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## WITTIG REARRANGEMENT OF 3-FURYLMETHYL ETHERS: FACILE SYNTHESIS OF 3-METHYL-2-FURYLMETHANOLS AND 3-FURYLETHANOLS

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**Abstract** – Wittig rearrangement of 3-furylmethyl ethers **1a-i** was investigated. Deprotonation of 3-furylmethyl ethers **1a-i** with bases, such as BuLi and LDA, occurred preferentially at the allylic, propargylic, benzylic positions and  $\alpha$ -position adjacent to carbonyl group giving the corresponding anions, which underwent 2,3- and 1,2-rearrangements to afford 3-methyl-2-furylmethanols **2a-i** and 3-furylethanols **3a-f,h,i**. Synthesis of naginata ketone and dendrolasin was achieved employing the Wittig rearrangement as a key step.

## INTRODUCTION

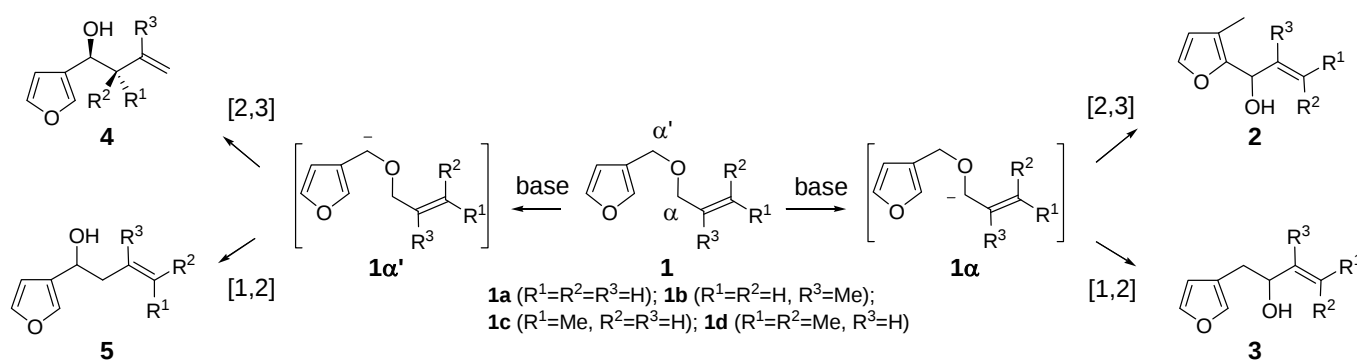
The synthesis of furan derivatives has attracted great interest because of the importance of natural and synthetic furans<sup>1</sup> and the synthetic versatility of furans.<sup>2</sup> Numerous efforts have been devoted to the preparation of furans and functionalization of the furan ring.<sup>3</sup> As a part of our continuing work on the synthesis of biologically active natural compounds using furylmethanols, we were interested in developing a new method for the synthesis of furylmethanols. Previously, we have reported that the Wittig rearrangement of 2- and 3-furylmethyl ethers provides an efficient method for the preparation of 2-furylmethanol derivatives.<sup>4</sup> Recently, we have successfully applied this rearrangement to the stereoselective synthesis of furanocyclic diterpene skeleton,<sup>5a</sup> steroidal side chain,<sup>5b</sup> and OSW-1<sup>5c</sup> and its thiazole analogue.<sup>5d</sup> In the present study we further investigate the Wittig rearrangement of 3-furylmethyl ethers and apply the rearrangement to the synthesis of naturally occurring terpenoids, naginata ketone and dendrolasin.

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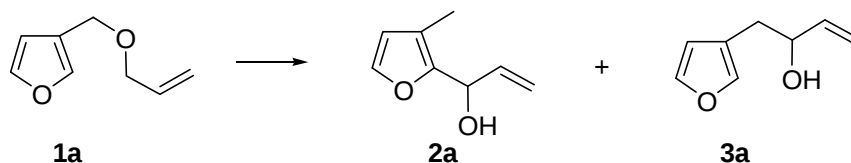
Dedicated to Dr. Keiichiro Fukumoto, Professor Emeritus of Tohoku University, on the occasion of his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Wittig rearrangement of allyl 3-furylmethyl ether **1** could theoretically afford both 2,3-rearranged products **2**<sup>6</sup> and **4** and 1,2-rearranged products **3** and **5** depending on the position, either  $\alpha$ - or  $\alpha'$ -position, of deprotonation (Scheme 1). We first evaluated the relative thermodynamic stabilities of anions **1 $\alpha$**  and **1 $\alpha'$**  using *ab initio* calculations involving full optimizations with the GAUSSIAN 92 quantum mechanical package.<sup>7</sup> The calculations show that the energy minimums of the **1a-d**  $\alpha$  anions were favored by 7.9-17.9 kJ/mol over the energy minimums of the **1a-d**  $\alpha'$  anions at the RHF/6-31+G\* level. This result suggests that the Wittig rearrangement of allyl 3-furylmethyl ethers **1a-d** would proceed through deprotonation mainly at the  $\alpha$  position, yielding **2a-d** and **3a-d**.



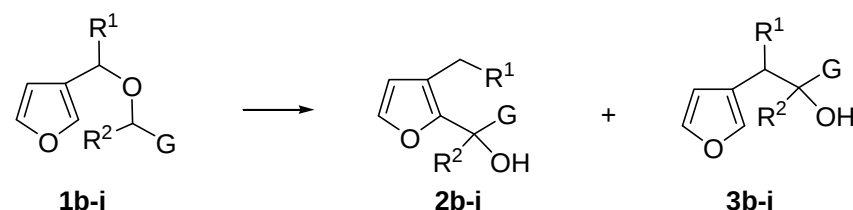
With this result in mind, the Wittig rearrangement of allyl 3-furylmethyl ether **1a** was initially studied under standard conditions.<sup>8</sup> Allyl 3-furylmethyl ethers **1a** was prepared in 80% yield from by reaction of 3-furanmethanol with allyl bromide in DMF using 1.8 equiv. of NaH. The results of the rearrangement are shown in Table 1. Reaction of **1a** with base brought about selective deprotonation at the expected  $\alpha$  position to give **1 $\alpha$**  anion ( $R^1=R^2=R^3=H$ ), which went through sigmatropic rearrangement to afford  $\alpha$ -ethenyl-3-methyl-2-furanmethanol **2a** as a major product, together with  $\alpha$ -ethenyl-3-furanethanol **3a**. Treatment of **1a** with 2 equiv. of *n*-BuLi in THF gave 2,3- and 1,2-rearranged products **2a** and **3a** in a ratio of *ca.* 2:1, and there remained 50% of starting material **1a** (entry 1). In contrast, the reaction completed with 5 equiv. of *n*-BuLi (entry 2). The rearrangement proceeded at -30 to -20 °C when *n*-BuLi was employed as a base in THF. A large excess (10 equiv.) of LDA in THF gave a slightly higher ratio (*ca.* 2.6:1) than the ratio obtained by using *n*-BuLi (entry 4), whereas use of TMEDA (12 equiv.) as an additive in pentane-THF (v/v=9:1) resulted in the recovery of starting material again (entry 3). Treatment of **1a** with *s*-BuLi (5 equiv.) in THF at -78 °C produced **2a** and **3a** in a ratio of *ca.* 2.3:1, which is similar to that obtained with LDA (entry 5). Fortunately, reaction of **1a** with *t*-BuLi (4 equiv.) in THF at -78 °C furnished preferentially **2a** (entry 6).

**Table 1.** Wittig rearrangement of allyl 3-furylmethyl ether **1a**

| Entry | Base (equiv.)         | Conditions               |                      |         | Product distribution (%) <sup>a</sup> |           |                        |                     |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|---------------------|
|       |                       | Solvent                  | Additive             | Temp.   | <b>2a</b>                             | <b>3a</b> | <b>1a</b> <sup>b</sup> | others <sup>c</sup> |
| 1     | <i>n</i> -BuLi (2 eq) | THF                      |                      | -78→0°C | 34                                    | 16        | 50                     |                     |
| 2     | <i>n</i> -BuLi (5 eq) | THF                      |                      | -78→0°C | 67                                    | 33        |                        |                     |
| 3     | <i>n</i> -BuLi (5 eq) | pentane-THF<br>(v/v=9:1) | TMEDA<br>(12 equiv.) | -78→0°C | 35                                    | 18        | 29                     | 18 <sup>c</sup>     |
| 4     | LDA (10 eq)           | THF                      |                      | -78→0°C | 72                                    | 28        |                        |                     |
| 5     | <i>s</i> -BuLi (5 eq) | THF                      |                      | -78°C   | 70                                    | 30        |                        |                     |
| 6     | <i>t</i> -BuLi (4 eq) | THF                      |                      | -78°C   | >95                                   | <5        |                        |                     |

<sup>a</sup> Determined by 270 MHz NMR analysis of the crude products.<sup>b</sup> Recovered starting material. <sup>c</sup> Undetected products were formed.

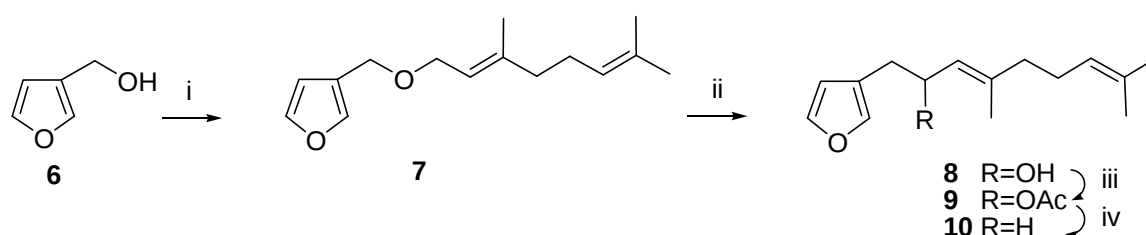
We next examined the Wittig rearrangement of 3-furylmethyl ethers **1b-i** as shown in Table 2. Compounds **1b-i** were prepared by the same method as above **1a**. Reactions of **1b-f,h** were conducted using *n*-BuLi (5 equiv.), *s*-BuLi (5 equiv.), and *t*-BuLi (4 equiv.) as a base in THF. LDA was employed for substrates **1g,i**, and products were isolated as the corresponding methyl esters. Methallyl ether **1b** gave preferentially 2,3-rearranged product **2b**, together with 1,2-rearranged product **3b** (entries 1-3), while crotyl ether **1c** and prenyl ether **1d** produced mainly 1,2-rearranged products **3c,d**, respectively (entries 4-8). The effect of methyl group at the terminal alkene was apparent from the decreased reactivity toward BuLis; starting material **1c,d** were recovered (entries 6 and 7) and reaction of **1d** with *t*-BuLi was sluggish (entry 9). Rising temperature from -78 to 0 °C in the case of entry 9 brought about the formation of complex mixtures. Propargyl ether **1e** gave predominantly **2e** using *s*- and *t*-BuLi (entries 11 and 12), although treatment with *n*-BuLi gave almost equal amounts of **2e** and **3e** (entry 10). Reaction of benzyl ether **1f** with *n*- and *s*-BuLi gave mostly **3f** (entries 13 and 14), whereas reaction with *t*-BuLi afforded **2f** as a major product (entry 15). 3-Furylmethoxyacetic acid **1g** gave cleanly 2,3-rearranged methyl ester **3g** as a sole product (entry 16), whereas the corresponding propionic acid **1i** gave equal amounts of **2i** and **3i** (entry 20). Compound **1h** gave predominantly 1,2-rearranged product **3h** (entries 17-19), in contrast allyl ether **1a** gave mainly 2,3-rearranged product **2a** (Table 1). The *threo*/*erythro* stereochemistries were tentatively assigned based on Nakai's observation,<sup>9</sup> in which the <sup>1</sup>H NMR signal ascribed to CHOH in *threo* isomer is observed further upfield than that of *erythro* isomer. The *threo* isomer, the major product **3h**, shows a triplet due to CHOH at δ 4.04 (*J* = 7.1 Hz), while *erythro* isomer presents a distorted triplet due to CHOH at δ 4.17 (*J* = 5.9 Hz).

**Table 2.** Wittig rearrangement of 3-furylmethyl ethers **1b-i**<sup>a</sup>

| Entry | Substrate |                                  |                |      | Yield (%)        | Product distribution (%) <sup>b</sup> |                        |                         |
|-------|-----------|----------------------------------|----------------|------|------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
|       | G         | R <sup>1</sup>                   | R <sup>2</sup> | Base |                  | [2,3] product <b>2</b>                | [1,2] product <b>3</b> |                         |
| 1     | <b>1b</b> | CH <sub>2</sub> =C(Me)-          | H              | H    | <i>n</i> -BuLi   | 75                                    | 60                     | 40                      |
| 2     |           |                                  |                |      | <i>s</i> -BuLi   | 63                                    | 64                     | 46                      |
| 3     |           |                                  |                |      | <i>t</i> -BuLi   | 68                                    | 78                     | 22                      |
| 4     | <b>1c</b> | MeCH=CH-<br>( <i>E/Z</i> =82/18) | H              | H    | <i>n</i> -BuLi   | 70                                    | <5                     | >95                     |
| 5     |           |                                  |                |      | <i>s</i> -BuLi   | 66                                    | 21                     | 79                      |
| 6     |           |                                  |                |      | <i>t</i> -BuLi   | 34 <sup>c</sup>                       | 24                     | 76                      |
| 7     | <b>1d</b> | Me <sub>2</sub> C=CH-            | H              | H    | <i>n</i> -BuLi   | 48 <sup>c</sup>                       | <5                     | >95                     |
| 8     |           |                                  |                |      | <i>s</i> -BuLi   | 53                                    | 21                     | 79                      |
| 9     |           |                                  |                |      | <i>t</i> -BuLi   | - <sup>d</sup>                        | -                      | -                       |
| 10    | <b>1e</b> | HC≡CH-                           | H              | H    | <i>n</i> -BuLi   | 67                                    | 48                     | 52                      |
| 11    |           |                                  |                |      | <i>s</i> -BuLi   | 69 <sup>c</sup>                       | 92                     | 8                       |
| 12    |           |                                  |                |      | <i>t</i> -BuLi   | 46 <sup>c</sup>                       | 89                     | 11                      |
| 13    | <b>1f</b> | Ph                               | H              | H    | <i>n</i> -BuLi   | 72                                    | 18                     | 82                      |
| 14    |           |                                  |                |      | <i>s</i> -BuLi   | 44 <sup>c</sup>                       | 7                      | 93                      |
| 15    |           |                                  |                |      | <i>t</i> -BuLi   | 64                                    | 64                     | 36                      |
| 16    | <b>1g</b> | CO <sub>2</sub> H                | H              | H    | LDA              | 60                                    | 100 <sup>e</sup>       | 0                       |
| 17    | <b>1h</b> | CH <sub>2</sub> =CH-             | Me             | H    | <i>n</i> -BuLi   | 48                                    | 11                     | 89 (80/20) <sup>f</sup> |
| 18    |           |                                  |                |      | <i>s</i> -BuLi   | 56                                    | 14                     | 86 (70/30) <sup>f</sup> |
| 19    |           |                                  |                |      | <i>t</i> -BuLi   | 60                                    | 16                     | 84 (78/22) <sup>f</sup> |
| 20    | <b>1i</b> | CO <sub>2</sub> H                | H              | Me   | LDA <sup>g</sup> | 52                                    | 49 <sup>e</sup>        | 51 <sup>e</sup>         |

<sup>a</sup> Reactions were carried out with base in THF at -78°C. *n*-BuLi (5 equiv.) was employed and the reaction was allowed to warm to 0°C. *s*-BuLi (5 equiv.) was employed. *t*-BuLi (4 equiv.) was employed. LDA (4 equiv.) was employed and the reaction was allowed to warm to 0°C. <sup>b</sup> Determined by 270 MHz NMR analysis of the crude products. <sup>c</sup> Starting material was recovered. <sup>d</sup> Reaction was sluggish. <sup>e</sup> Isolated as the corresponding methyl ester. <sup>f</sup> The ratio of the *threo* to the *erythro* product is given in the parentheses. <sup>g</sup> LDA (10 equiv.) was employed.

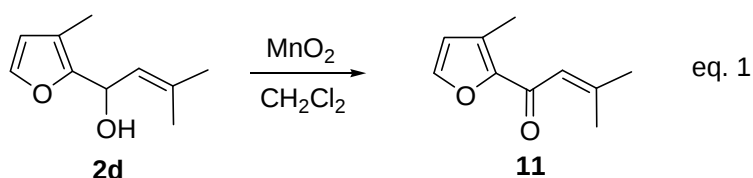
We further applied this rearrangement to the synthesis of naturally occurring terpenoids dendrolasin<sup>10</sup> and naginata ketone.<sup>11</sup> The synthesis of dendrolasin was achieved as follows (Scheme 2). Etherification of 3-furanmethanol **6** with geranyl bromide in the presence of NaH gave geranyl ether **7** in 70% yield.



**Scheme 2.** Reagents and conditions: i, geranyl bromide, NaH, DMF, 70%; ii, *s*-BuLi, THF, -78°C, 82%; iii, Ac<sub>2</sub>O, pyridine, 91%; iv, Li, EtNH<sub>2</sub>, 39%

Treatment of **7** with *n*-BuLi (5 equiv.) gave almost starting material together with trace amount of 1,2-rearranged product **8**, indicating lower reactivity of **7** toward BuLis. Next, excess *n*-BuLi (20 equiv.) was used to produce the desired product **8** in 27% yield together with starting material. Treatment of **7** with *t*-BuLi (5 equiv.) in THF at -78 to -25 °C afforded **8** in 51% yield and starting material. Pleasingly, reaction of **7** with *s*-BuLi (5 equiv.) at -78 °C in THF afforded **8** in 82% yield, although the reasons for the improvement of the yield are unclear. Attempts to convert **8** into dendrolasin by deoxygenation under Barton's method<sup>12</sup> were unsuccessful. Thus, alcohol **8** was acetylated to **9** in 91% yield, which was treated with lithium in EtNH<sub>2</sub><sup>13</sup> to give dendrolasin **10** in 39% yield. The spectroscopic data obtained were identical with those reported.<sup>10c</sup>

Nginata ketone **11** was also prepared by MnO<sub>2</sub> oxidation of **2d** in poor yield, 11%, due to its high volatility (eq. 1).



Thus, we have disclosed the Wittig rearrangement of 3-furylmethyl ethers leading to 3-methyl-2-furylmethanols and 3-furylethanols. Regarding the formation of [1,2] rearranged product, the use of *n*-BuLi is superior to the use of *s*- and *t*-BuLi, whereas the use of *t*-BuLi is suitable for the formation of [2,3] rearranged product rather than the use of *n*- and *s*-BuLi. Synthesis of dendrolasin and naginata ketone has been succeeded in employing the Wittig rearrangement of 3-furylmethyl ethers as a key step.

## EXPERIMENTAL

IR spectra were obtained using a JASCO FT/IR-200 spectrophotometer. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were obtained on a JEOL JNM-LA270 (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR: 270 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR: 67.8 MHz) instrument for solutions in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, and chemical shifts are reported on the δ scale using TMS as an internal standard of δ 0.00 for <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra and CDCl<sub>3</sub> as an internal standard of δ 77.00 for <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra, respectively. MS spectra were measured with a JEOL JMS-600 spectrometer. Elemental analyses were performed on a Yanaco-MT5.

### General procedure for etherification of 3-furanmethanol

To a solution of allylic halide (36.7 mmol) and 3-furanmethanol (2.00 g, 20.4 mmol) in DMF (50 mL) was added NaH (*ca.* 60 % purity, 1.47 g, *ca.* 36.7 mmol) at 0 °C and stirring was continued for 8 h at rt.

The reaction was carefully quenched with sat. aq.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  solution in ice bath. The reaction mixture was extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (v/v, 2:1), and the combined organic layers were washed with brine. The organic layer was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and evaporated to give a residue, which was chromatographed on silica gel (80 g, *n*-hexane/ $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ =95:5) to afford 3-furylmethyl ether as a colorless oil.

**Allyl 3-furylmethyl ether (1a)**

80% yield; bp 70 °C (18 mmHg). IR 2860, 1500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  4.00 (2H, dt,  $J$ = 1.5 and 5.6 Hz), 4.39 (2H, d,  $J$ = 0.3 Hz), 5.20 (1H, dd,  $J$ = 1.5 and 10.4 Hz), 5.28 (1H, dd,  $J$ = 1.5 and 17.3 Hz), 5.93 (1H, ddt,  $J$ = 1.5, 10.4, and 17.3 Hz), 6.42 (1H, brs), 7.39-7.41 (2H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  63.7, 71.3, 110.8, 117.6, 122.7, 135.1, 141.1, 143.7; MS (EI): 138 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$ : 138.0681. Found: 138.0682. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$ : C, 69.54; H, 7.30. Found: C, 69.29; H, 7.39.

**Methallyl 3-furylmethyl ether (1b)**

88% yield; bp 75 °C (18 mmHg). IR 2850, 1500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  1.75 (3H, s), 3.90 (2H, s), 4.36 (2H, s), 4.91 and 4.98 (each 1H, each brs), 6.42 (1H, brs), 7.40 (2H, brd,  $J$ = 1.8 Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  19.4, 63.0, 73.7, 110.2, 112.3, 122.3, 140.5, 142.0, 143.2; MS (EI): 152 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0854. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : C, 71.02; H, 7.95. Found: C, 71.32; H, 7.95.

**Crotyl 3-furylmethyl ether (*E/Z*=82:18) (1c)**

52% yield; bp 50 °C (16 mmHg). IR 2850, 1500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (*E* isomer)  $\delta$  1.72 (3H, dd,  $J$ = 1.2 and 6.1 Hz), 3.92 (2H, dd,  $J$ = 1.2 and 6.1 Hz), 4.36 (2H, brs), 5.54-5.79 (2H, m), 6.42 (1H, brs), 7.39-7.40 (2H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (*E* isomer)  $\delta$  17.6, 62.9, 70.5, 110.3, 123.3, 127.4, 129.5, 140.5, 143.1; MS (EI): 152 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0842. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : C, 71.02; H, 7.95. Found: C, 71.35; H, 7.98.

**Prenyl 3-furylmethyl ether (1d)**

87% yield; bp 90 °C (15 mmHg). IR 2850, 1500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  1.66 and 1.75 (each 3H, each brs), 3.97 (2H, d,  $J$ = 6.7 Hz), 4.37 (2H, s), 5.34-5.40 (1H, m), 6.43 (1H, brs), 7.38-7.41 (2H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  18.0, 25.7, 63.1, 66.3, 110.4, 120.9, 122.5, 137.2, 140.6, 143.2; MS (EI): 166 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$ : 166.0993. Found: 166.0988. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$ : C, 72.26; H, 8.49. Found: C, 72.36; H, 8.56.

**Propargyl 3-furylmethyl ether (1e)<sup>14</sup>**

76% yield.

**Benzyl 3-furylmethyl ether (1f)<sup>15</sup>**

97% yield.

**3-Furylmethoxyacetic acid (1g)**

85% yield; bp 190 °C (9 mmHg). IR 3450, 3150, 1735  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  4.13 (2H, s), 4.54 (2H, s), 6.45 (1H, d,  $J$ = 1.2 Hz), 7.42 (1H, d,  $J$ = 1.2 Hz), 7.45 (1H, brs);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  64.3, 65.9, 110.3, 120.7, 141.2,

143.6, 175.4; MS (EI): 152 ( $M^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_7H_8O_4$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0854. Anal. Calcd for  $C_7H_8O_4 \cdot 0.2H_2O$ : C, 52.73; H, 5.31. Found: C, 52.69; H, 5.27.

#### Allyl 1-(3-furyl)ethyl ether (1h)

68% yield; bp 98 °C (8 mmHg). IR 2860, 1500  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR  $\delta$  1.44 (3H, d,  $J$ = 6.1 Hz), 3.85 and 3.95 (each 1H, each ddt,  $J$ =1.2, 5.5, and 12.8 Hz), 4.47 (1H, q,  $J$ = 6.1 Hz), 5.15 (1H, dq,  $J$ = 1.2 and 10.4 Hz), 5.25 (1H, dq,  $J$ = 1.2 and 17.1 Hz), 5.90 (1H, ddt,  $J$ = 5.5, 10.4, and 17.1 Hz), 6.40 (1H, d,  $J$ = 1.8 Hz), 7.36 (1H, brs), 7.39 (1H, t,  $J$ = 1.8 Hz);  $^{13}C$ -NMR  $\delta$  22.2, 68.8, 68.9, 108.5, 116.6, 127.5, 135.0, 139.4, 143.2; MS (EI): 152 ( $M^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_9H_{12}O_2$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0839. Anal. Calcd for  $C_9H_{12}O_2$ : C, 71.02; H, 7.95. Found: C, 70.23; H, 7.83.

#### 2-(3-Furylmethoxy)propionic acid (1i)

76% yield; bp 180 °C (5 mmHg). IR 3460, 3150, 1730  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR  $\delta$  1.49 (3H, d,  $J$ = 7.5 Hz), 4.10 (1H, q,  $J$ = 7.5 Hz), 4.42 and 4.58 (each 1H, each d,  $J$ = 12.5 Hz), 6.45 (1H, brs), 7.40 (1H, brs), 7.45 (1H, brs), 9.58 (1H, brs);  $^{13}C$ -NMR  $\delta$  18.3, 63.2, 72.9, 110.3, 121.2, 141.0, 143.5, 178.5; MS (EI): 170 ( $M^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_8H_{10}O_4$ : 170.0579. Found: 170.0585. Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_{10}O_4$ : C, 56.46; H, 5.92. Found: C, 56.24; H, 5.96.

#### Geranyl 3-furylmethyl ether (7)

70% yield; bp 182 °C (6 mmHg). IR 2820, 1060  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$ -NMR  $\delta$  1.60 and 1.65 (each 3H, each brs), 1.68 (3H, d,  $J$ = 1.2 Hz), 1.95-2.15 (4H, m), 4.00 (2H, d,  $J$ = 6.7 Hz), 4.37 (2H, s), 5.09 (1H, tt,  $J$ = 1.2 and 6.7 Hz), 5.37 (1H, dt,  $J$ = 1.2 and 6.7 Hz), 6.42 (1H, d,  $J$ = 1.8 Hz), 7.39 (2H, brd,  $J$ = 1.8 Hz);  $^{13}C$ -NMR  $\delta$  16.3, 17.5, 25.6, 26.2, 39.5, 62.9, 66.2, 110.3, 120.6, 122.4, 123.9, 131.5, 140.3, 140.5, 143.1; MS (EI): 234 ( $M^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{15}H_{22}O_2$ : 234.1619. Found: 234.1619. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{15}H_{22}O_2$ : C, 76.88; H, 9.46. Found: C, 76.63; H, 9.53.

#### General procedure for Wittig rearrangement of 3-furylmethyl ether

To a solution of 3-furylmethyl ether (**1a-i**, **7**) (1.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added dropwise a base (*n*-BuLi 1.6 M in hexane, 3.12 mL, 5.0 mmol; *s*-BuLi 1 M in cyclohexane, 5.0 mL, 5.0 mmol; *t*-BuLi 1.6 M in pentane, 2.5 mL, 4.0 mmol; LDA 4.0 mmol) at -78 °C under Ar. After stirring for 1 h (the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to 0 °C in the cases of *n*-BuLi), the reaction mixture was quenched with sat. aq.  $NH_4Cl$  solution, and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was extracted with pentane-Et<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, v/v). The extract was washed with brine and dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ . Evaporation of the solvent gave a residue, which was chromatographed on silica gel (50 g, *n*-hexane/AcOEt=95:5) to afford rearrangement products, respectively. Yields and the ratio of product distribution are shown in Tables 1 and 2. All the rearranged products were isolated by either careful column chromatography or derivatization.

**$\alpha$ -Ethenyl-3-methyl-2-furanmethanol (2a)**

Colorless oil; IR 3400, 2940, 990  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$   $\delta$  2.06 (3H, s), 5.20-5.23 (1H, m), 5.27 (1H, d,  $J=12.2$  Hz), 5.35 (1H, d,  $J=17.1$  Hz), 6.06-6.18 (1H, m), 6.20 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz), 7.28 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$   $\delta$  9.6, 67.1, 113.2, 115.6, 116.7, 137.1, 141.2, 149.1; MS (EI): 138 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$ : 138.0681. Found; 138.0671.

 **$\alpha$ -Ethenyl-3-furanethanol (3a)**

Colorless oil; IR 3380, 2930, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$   $\delta$  2.63 and 2.71 (each 1H, each dd,  $J=7.3$  and 14.6 Hz), 4.28 (1H, brd,  $J=5.5$  Hz), 5.15 (1H, dt,  $J=10.4$  Hz), 5.28 (2H, d,  $J=17.1$  Hz), 5.93 (1H, ddd,  $J=6.7, 10.4$ , and 17.1 Hz), 7.31 (1H, brs), 7.38 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$   $\delta$  32.8, 72.4, 111.5, 115.2, 120.4, 140.1, 140.3, 143.0; MS (EI): 138 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2$ : 138.0681. Found; 138.0683.

**3-Methyl- $\alpha$ -(1-methylethenyl)-2-furanmethanol (2b)**

Colorless oil; IR 3410, 2950, 1010  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$   $\delta$  1.69 (3H, s), 2.06 (3H, s), 4.99 (1H, q,  $J=1.2$  Hz), 5.14 and 5.18 (each 1H, each s), 6.20 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz), 7.28 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$   $\delta$  9.6, 18.9, 69.4, 110.7, 113.1, 117.0, 141.1, 144.6, 148.7; MS (EI): 152 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0844.

 **$\alpha$ -(1-Methylethenyl)-3-furanethanol (3b)<sup>16</sup>**

Colorless oil; IR 3450, 2940, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$   $\delta$  1.79 (3H, s), 2.64 (1H, dd,  $J=7.9$  and 14.6 Hz), 2.73 (1H, dd,  $J=4.9$  and 14.6 Hz), 4.21 (1H, dd,  $J=4.9$  and 7.9 Hz), 4.88 (1H, brs), 4.98 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz), 6.33 (1H, brs), 7.32 (1H, brs), 7.38 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$   $\delta$  18.2, 31.3, 75.3, 111.4, 111.5, 121.0, 140.3, 143.1, 146.7; MS (EI): 152 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0831.

**3-Methyl- $\alpha$ -1-propenyl-2-furanmethanol (*E/Z*=82:18) (2c)**

Colorless oil; IR 3380, 2920, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (*E* isomer)  $\delta$  1.73 (3H, d,  $J=6.2$  Hz), 2.05 (3H, s), 5.17 (1H, d,  $J=6.5$  Hz), 5.74 (1H, dq,  $J=6.2$  and 15.3 Hz), 5.83 (1H, dd,  $J=6.5$  and 15.3 Hz), 6.19 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz), 7.27 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (*E* isomer)  $\delta$  9.6, 17.8, 67.0, 113.1, 116.1, 127.8, 130.3, 141.0, 149.8; MS (EI): 152 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); MS (EI): 152 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0837.

 **$\alpha$ -1-Propenyl-3-furanethanol (*E/Z*=82:18) (3c)**

Colorless oil; IR 3430, 2860, 960  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (*E* isomer)  $\delta$  1.70 (3H, d,  $J=6.1$  Hz), 2.60 (1H, dd,  $J=6.7$  and 14.6 Hz), 2.66 (1H, dd,  $J=6.1$  and 14.6 Hz), 4.21 (1H, q,  $J=6.7$  Hz), 5.53 (1H, ddd,  $J=1.2, 6.7$ , and 15.3 Hz), 5.70 (1H, dq,  $J=6.1$  and 15.3 Hz), 6.31 (1H, brs), 7.30 (1H, brs), 7.37 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (*E* isomer)  $\delta$  17.7, 33.1, 72.4, 111.5, 120.7, 127.3, 133.1, 140.2, 142.9; MS (EI): 152 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0842.

**3-Methyl- $\alpha$ -(2-methyl-1-propenyl)-2-furanmethanol (2d)**

Colorless oil; IR 3360, 2920, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  1.73 and 1.75 (each 3H, each brs), 2.05 (3H, s), 5.43 (1H, d,  $J=8.7$  Hz), 5.64 (1H, d,  $J=8.7$  Hz), 6.16 (1H, d,  $J=1.6$  Hz), 7.27 (1H, d,  $J=1.6$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  9.6, 18.6, 25.8, 62.8, 113.0, 115.6, 124.1, 135.7, 140.9, 150.4; MS (EI): 166 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$ : 166.0993. Found: 166.0991.

**$\alpha$ -(2-Methyl-1-propenyl)-3-furanethanol (3d)**

Colorless oil; IR 3430, 2860, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  1.66 and 1.73 (each 3H, each d,  $J=1.2$  Hz), 2.59 (1H, dd,  $J=5.5$  and  $14.0$  Hz), 2.65 (1H, dd,  $J=6.7$  and  $14.0$  Hz), 4.50 (1H, dd,  $J=6.1$  and  $6.7$  Hz), 5.22 (1H, dm,  $J=8.6$  Hz), 6.32 (1H, brs), 7.29 (1H, brs), 7.37 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  18.2, 25.7, 33.2, 68.4, 111.5, 120.8, 127.1, 135.8, 140.2, 142.8; MS (EI): 166 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$ : 166.0993. Found: 166.0991.

**$\alpha$ -Ethynyl-3-methyl-2-furanmethanol (2e)**

Colorless oil; IR 3290, 2920, 990  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  2.10 (3H, s), 2.62 (1H, s), 5.47 (1H, brs), 6.21 (1H, d,  $J=1.6$  Hz), 7.31 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  9.7, 56.2, 74.0, 81.1, 113.5, 117.7, 141.7, 146.6; MS (EI): 136 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_2$ : 136.0524. Found: 136.0515.

**$\alpha$ -Ethynyl-3-furanethanol (3e)**

Colorless oil; IR 3290, 2950, 2120  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  2.48 (1H, d,  $J=2.2$  Hz), 2.82 and 2.88 (each 1H, each dd,  $J=4.2$  and  $14.6$  Hz), 4.51 (1H, t,  $J=4.2$  Hz), 6.40 (1H, brs), 7.38 (2H, brs);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  33.2, 61.9, 73.4, 84.2, 111.6, 119.2, 140.7, 142.9; MS (EI): 136 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_2$ : 136.0524. Found: 136.0502.

**3-Methyl- $\alpha$ -phenyl-2-furanmethanol (2f)**

Colorless oil; IR 3400, 2920, 1450, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  2.00 (3H, s), 5.84 (1H, brs), 6.18 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz), 7.24-7.42 (6H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  9.7, 68.1, 113.2, 116.9, 126.2, 127.6, 128.3, 14.3, 141.4, 149.7; MS (EI): 188 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 188.0837. Found: 188.0828.

**$\alpha$ -Phenyl-3-furanethanol (3f)**

Colorless oil; IR 3400, 2920, 1450, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  2.83 (2H, d,  $J=6.6$  Hz), 4.79 (1H, t,  $J=6.6$  Hz), 6.20 (1H, brs), 7.23 (1H, brs), 7.23-7.40 (6H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  34.9, 74.0, 111.3, 120.7, 125.8, 127.6, 128.3, 140.3, 142.9, 143.7; MS (EI): 188 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 188.0837. Found: 188.0818.

**Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-(3-methyl-2-furyl)acetate (2g)**

Colorless oil; IR 3520, 2940, 1740, 1060  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\delta$  2.08 (3H, s), 3.80 (3H, s), 5.21 (1H, d,  $J=4.9$  Hz), 6.22 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz), 7.28 (1H, d,  $J=1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\delta$  9.5, 53.1, 64.9, 113.2, 118.9, 141.9, 145.7, 172.3; MS (EI): 170 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_4$ : 170.0579. Found: 170.0590.

**$\alpha$ -Ethenyl-3-ethyl-2-furanmethanol (2h)**

Colorless oil; IR 3430, 2930, 1030  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$   $\delta$  1.16 (3H, t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 2.47 (2H, q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 5.20-5.23 (1H, m), 5.25-5.40 (2H, m), 6.05-6.20 (1H, m), 6.26 (1H, d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz), 7.28 (1H, d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$   $\delta$  14.1, 17.8, 77.4, 111.9, 115.6, 116.7, 140.9, 141.3, 149.7; MS (EI): 152 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0810.

**$\alpha$ -Ethenyl-2-methyl-3-furanethanol (3h)**

Colorless oil; IR 3410, 2930, 1030  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (*threo*)  $\delta$  1.21 (3H, d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 2.78 (1H, quint,  $J = 7.1$ ), 4.04 (1H, t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 5.10-5.30 (2H, m), 5.75-5.92 (1H, m), 6.34 (1H, brs), 7.31 (1H, brs), 7.39 (1H, brs);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$   $\delta$  16.9, 36.6, 76.9, 109.9, 116.5, 126.1, 138.8, 139.6, 143.0; MS (EI): 152 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 152.0837. Found: 152.0823.

**Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-(3-methyl-2-furyl)propionate (2i)**

Colorless oil; IR 3520, 2940, 1740, 1060  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$   $\delta$  1.81 (3H, s), 2.05 (3H, s), 3.79 (3H, s), 6.18 (1H, d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz), 7.24 (1H, d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$   $\delta$  10.2, 24.1, 53.2, 72.6, 114.4, 116.7, 140.4, 147.9, 174.9; MS (EI): 184 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_4$ : 184.0735. Found: 184.0755.

**Methyl 3-(3-furyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionate (3i)**

Colorless oil; IR 3410, 2920, 1740, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$   $\delta$  1.47 (3H, s), 2.74 and 2.92 (each 1H, each d,  $J = 14.3$  Hz), 3.75 (3H, s), 6.26 (1H, brs), 7.33 (2H, brs);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$   $\delta$  25.7, 35.8, 52.7, 74.8, 111.8, 118.9, 140.7, 142.7, 176.7; MS (EI): 184 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_4$ : 184.0735. Found: 184.0755.

**(E)- $\alpha$ -(2,6-Dimethyl-1,5-heptadienyl)-3-furanethanol (8)**

Treatment of **7** with *sec*-BuLi afforded the corresponding geraniol **8** in 82% yield. Colorless oil; IR 3450, 2900, 1010  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$   $\delta$  1.60 and 1.68 (each 3H, each brs), 1.64 (3H, d,  $J = 1.2$  Hz), 1.95-2.15 (4H, m), 2.59 (1H, dd,  $J = 5.5$  and 14.7 Hz), 2.66 (1H, dd,  $J = 6.7$  and 14.7 Hz), 4.51 (1H, dq,  $J = 1.8$  and 6.7 Hz), 5.00-5.15 (1H, m), 5.22 (1H, dq,  $J = 1.2$  and 8.5 Hz), 6.32 (1H, brs), 7.28 (1H, brs), 7.36 (1H, t,  $J = 1.8$  Hz);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$   $\delta$  16.6, 17.6, 25.6, 26.3, 33.1, 39.5, 68.4, 111.5, 120.8, 123.8, 126.8, 131.7, 139.0, 140.2, 142.8; MS (EI): 234 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_2$ : 234.1618. Found: 234.1603.

**(E)- $\alpha$ -(2,6-Dimethyl-1,5-heptadienyl)-3-furanethanol acetate (9)**

A solution of alcohol **8** (27 mg, 0.115 mmol),  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$  (150 mg, 1.47 mmol), and pyridine (200 mg, 2.53 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was stirred for 3 h at 0  $^\circ\text{C}$ . The reaction mixture was poured into water and the product was extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ -hexane (v/v=1:1). The organic layer was washed successively with saturated aqueous  $\text{KHSO}_4$ , brine, sat. aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , and brine, and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . Evaporation of the solvent gave a residue, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography using  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ -hexane (v/v=1:49) to give acetate **9** (29 mg) in 91% yield. Colorless oil; IR 2880, 1710, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$   $\delta$  1.59 and 1.68 (each 3H, each brs), 1.64 (3H, d,  $J = 1.2$  Hz), 2.02 (3H, s), 1.95-2.15 (4H, m), 2.62 and 2.76 (each 1H,

each dd,  $J = 6.7$  and  $14.7$  Hz), 5.04 (1H, brt,  $J = 6.7$  Hz), 5.13 (1H, dd,  $J = 1.2$  and  $9.1$  Hz), 5.62 (1H, dt,  $J = 6.7$  and  $9.1$  Hz), 6.28 (1H, d,  $J = 1.2$  Hz), 7.23 (1H, brs), 7.33 (1H, t,  $J = 1.8$  Hz); MS (EI): 216 ( $M^+$ -AcOH); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{17}H_{24}O_3$  - AcOH: 216.1514. Found: 216.1514.

### Dendrolasin (10)

To a stirred solution of acetate **9** (18 mg, 0.065 mmol) in  $EtNH_2$  (3 mL) was added portionwisely Li metal (9 mg, 1.3 mmol) at  $2^\circ C$  and the reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h at the same temperature. After filtration of excess Li metal, filtrate was condensed to give a residue, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography using hexane to give dendrolasin **10** (5 mg) in 39% yield. The spectroscopic data obtained were identical with those reported.<sup>10c</sup>

### Naginata ketone (11)

A mixture of alcohols **2d** and **3d** (231 mg, **2d/3d**=21:79, 1.39 mmol), obtained by treatment of **1d** with  $s-BuLi$ , and  $MnO_2$  (4.8 g, 55.2 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL) was stirred for 8 h at rt. After filtration of inorganic material, filtrate was condensed to give a residue, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography using  $Et_2O$ -pentane (v/v=1:49) to give naginata ketone **11** (5.4 mg) in 11% yield based on **2d**. The spectroscopic data obtained were identical with those reported.<sup>11b</sup>

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