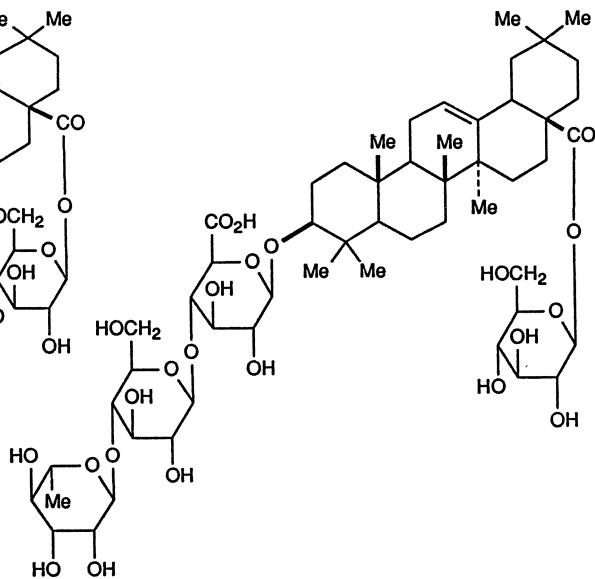


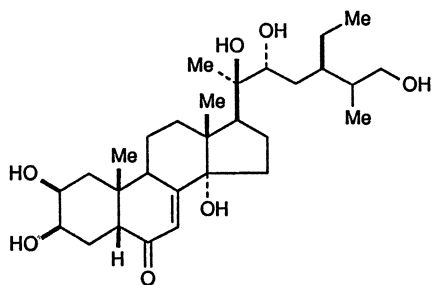
Achyranthes saponin C (2-8)



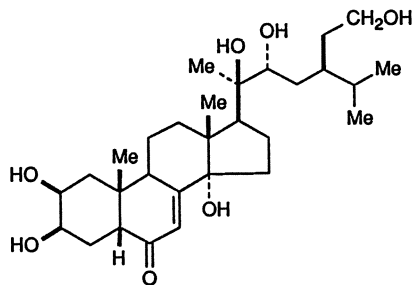
Achyranthes saponin D (2-9)

From the fresh root of *A. longifolia*, used in folk medicine, four compounds were isolated. They were identified as oleanolic acid, oleanolic acid glucuronide, ecdysterone, and ursolic acid on the basis of spectroscopic analyses [11].

Another Chinese traditional medicine of the family Amaranthaceae, officially listed in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia and used similarly to *Achyranthes* root, is Chuanni-xi, Radix Cyathulae, the dry root of *Cyathula officinalis*. It must be collected during fall and winter. *C. capitata*, an unofficial *Cyathula* plant was also used in folk medicine in China. The genus *Cyathula* is known to contain insect molting hormones [12]. From the root of *C. capitata* amarasterone A (2-10) and B (2-11) [13], capitasterone (2-12) [14], cyasterone (2-13) [15], isocyasterone, the 25-epimer of cyasterone [16], and sengosterone (2-14) [17] were isolated and structurally determined.



Amarasterone A (2-10)



Amarasterone B (2-11)