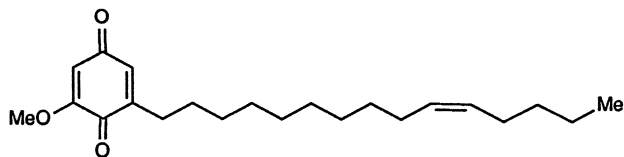
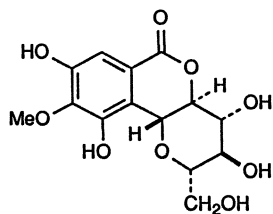


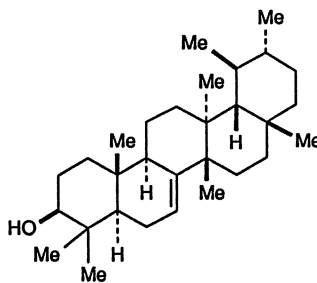
Embelin (19-4)



5-Methoxy-3-(*cis*-10-pentadecenyl)-  
1,4-benzoquinone (19-5)



Bergenin (19-6)



Ilexol (19-7)

### 19.3 Pharmacology

Ardisinol I and ardisinol II were both found to inhibit the growth of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in vitro. In clinical tests, the compounds were effective in 164 of 201 patients [5]. Bergenin is the active antitussive agent in *A. japonica* [1].

The 1,4-benzoquinones such as 5-methoxy-3-(*cis*-pentadec-10-enyl)-1,4-benzoquinone are inhibitors of arachidonate 5-lipoxygenase; this may account for their reported effectiveness in the treatment of asthma and inflammation [5].

### 19.4 Other *Ardisia* Species

#### 19.4.1 *Ardisia hortorum*

*A. hortorum* is another *Ardisia* species used as an antipyretic and antiinflammatory agent against laryngitis. From the leaves and stems bergenin was isolated [6, 7].