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Neo-clerodane diterpenoids from *Teucrium polium* subsp. *vincentinum* (rouy) D. Wood



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ABSTRACT

Four *neo*-clerodane diterpenoids, the new polivincins A – C and the known teulamifin B, were isolated by the phytochemical investigation of the acetone extract prepared from the aerial parts of *Teucrium polium* subsp. *vincentinum*, (Lamiaceae). The structure and stereochemistry of the compounds were established by IR, HRMS and different (Al-Khalil, 1995) NMR and 2D-NMR techniques.

1. Introduction

The genus Teucrium (Lamiaceae) has been thoroughly studied as a rich source of neo-clerodane diterpenoids with a great variety of biological activity. T. polium, a species belonging to the genus Teucrium, is a medicinal plant used in traditional folk medicine to treat many diseases such as abdominal pain, indigestion and diabetes (Al-Khalil, 1995; Said et al., 2002; Ljubuncic et al., 2006). The taxonomy studying of the section Polium of the genus determined 125 taxa and many variances (Navarro and El, 2000). Bruno and co-workers drew attention to the distribution of *neo*-clerodanes in the subspecies of the species T. polium (Bruno et al., 2003). They suggested that T. capitatum is taxonomically close to T. polium subsp. polium based on the presence of *capitatin* and *auropolin* in both species. The authors emphasized the fact that the diterpenoids, isolated by them from authentic T. polium subsp. polium, are distinctly different from those occurring in all the taxa indicated as T. polium. They underlined the necessity of a revision of these identifications. This question provokes our interest to determine diterpenoid content of the subspecies of T. polium growing in Bulgaria.

Five known *neo*-clerodane diterpenoids, teucrin P_1 , teucrin H_3 , montanin B, 19-deacetylteuscorodol, teucroxide and six new *neo*-clerodans, teupolins I – V and teulamifin B, were reported by Malakov et al. from Bulgarian plant *T. polium* designated as subsp. *polium* (Malakov et al., 1979, 1982; Malakov and Papanov, 1983; Malakov et al., 1988). Capitatin and auropolin were not detected. In Flora of Bulgaria (Jordanov et al., 1989) for species *polium* of genus *Teucrium* were described two subspecies, *capitatum* (L.) Arcangeli and *vincentinum* (Rouy) D. Wood. The authors noticed that subspecies polium of species polium was not spread in Bulgaria. Since, Malakov had gathered plant material from the area "Besaparski ridove" near Plovdiv, where *Teucrium polium* subsp. *capitatum* was spread, we decided to investigate the subsp. *vincentinum* (Rouy) D. Wood. The collected by us plant material was identified by Professor Rumen Mladenov from the Department of Botany and Education in biology, Plovdiv University, as *Teucrium polium* subsp. *vincentinum* (Rouy) D. Wood.

We report here on the structure elucidation of three new *neo*-clerodane diterpenoids, polivincins A–C (1-3) obtained from the acetone extract of the aerial parts of *Teucrium polium* subsp. *vincentinum*, besides the previously known teulamifin B (4) (Fig. 1).

2. Results and discussion

The bitter fraction obtained from the acetone extract of the plants was separated to three subfractions (I-III). For compound 1, named polivicin A (received after TLC chromatography of I) was assigned the molecular formula $C_{24}H_{30}O_8$ based on the pseudo-molecular positive ion peak, in its HR-ESIMS, at m/z 469.1844 [M + Na]⁺, (calcd. for $C_{24}H_{30}O_8$ Na: 469.1838).

The IR spectrum displayed absorptions for furan ring (1508, 875 cm⁻¹), γ -lactone and ester carbonyl groups (1743 cm⁻¹, broad band). The ¹³C NMR spectrum displayed the presence of twenty-four carbons, and a DEPT experiment identified three methyls, seven methylenes, seven methines (three for olefinic double bonds) and seven unprotonated carbon atoms, three of them are for carbonyl groups at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 171.0 and 172.0 (acetates) and 177.6 (γ -lactone) (Table 1). The presence of furan ring in the structure of the molecule was corroborated by the signals at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 125.0 (C-13), 108.1/ $\delta_{\rm H}$ 6.39 (dd, CH-14); 144.2/7.44 (t, CH-15) and 139.6/7.45 (m, CH-16) in the ¹³C and ¹H NMR spectra.

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Fig. 1. Structures of the isolated and used in the discussion neo-clerodane diterpenoiods.

Table 1	
Teuvincin A–C ^a NMR data.	

position		1			2			3	
	δ 13C, nH	$\delta^{1}H$	m, J (in Hz)	δ ¹³ C, nH	δ 1Η	m, J (in Hz)	δ 13C, nH	δ 1Η	m, J (in Hz)
1α	16.4, CH ₂	1.71	ov m ^c	23.1, CH_2	1.38	ov m ^c	21.4, CH ₂	2.13	ov m ^c
1β	, 2	2.19	ov m ^c	, 2	1.88	ov m ^c	, 2	1.80	m
2α	29.0, CH_2	1.30	m	25.0, CH_2	1.89	ov m ^c	$17.1, CH_2$	2.14	ov m ^c
2β	· -	1.68	ov m ^c	, -	1.39	ov m ^c	, <u> </u>	1.72	m
3α	29.7, CH ₂	1.81	m	26.3, CH_2	1.29	ov m ^c	30.1, CH ₂	1.59	dd, 11.8, 7.3
3β		2.18	ov m ^c		1.79	ov m ^c		1.24	m
4	86.2, C			47.1, CH	2.18	dd, 12.6; 3.2	88.2, C		
5	46.7, C			51.2, C			47.6, C		
6α	73.0, CH	5.68	dd, 3.7; 2.1	73.2, CH	5.36	t, 2.8	53.7, CH ₂	2.63	s
7α	21.3, CH_2	2.12	m	30.7 CH ₂	2.24	ddd, 15.3; 13.1; 2.3	211,0, C		
7β	· -	1.85	dt, 15.0; 3.8		1.87	dt, 15.4; 3.8			
8β	32.9, CH	1.78	m	33.2, CH	1.78	ov m ^c	32.1, CH	2.07	q, 4.5
9	51.9, C			48.0, C			69.6, C		*
10β	38.8, CH	2.16	ov m ^c	44.5, CH	2.15	dd, 12.0, 6.0	31.7, CH	2.16	dd, 5.3; 2.3
H-11α	41.5, CH ₂	2.47	dd, 14.0, 8.4	42.5, CH ₂	2.45	dd, 14.0; 8.4	41.7, CH ₂	2.47	dd, 13.1, 8.4
Η-11β		2.33	dd, 14.0; 9.0		2.35	dd,15.7; 7.4		2.32	dd, 12.5; 6.3
12α	72.2, CH	5.40	t, 8.6	71.7, CH	5.38	dd, 10.7; 6.8	72.2, CH	5.38	t, 8.7
13	125.0, C			125.3, C			125.0, C		
14	108.1, CH	6.39	dd, 1.8; 0.8	108.1, CH	6.38	br s	108.1, CH	6.39	br s
15	144.2, CH	7.44	t, 1.7	144.1, CH	7.43	br d, 1.7	144.1, CH	7.43	dd, 3.5; 1.9
16	139.6, CH	7.45	m	139.5, CH	7.44	br s	139.6, CH	7.45	br s
Me-17	16.5, CH ₃	0.93	d, 6.8	16.5, CH ₃	0.95	d, 6.7	16.6, CH ₃	0.95	d, 6.5
H-18b	66.9, CH ₂	4.06 ^b	d, 12.1	108.7, CH	4.46 ^b	br s	66.6, CH ₂	3.37	d, 11.5
H-18a		4.10	d, 12.1		4.14	d, 10.6		4.14	d, 11.6
H-19b	71.7, CH ₂	4.77	d, 8.0	70.2, CH ₂	3.96	d, 10.7	71.8, CH ₂	4.04	d, 8.0
H-19a		4.16	d, 8.0					4.74	d, 8.0
20 (C = O)	177.6, C			177.0, C			177.9, C		
$6^1 (C = O)$	171.0, C			170.0, C					
6 ² (Me)	21.4, CH ₃	2.06	S	21.4, CH ₃	2.08	s			
$18^1 (C = O)$	170.0, C								
18 ² (Me)	20.9, CH ₃	2.10	S						
MeO	-			54,4, CH ₃	3.25	S			

^aCDCl₃, ¹H 600.13 MHz, δref 7.26; ¹³C 150.9 MHz, δref 77.0 ppm; ^b endo hydrogen with respect to ring B; ^c data from HSQC; ov overlapped signal.

Assignments of the olefinic protons to the corresponding carbon atoms were in agreement with the data from HSQC spectrum and observed HMBC correlations from H-14 to C-15 and C-16, from H-15 to C-13 and from H-16 to C-14 and C-15. In the HMBC spectrum were displayed additional correlations from the downshifted at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.40 proton H-12 (connected with carbon at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 722) to carbon C-13 and from the resonated at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.33 proton H-11 β , which showed cross peak in the HSQC spectrum with carbon at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 41.5, to carbons 9 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 51.9), 10 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 38.8) and 12 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 72.2). The proton H-11 α ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.48) showed cross peaks with the signal at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 177.7 (carbonyl C-20) and C-9. In the COSY experiment, the olefin proton at δ 7.44 bounded to the carbon at δ 144.2 (C-15), correlated with the methine proton at δ 6.39, which correlated with the carbon at δ 108.1 (C-14) in the HSQC experiment. Another methine proton, resonated at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.40 and connected with the oxygenated carbon C-12 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 72.2), correlated to the two doublet of doublets at δ 2.47 (H-11 α) and 2.33 (H-11 β). We placed the furan moiety at 12 β position in accordance with the displayed in the NOESY spectrum cross peaks of Me-17 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.94) with H-14 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 6.39) and H-16 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.45), as

well as of H-1 α ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.19) with H-12 α ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.40).

There were ¹H-¹H COSY cross peaks of H-6 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.68 dd) with both H₂-7 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.12 and 1.85) and an HSQC correlation to $\delta_{\rm C}$ 73.0 (i.e. H-6 is geminal to acetate). The methylene protons H₂-18 showed HMBC cross peaks to C-3 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 29.7), C-4 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 86.2), C-5 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 46.7) and carbonyl carbon atom C-18¹ ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 170.0).

In both acetate there were HMBC correlations $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.06 / $\delta_{\rm C}$ 171.0 and $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.10 / $\delta_{\rm C}$ 170.0. The positions of the two acetoxy groups were determined to be at C-6 and C-18 from HMBC correlations from H-7 α to 6¹ (C = O), from H-18a to 18¹ (C = O) and H-18b to 18¹ (C = O).

We placed the C-6 acetoxy group at β position and H-6 in α position in agreement with the small value of 3.7 Hz and 2.1 Hz for the coupling constants in the ¹H NMR spectrum of the $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.68 dd, due to the equatorial methine proton H-6. This was supported by the observed interaction in the NOESY experiment of H-6 with the downshifted doublet at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.16, which was assigned for one methylene proton (H-19b) of oxygenated C-19 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 71.7). The protons H-19a and H-19b HMBC heterocorelated to C-4, C-5, C-6 and C-10 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 38.8) and showed additional NOESY interaction, in turn, with H-2 α and with H-7 α .

The last oxygenated quaternary carbon atom at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 86.2 (C-4) was involved in an oxetane ring in the molecule supported by mentioned heterocorrelations to carbon C-4 in the HMBC spectrum from H-18a, H-18b and H-19b.

¹H NMR data of **1** are very close to those reported by Malakov et al. for product received after acetylation of montanin D (5), received from *T. montanum* (Malakov et al., 1978). Quoted data were: $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.10 and 2.05 (each 3H, s)/vs 2.10 and 2.06 in 1; 4.05 (H₂-18)/vs 4.06 and 4.10; 5.62 (1H, t, J = 4.0 Hz)/vs 5.68 (1H, dd, J = 3.7; 2.1 Hz) and an AB type quartet at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.08 and 4.35 (1H each, J = 7.5 Hz, H₂-19)/vs 4.77 (1 H d, J = 8.0 Hz, H-19a) and 4.16 (1 H d, J = 8.0 Hz, H-19b). The differences in the data were probably due to the resolution ability of the used spectrometers for measurement of ¹H NMR spectra, operating at 600.130 MHz for **1** and quoted 80, 100 and 220 MHz by Malakov for hemi-synthetic product. Also, it is not clear the kind of solvent used by Malakov. He reported using solvents CDCI₃ and C₅D₅N jointly for all measurements without particularization of the conditions for individual compounds. The written above proton data were the only reported by Malakov, as ¹³C NMR spectrum missed.

The HR-ESIMS of compound **2**, obtained from subfraction **II**, with the trivial name polivincin B, showed a pseudo-molecular positive ion peak at m/z 441.1861 [M + Na]⁺, which indicated the molecular formula of C₂₃H₃₀O₇, (calcd. for C₂₃H₃₀O₇Na: 441.1889), while in its IR spectrum were observed absorptions consistent with the presence of a furan ring (3089, 1506, 1083 and 875 cm⁻¹), a γ -lactone (1762 and 1181 cm⁻¹) and acetate (1737 and 1246 cm⁻¹) groups.

The ¹³C NMR spectrum displayed the presence of twenty-three carbons, and a DEPT experiment identified three methyls, six methylenes, nine methines (three from furan double bonds) and five quaternary carbon atoms, two of which are for carbonyl groups at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 177.0 (y-lactone) and 170.0 (acetate) (Table 1). The conjectural furan moiety in the molecule was confirmed by the signals, in the ¹H NMR spectrum of **2**, for aromatic protons at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.44 (br s, H-16), 7.43 (br d, H-15) and 6.38 (br s, H-14). Observed triplet at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.33 / $\delta_{\rm C}$ 71.7, assigned for the H-12 proton, was characteristic signal for neo-clerodane diterpenoids possessing furan ring and y-lactone (atom numbers C-11 - C-16 and C-20). The γ -lactone included carbon atoms C-9, C-11, C-12 and C-20 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 177.0). This connectivity was supported by the 2D NMR data. Olefin methines protons H-14, H-15, H-16 and the H-12 sp (Ljubuncic et al., 2006) methine proton were attached to corresponding carbons resonated at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 108.1, 144.1, 139.5 and 71.7 on the ground of HSOC results. The abundance of ${}^{1}\text{H} - {}^{13}\text{C}$ HMBC correlations from H-14 to C-13, C-15, C-16, from H-15 to C-13, C-16, from H-16 to C-13, C-14, C-15, from H-11α to C-9, C-10, C-12, C-13, C-20 and from H-11β to C-8, C-9, C-10, C-12, C-13 confirmed the above connectivity and assignments including the position of quaternary carbons C-13 and C-20. ¹H - ¹H interactions in the COSY experiment, between the protons H-14/H-15, H-14/H-16, H-15/H-16 and between the both methylene protons H₂-11 with H-12, were observed. The S configuration to the C-12 chiral center was assigned based on the NOESY observed between the doublet for Me-17 (3H, $\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.95) group and the H-14 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 6.38) and H-16 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.44) from the furan ring.

Trans junction in the decalin core of polivincin B was determined by the characteristic signals in the ¹H NMR spectrum at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.15 for methine proton H-10 (1 H dd, J = 12.0; 6.0), the doublet at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.95 for Me-17 (3 H d, J = 6.7) and the NOESY correlations of methylene proton H-19a with protons 1 α , 2α , 3α and of H-19b with 6α and 7α . Signals in high-frequency region for geminal protons to oxygen atoms were displayed in the ¹H and ¹³C spectra for methine at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.36 (1H t, J = 2.8, H- 6α)/ $\delta_{\rm C}$ 73.2 (CH) and methine at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.46 (1H br s, H-18 α)/ $\delta_{\rm C}$ 108.7 (CH), which heterocorrelated to C-3 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 26.3), C-4 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 47.1), C-19 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 70.2) and 18¹ ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 54.4). The resonances of methylene protons, geminal to oxygen too, at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.14 (1 H d, J = 106 H-19a) and 3.96 (1 H d, J = 107 H-19b) showed HMBC cross peaks to C-4, C-6 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 73.2) and C-18 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 108.7). The signal for methyl protons at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.25 (3H s, MeO- 18¹), bound to the carbon at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 54.4 (CH₃), correlated in HMBC spectrum to $\delta_{\rm C}$ 108.7 (C-18). For the discussed above protons ¹H – ¹H COSY correlations between H-19a/H-19b, H-6 α /H-7 α ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.24), H-6 α /H-7 β ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.87) were evident. All above data, together with the characteristic signal for the methine proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.18 (dd, J = 12.6; 3.2, H-4) disclosed the presence in the structure of an acetal moity formed by the C-18 carbon with the H-19 hydroxymethyl and a methanol molecule. Methoxy group was attached at C-18 in endo position with respect to the ring B of the decalin ring on the ground on the cross peak in the NOESY experiment between H-18a/H-3 α and MeO-18¹/H-6 α . The NOESY interaction of the proton H-10 with H-1, H-2, H-4, H-8 and H-11 protons indicated, that they all were cofacial and β oriented.

Acetoxy group, resonated at δ 2.08 (3H s)/170.0 (C) and 21.4 (CH₃), was located at 6β position in accordance with small value of coupling constants of the germinal equatorial 6α proton, and also the NOESY interactions between H- 6α /7 α , H- 6α /Me-18 (Al-Khalil, 1995) and H- 6α /19a.

Further, the protons in the upfield region of the spectrum were a multiplet for methine at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.78, which was bound to carbon at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 33.2 (C-8), correlated in the ¹H – ¹H COSY spectrum with H-7*a*, H-7*β* and Me-17; there were seven overlapped protons detected in the 1.38–1.79 ppm range.

Finally, the spectral data of polivincin B were very close to those of teupolin XII (6) isolated by Fiorentino et al. in 2003 (Fiorentino et al., 2011). Observed differences were the downshifted signal in ¹H NMR spectrum for the proton H-6 α , from $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.23 in 6 to $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.36 in the spectrum of **2**, besides the additional signals in ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of **2** for acetoxy group at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.08/ $\delta_{\rm C}$ 170.0 (CO) and 21.4 (CH₃).

For the new compound polivincin C (3), isolated from the subfraction III, was established molecular formula C₂₀H₂₆O₇ by the negative [M-H]- molecular ion peak, in its HRESIMS, at m/z 377.1599, (calcd for C₂₀H₂₅O₇: 377.1600). The IR spectrum displayed absorptions for hydroxyl (3439 $\mbox{cm}^{-1}\mbox{)},$ furan (1506, 875 $\mbox{cm}^{-1}\mbox{)},$ $\gamma\mbox{-lactone}$ and carbonyl (1759 cm⁻¹, broad band) functionalities. The ¹³C NMR spectrum displayed the presence of twenty carbons, and a DEPT experiment identified one methyl, seven methylenes, six methines and six unprotonated carbon atoms, as two of them are for carbonyl groups at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 211.0 (ketone) and 177.9 (γ -lactone). The signals at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 125.0 (C-13), $\delta_{\rm C}$ $108,2/\delta_{\rm H}$ 6.39 br s (H-14), $\delta_{\rm C}$ 144.1/ $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.43 dd (H-15) and $\delta_{\rm C}$ 139.6/ $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.45 br s (CH-16) in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra indicated the presence of furan ring in the structure of the molecule (Table 1). Attachments of the furan protons to the corresponding carbons were in agreement with HSQC spectrum and observed HMBC correlations from H-14 to C-16, from H-15 to C-16 and from H-16 to C-13 and C-14. In the HMBC spectrum were displayed additional correlations to carbon C-13 from the downshifted at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.38 proton H-12 and from the resonated at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.32 proton H-11 β , which showed cross peak in the HSQC spectrum, with carbon at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 41.7. Two protons, H-11 β ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.32) and H-8 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.07) showed cross peak with the signal at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 177.9 (carbonyl C-20). In the COSY experiment, the furan proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.43, which was bound to the carbon at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 144.1 (C-15), correlated with the methine proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 6.39, which correlated with the carbon at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 108.2 (C-14) in the HSQC experiment. Another methine proton, resonated at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.38 and connected with the oxygenated carbon C-12 ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 72.2), correlated to the two doublet of doublets at δ 2.47 (H-11 α) and 2.32 (H-11 β). We placed the furan moiety at 12β position in accordance with the displayed in the NOESY spectrum cross peaks of Me-17 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.94) with H-14 and H-16, as well as between the protons H-11 α /H-12 α , H-11 α /H-1 α ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.13) and H-12 α /H-1 α . The last proton (H-1 α) showed NOESY interaction with signals at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.04 (H-19a) and 4.74 (H-19b), which indicated its α -orientation.

The rest four signals of oxygenated carbons, two unprotonated and two methylene, were assigned in the decalin core for carbons C-4 (δ_C 88.2, C), C-7 (δ_C 211.0, CO), C-18 (δ_C 66.6, CH₂) and C-19 (δ_C 71.8, CH₂). Assignments were in consistence with 2D spectra. In HMBC spectrum were observed cross peaks from the doublets at δ_H 3.37 and 4.14, which are bounded with carbon resonated at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 66.6 (C-18) as it was seen in HSQC experiment, in turn to $\delta_{\rm C}$ 88.2 (C-4), 47.6 (C-5) and to 30.1 (C-3), C-4, C-5. The doublets at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.04 and 4.74, which showed in HSQC direct bound with carbon resonated at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 71.8 (C-19), had HMBC correlations, in turn to C-4, C-5 and C-9 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 69.6).

The signal for ketone functional group at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 211.0, was unambiguously assigned for C-7 on the ground on observed HMBC correlations from the singlet for two protons at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.63 (CH₂-6) to $\delta_{\rm C}$ 211.0 (C-7), 301 (C-3), 69.6 (C-9) and from the doublet of doublets at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.17 (H-10) to $\delta_{\rm C}$ 53.7 (C-6) and to 211.0 (C-7). Also, the usual multiplet for H-8, in diterpenoids with unsubstituted carbon C-7, was reduced into quartet at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.07. This simplified signal (H-8) displayed interaction, in the ¹H-¹H COSY spectrum, with the doublet for three protons at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.94 (Me-17), and HMBC cross peak to the carbonyl atom at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 177.9 (C-20). On the other hand, Me-17 protons heterocorelated to $\delta_{\rm C}$ 32.1 (C-8) and 53.7 (C-6).

The interaction between protons H-18a and H-19a, observed in the NOESY experiments, confirmed the *a*-orientation of the H-18 hydroxymethylene group and the *β*-orientation of the tertiary hydroxyl group at C-4, respectively. Other NOESY interactions, H-3α ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.58)/H-1*a*, H-3*α*/H-2*α* ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 2.15), 10*β*/1*β* ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.80) and 10*β*/2*β* ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.72), were observed.

The last fraction **III** provided second compound identical in all respects (IR, HRESIMS, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and 2D NMR experiments) with teulamifin B (4), previously isolated by Malakov in 1988 (Malakov et al., 1988).

From the acetone extract of *Teucrium polium* subsp. *vincentinum* four furoclerodane lactone diterpenoids, the new polivincins A–C and previously known teulamifin B, were isolated and structural elucidated by extensive spectroscopic investigation. The absolute configuration of compounds **1-3** was not ascertained. However, on biogenetic grounds, it may be supposed that **1–3** belong to the trans neo-clerodane series like the other diterpenoids isolated from *Teucrium polium* species (Bruno et al., 2003; Malakov et al., **1978**; Fiorentino et al., 2011). The presence of capitatin and auropolin were not detected in our plant material and the four isolated by us compounds were different from all diterpenoids reported previously by Malakov as constituents of the plant *Teucrium polium*. Our suggestion, that Malakov and coauthors had studied *Teucrium polium* subsp. *capitatum*, was corroborated.

3. Experimental

3.1. Structural data

¹H NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance II + spectrometers, operating at 600.130 MHz. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 150.903 MHz spectrometer. TMS was used as internal standard and CDCl₃ as solvent. Chemical shifts (δ) are expressed in ppm and coupling constants (J) in Hertz. The IR spectra were registered in KBr pellet on a Vertex 70 spectrometer from 4000 cm⁻¹ to 400 cm⁻¹ at resolution 4 cm⁻¹ with 25 scans. The mass spectra were measured on Hewlett Packard 6890 GC System Plus/5973 MSD. The melting points were determined by a SMP-10 digital melting point apparatus (Fig. 1).

3.2. Plant material

The stems of *Teucrium polium* subsp. *vincentinum* L. were collected in July 2018 from sand dunes of seaside resort Atleman in Kiten, Bulgaria, and voucher specimens (n. 7212) were deposited in the Herbarium of the Higher Institute of Agriculture at Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

3.3. Extraction and isolation

Dried and finely powdered aerial parts of *Teucrium polium* subsp. *vincentinum* (Rouy) D. Wood (0.850 kg) were extracted with Me₂CO (4×3 L) at room temperature for a week. After filtration, the solvent

was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure and low temperature (< 40 °C) yielding a gum (15.7 g), which was dissolved in aq. Me₂CO (40% H₂O, v/v, 100 mL). This solution was cooled to 4 °C for 24 h and filtered. The filtrate was extracted with CHCl₃ (3 x 100 mL) and the organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated in vacuum to afford a residue (2.4 g, bitter fraction). This residue was subjected to CC (55 g silica gel Merck n. 7734, deactivated with 10% H₂O, w/w). Pure petroleum ether (10 L), followed by a gradient of CH₂Cl₂ – CH₃OH mixtures (10:0 to 9.8:0.2) were used as eluting solvents. Initially, three diterpene fractions I - III were obtained. Preparative TLC of the fractions (n-hexane-EtOAc, 1:4 was used as eluent) afforded pure compounds as follows, 12.5 mg of polivincin A (1) from fraction I, 9.2 mg of polivincin B (2) from fraction II, 8.0 mg of polivincin C (3) and 11.3 mg of teulamifin B (4) from fraction III.

Polivincin A (1). Colorless resin. TLC: R_f 0.75 (EtOAc). IR ν_{max} (KBr): 3447, 2929, 1743, 1637, 1508, 1459, 1383, 1246, 1163, 1046, 982, 875, 758, 667 cm⁻¹.

¹H and ¹³C NMR: see Table 1.

Positive ESIMS (70 eV, direct inlet) m/z (rel. int. in %): 469 $[M + Na]^+$ (96.2), 425 (37.2), 381 (38.1), 353 (26.7), 304 (13.8). HRESIMS m/z 469.1844 $[M + Na]^+$, (calcd. for $C_{24}H_{30}O_8Na$: 469.1838).

Polivincin B (2). Amorphous solid. MP: 97–99 C°, TLC: R_f 0.72 (EtOAc). IR ν_{max} (KBr): 2931, 1762, 1737, 1655, 1506, 1458, 1383, 1325, 1246, 1212, 1181, 1157, 1111, 1083, 1062, 1024, 988, 955, 929, 875, 853, 800, 779, 730, 708, 647, 602 cm⁻¹.

¹H and ¹³C NMR: see Table 1.

Positive ESIMS (70 eV, direct inlet) m/z (rel. int. in %): 441 $[M + Na]^+$ (97.1), 393 (53.9), 358 (6.6), 304 (29.7), 127 (4.0). HRESIMS m/z 441.1861 $[M + Na]^+$, (calcd. for $C_{23}H_{30}O_7Na$: 441.1889).

Polivincin C (3). Colorless oil. TLC: Rf 0.69 (EtOAc). IR ν_{max} (KBr): 3439, 2928, 1759, 1506, 1459, 1383, 1321, 1159, 1056, 1023, 930, 875, 797, 731, 669, 647, 601 cm⁻¹.

¹H and ¹³C NMR: see Table 1

Negative ESIMS (70 eV, direct inlet) m/z (rel. int. in %): 377 [M – H]– (95.1), 287 (13.4), 255 (9.1), 183 (6.7), 137 (3.2). HRESIMS m/z 377.1599 [M – H]– (calcd for $C_{20}H_{25}O_7$: 377.1600).

3.4. Supplementary data

Tables of complete spectral data, IR spectra, HRESIMS spectra and the ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and 2D NMR spectra (with enlarged detailed sections for multiplets and cross peaks) are included in a "Supplementary Data" section.

Declarations of interest

none.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary material related to this article can be found, in the online version, at doi:https://doi.org/10.1016/j.phytol.2019.04.013.

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