

Synthesis of Novel imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles from thiohydantoins and Diethyl oxalate

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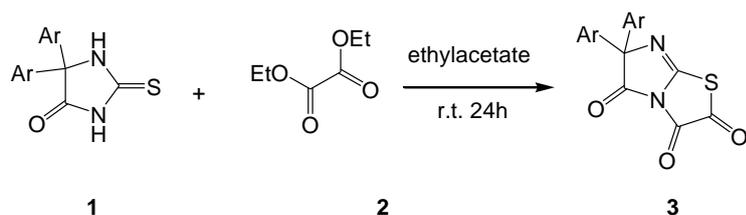
Abstracts- Novel imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles were synthesized in good yield via a mild reaction of thiophenytain and diethyl oxalate in the presence of 10% mol *p*-TSA.

Keywords: Thiohydantoin, Diethyl oxalate, imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles, *p*-TSA, Antitumor.

Introduction

Thiazoles occupy a prominent position among heterocycles. In nature, the thiazolium ring is the chemically active center in the coenzyme derived from vitamin B₁ (thiamin). A large number of thiazoles obtained from microbial and marine origins exhibit important biological effects such as antitumor, antifungal, antibiotic, and antiviral activities. Synthetic thiazoles have also been shown to exhibit a wide variety of biological activities, while others have found application as liquid crystals³ and cosmetic sunscreens. The classical method for the synthesis of thiazoles is the Hantzsch process, in which a α -halo ketone is condensed with a thioamide. This method gives excellent yields for simple thiazoles; however, for some substituted examples, low yields have been reported. Thiohydantoin and its derivatives are important in organic and biological chemistry not only due to their presence as key structural units in many important pharmaceuticals, but they can also be employed in synthetic chemistry as building blocks. Diesters are the only class of stable organic compounds with a formally divalent carbon atom. Owing to its reactivity, the diester group differs fundamentally from other functional groups. One of the classic applications in the chemistry of diesters is heterocyclic synthesis.

In this communication, we would like to report a novel reaction for the synthesis of 6,6-diphenylimidazo[2,1-b]thiazole-2,3,5(6H)-trione derivatives. The reaction of thiohydantoins **1** and diethyl oxalate **2** in the presence of catalytic amount of *p*-TSA proceeds in room temperature (Scheme 1).



1	Ar
a	C ₆ H ₅
b	4-Me-C ₆ H ₅
c	4-Cl-C ₆ H ₅

3	Ar
a	C ₆ H ₅
b	4-Me-C ₆ H ₅
c	4-Cl-C ₆ H ₅

Experimental

Thiophenytol **1** and diethyl oxalate were obtained from Fluka and were used without further purification. 5,5-Diarylthiohydantoin **2** were prepared by known methods. Melting points were measured on an Electrothermal 9100 apparatus. Elemental analyses for C, H, and N were performed using a Heraeus CHNO-Rapid analyser. IR spectra were measured on a Shimadzu IR-460 spectrometer. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were measured with a Bruker DRX-300 Avance instrument with CDCl₃ as solvent at 300 and 75 MHz, respectively. Mass spectra were recorded on a Finnigan-Matt 8430 mass spectrometer operating at an ionisation potential of 70 eV.

General Procedure for the Preparation of 6,6-diphenylimidazo[2,1-b]thiazole-2,3,5(6H)-trione derivatives **3**.

A solution of **2** (2 mmol) in 5 mL of ethylacetate was added dropwise to a stirred solution of **1** (2 mmol) and p-TSA (0.2 mmol) in 5 mL of ethylacetate at 5°C for 10 min. The reaction mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stand for 24 h. The product was filtered and washed with cold ethylacetate to afford the pure title compound.

6,6-diphenylimidazo[2,1-b]thiazole-2,3,5(6H)-trione derivatives; m.p. 213.5–214.5 °C; yield: 0.55 g (85%); ¹H NMR: 7.02–7.66 (10H, m, C₆H₅)

Results and discussion

In summary, we have described a simple one-pot and efficient procedure for the synthesis of imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole derivatives by using catalytic amount of p-TSA. This class of compounds has also been used as precursors in the new heterocycles. Salient features of this method are mild reaction conditions, environmental compatibility, ease of isolation of product, and excellent reusability of the catalyst.

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