

Azorellane diterpenoids from *Laretia acaulis* inhibit nuclear factor-kappa B activity

Borquez, Jorge

Loyola, Luis A.

Morales, Glauco

San-Martín, Aurelio

Roldan, Raquel

Marquez, Nieves

Muñoz, Eduardo

Transcription factor NF- κ B plays a key role in the inducible expression of genes mediating proinflammatory effects, and is thus an important target for the development of antiinflammatory drugs. *Laretia acaulis* (Cav.) Gill et Hook (Apiaceae) is a medicinal plant used in the high Andes mountains for different ailments such as diabetes, inflammation and for general pain. In addition to the known azorellanol (2) and 7-deacetylazorellanol (4), 13-epiazorellanol (1) was also isolated from the aerial part of this plant. Its structure was based on spectroscopic comparison with azorellanol (2) and by chemical characterization. While compounds 2 and 4 showed potent anti-NF- κ B activity by targeting the activity of the I κ B kinase, compound 1 was completely inactive highlighting the importance of position 13 in the biological activities of this class of tetracyclic diterpenoids. Copyright © 2007 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.