

## ONE - STEP SELECTIVE SYNTHESIS OF 13-*EPI*-MANOYL OXIDE

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**Abstract.** The selective one-step synthesis of 13-*epi*-manoyl oxide is reported based on a low-temperature superacidic cyclization of sclareol. The reaction conditions have been finely tuned in order to achieve a 9:1 ratio between epimeric oxides in favour of the desired 13-*epi*-oxide. The structures were confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR, and composition of the crude reaction products determined by GC-MS. These results have been interpreted by a hypothetical S<sub>N</sub>2 mechanism which occurs with inversion of configuration around the C-13 chiral center of the starting substrate. The preparative value of the elaborated procedure is demonstrated on a gram-scale experiment.

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