

Alkaloids

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**Synthesis of N-Isobutylnoroxymorphone from Naltrexone by a Selective Cyclopropane Ring Opening Reaction.** — Hydrogenation of naltrexone (I) in the presence of HBr leads to ring cleavage of the cyclopropane ring rather than reduction of the 6-keto group. The novel derivative (II) shows surprising analgesic effects in the mouse acetic acid writhing test, indicating that (II) acts as agonist. — (FUJII, H.; OSA, Y.; ISHIHARA, M.; HANAMURA, S.; NEMOTO, T.; NAKAJIMA, M.; HASEBE, K.; MOCHIZUKI, H.; NAGASE\*, H.; *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 18 (2008) 18, 4978-4981; Sch. Pharm., Kitasato Univ., Minato, Tokyo 108, Japan; Eng.) — Schulze

