (α) and 29.