Synthesis of (±)-Waihoensene

**Significance:** Isolated from a New Zealand podocarp in 1997, waihoensene is a tetracyclic diterpene with four contiguous quaternary carbon centers. Lee and co-workers report the first total synthesis of the title compound by employing a trimethylenemethane tandem cycloaddition.

**Comment:** Condensation of aldehyde F with tosylhydrazide followed by elimination, afforded diazoalkane G, which underwent the key tandem cycloaddition to afford tetracycle J. Four more steps completed the synthesis of (±)-waihoensene.

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