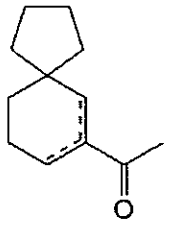
Claims:

1. A method of making spirogalbanone comprising the steps of:
   (a) subjecting ethynylspirodecanol to a Rupe rearrangement to give a compound of the formula I



I

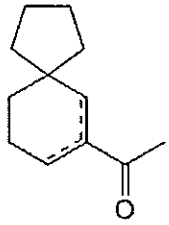
   (b) converting the compound of (a) to a C1-C4 alkyl acetal;
   (c) subjecting the acetal to a trans-acetalisation reaction with allyl alcohol in the presence of a mild acid catalyst;
   (d) heating the product of (c) in the presence of an acid catalyst to give an allylenolether; and
   (e) subjecting the product of (d) to a Claisen rearrangement to give spirogalbanone.

2. A method according to claim 1, in which the acetal formation of step (b) is caused by the reaction of the compound of Formula I with an alcohol and a corresponding trialkylorthoformate in the presence of a strong acid catalyst, particularly sulphuric acid and methanesulphonic acid.

3. A method according to claim 1, in this step (b) is carried out at a temperature below 0°C, particularly between -10°C and -5°C.

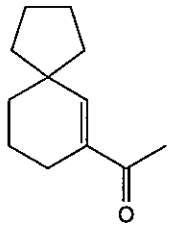
4. A method according to claim 1, in which steps (c) and (d) are performed together.

5. A compound of the formula I

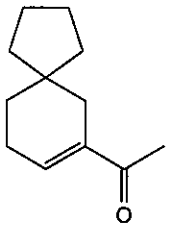


I

6. A compound according to claim 5 selected from the compounds of Formulae Ia and Ib:



Ia



Ib