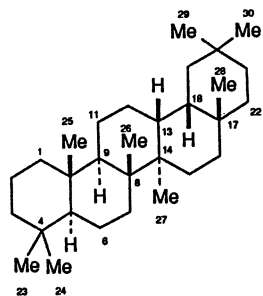
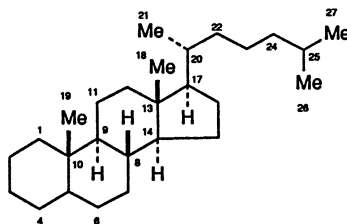


Oleanolic acid is a triterpene compound derived from oleanane (2-4) and is widely distributed in herbal medicine. The insect molting substances ecdysterone and inokosterone are of steroid nature with a cholestane (2-5) skeleton.

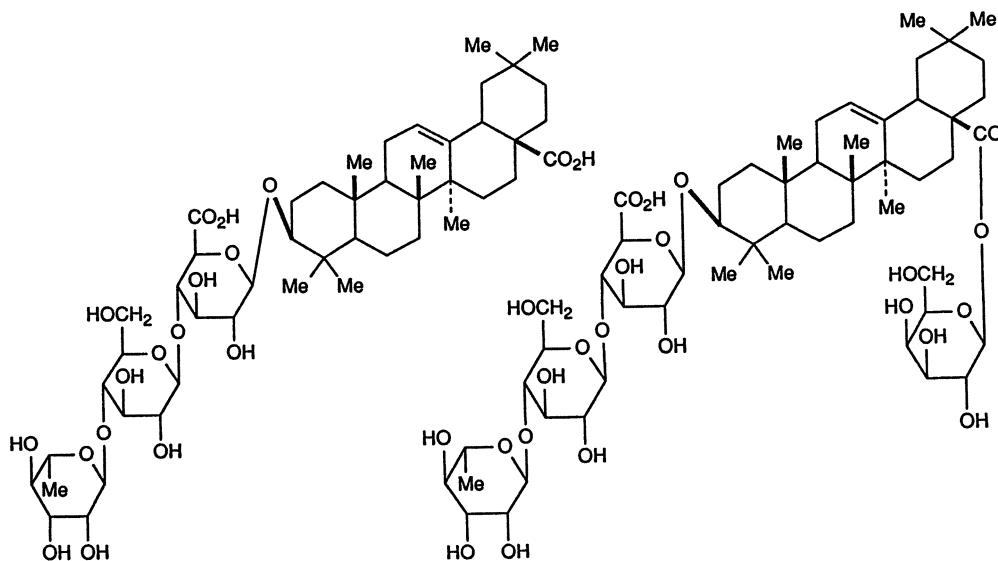


Oleanane (2-4)



Cholestane (2-5)

Two saponins, achyranthes saponin A (2-6) and B (2-7), were isolated from seeds of *A. aspera* [9], and two saponins, achyranthes saponin C (2-8) and D (2-9), were isolated from the unripe fruits of *A. aspera* [10]. After saponification of the four saponins only oleanolic acid was determined as a sapogenin. The structures of the four saponins were also determined.



Achyranthes saponin A (2-6)

Achyranthes saponin B (2-7)