

## Five bicyclo-[3.3.0]octa-2,6-dienes

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A series of five compounds containing the bicyclo-[3.3.0]octa-2,6-diene skeleton are described, namely tetra-methyl cis,cis-3,7-dihydroxy-bicyclo-[3.3.

0]octa-2,6-diene-2,4-exo,6,8-exo-tetracarboxyl-ate, C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>10</sub>, (I), tetra-methyl

cis,cis-3,7-di-hydr-oxy-1,5-dimethyl-bicyclo-[3.3.0]octa-2,6-diene-2,4-exo,6,8- exo-tetra-carboxyl-ate,

C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>10</sub>, (II), tetra-methyl cis,cis-3,7-

dimethoxybicyclo-[3.3.0]octa-2,6-diene-2,4-exo,6,8-exo-tetra-carboxyl-ate, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>10</sub>, (III),

tetra-methyl cis,cis-3,7-dimeth-oxy-1,5-dimethyl-bicyclo-[3.3.

0]octa-2,6-diene-2,4-exo,6,8-exo-tetra-carboxylate, C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>10</sub>, (IV), and tetra-methyl

cis,cis-3,7-diacetoxy-bicyclo-[3.3.0]octa-2,6-diene-2,4-exo,6,8- exo-tetra-carboxyl-ate, C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>12</sub>,

(V). The bicyclic core is substituted in all cases at positions 2, 4, 6 and 8 with methoxy-carbonyl

groups and additionally at positions 3 and 7 with hydroxy [in (I) and (II)], methoxy [in (III) and (IV)] or

acet-oxy [in (V)] groups. The conformations of the methoxy-carbonyl gr