**Syntheses of Neuroprotective Bridged Diterpenes**

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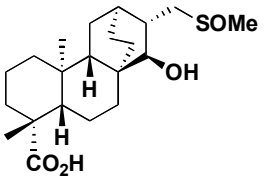
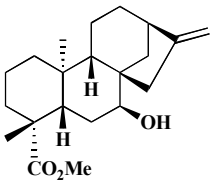
Serofendic acids (**1**), isolated from fetal calf serum, exhibit potent neuroprotective activity. Total syntheses of optically active serofendic acids have been accomplished *via* palladium catalyzed cycloalkenylation reaction and tin-free homoallyl-homoallyl radical rearrangement as key steps.[1]




**1**

Evaluation of synthetic compounds possessing a variety of bridged skeletons for lactate dehydrogenase induced by NMDA led us finding a new seed compound, methyl 7β-hydroxykaurenoate (**2**). It is noteworthy that the optically active compound **2** showed about twice activity of the corresponding racemate.[2]




**2**

Details of syntheses of these diterpenes are going to be discussed.

**References**

(1) Toyota, M.; Asano, T.; Ihara, M. *Org. Lett.* **2005**, *7*, 3929–3932.

(2) Toyota, M.; Matsuura, K.; Yokota, M.; Kimura, M.; Yonaga, M.; Sugimoto, H.; Ihara, M. *Chem. Pharm. Bull*. **2004**, *52*, 1153–1154.