

isoprenoids

Compounds formally derived from isoprene (2-methylbuta-1,3-diene), the skeleton of which can generally be discerned in repeated occurrence in the molecule. The skeleton of isoprenoids may differ from strict additivity of isoprene units by loss or shift of a fragment, commonly a methyl group. The class includes both *hydrocarbons* and oxygenated derivatives.

See also *carotenoids, steroids, terpenes, terpenoids, prenols*.
1995, 67, 1345; see also W.B. 255