Studies on Seven-Membered Heterocycles. XXXI.¹⁾ Synthesis of 1,4-Oxazepinones and 1,4-Diazepinones from 2-Pyridones and Their Conversion into Fully Unsaturated 1,4-Oxazepines and 1,4-Diazepines

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Thermolysis of the 6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-ones (8 and 21) and 3,6-diazatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-ones (9 and 22), prepared from the corresponding 2-pyridones (5) via the 2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-ones (7 and 18), resulted in valence isomerization with ring opening to give the novel 1,4-oxazepin-5-ones (10a—e and 15a—c) and 1,4-diazepin-5-ones (11a—e and 16a—c), respectively. Treatment of the N-unsubstituted compounds 15 and 16 with triethyloxonium tetrafluoroborate afforded the fully unsaturated 1,4-oxazepines (23a—c) and 1H-1,4-diazepines (24a—c), respectively.

Keywords 2-pyridóne; 1,4-oxazepin-5-one; 1,4-diazepin-5-one; 1,4-oxazepine; 1,4-diazepine; 6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]-heptan-7-one; 3,6-diazatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one; thermal valence isomerization; ring expansion

The synthesis of new seven-membered heterocyclic rings with two or more hetero atoms has recently been an object of extensive study.^{2,3)} Among the three possible fully unsaturated monocyclic dihetero seven-membered ring isomers (diheteroepines) due to the isomeric positions of the two hetero atoms, 1,2- and 1,3-diheteroepines such as $1,2^{-3}$ and 1,3-diazepines^{4,5)} and 1,3-oxazepines^{6,7)} are known, but as regards the 1,4-isomers, only highly substituted 6H-1,4-diazepines had been reported⁸⁾ prior to our work.^{7,9)} We have recently shown that the tricyclic compounds 1 and 3 having a highly strained bicyclopentane ring system undergo thermal or photochemical valence isomerization with ring opening to give the dihydro (2)¹⁰⁾ and fully unsaturated 1,4-diheteroepines (4),7) respectively. On the other hand, with regard to monocyclic diheteroepinones, only 1,2-diazepinones are known. 11) Therefore, we were interested in the ring opening of the oxo derivatives of 1 and we report here the synthesis of novel 1,4-oxazepin-5-ones and 1,4-diazepin-5-ones, and conversion of them into the corresponding fully unsaturated 5-ethoxy-1,4-diheteroepines. 12)

The N-methoxymethyl-2-pyridones (6a-e), prepared from the corresponding 2-pyridones (5) by treatment with chloromethyl methyl ether, were irradiated in benzene for 20—40 h to result in cyclization giving rise to the 2-aza-3-oxobicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-enes (7) in 40—70% yields. Treatment of 7 with m-chloroperbenzoic acid (m-CPBA)

heat

heat

$$X = 0$$
, NCO₂Et, S, CH₂
 $Y = CO_2Me$, CO₂CH₂Ph
 $R = H$, Me, Ph

 $X = 0$, NCO₂Et
 $R = H$, Me

Chart 1

gave the key tricyclic oxirane compounds **8a**—**e**, 6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2,4}]heptan-7-ones, in *ca*. 95% yields. the aziridine compounds **9a**—**e**, 3,6-diazatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2,4}]heptan-7-ones, were prepared in *ca*. 40% yields by the reaction of 7 with ethoxycarbonylnitrene generated from *N*-ethoxycarbonyl-*p*-nitrobenzenesulfonylhydroxylamine by treatment with benzyltriethylammonium bromide and sodium hydrogencarbonate. ¹³⁾ when the *N*-protecting methoxymethyl (MOM) group is absent in the bicyclic compounds **7**, the yields of either the oxirane or aziridine compounds are very low (10—15%).

The structures of the tricyclic compounds **8** and **9** were characterized on the basis of their spectral data, particularly by proton nuclear magnetic resonance (1 H-NMR) spectral comparison with the already reported compounds $\mathbf{1}^{10}$ and $\mathbf{3}$, of which the stereochemistry, however, has not been examined in detail. In the 1 H-NMR spectrum of **8b**, a nuclear Overhauser effect (NOE) enhancement (15-20%) was observed only between the 2-Me (δ 1.63) and the 4-H (δ 4.23) signals; indicating that **8b** is the *anti*-stereostructure shown in Fig. 1 and not the *syn*-structure, and consequently, all of the tricyclic compounds reported are considered to have similar stereostructures.

Heating the tricyclic compounds 8a—d and 9a—e in dichlorobenzene at 150°C until almost all of the starting compounds had been consumed (for 4-6h) resulted in valence isomerization with ring opening to give the novel 1,4-oxazepin-5-ones (10a—d) and 1,4-diazepin-5-ones (11a-e), respectively, in 70-90% yields. In the case of the oxirane compound 8e (R⁴=Me), thermolysis at 150°C for 5h gave only the 5-hydroxy-2-pyridone derivative 12e in 85% yield and no oxazepinone (10e), whereas that at 120°C for 2h resulted in the formation of 10e in 40% yield, together with 12e (ca. 20%) and the starting 8e (35%), showing that 10e may readily undergo thermal rearrangement to give 12e. Therefore, the thermal behavior of the diheteroepinones 10 and 11 was examined. The oxazepinones (10a, b, e) were heated in dichlorobenzene at 165°C in a sealed tube for 10 h to result in rearrangement giving the expected 5-hydroxy-2-pyridones (12) in moderate yields, probably by the path involving the aza-norcaradiene intermediates, as shown in Chart 2. The electron-donating 3-Me group (\mathbb{R}^4) in 10e may assist the formation of the norcaradiene intermediate, and thus 10e might readily be converted to 12e at lower temperature. On the contrary, even when the diazepinones 2912 Vol. 38, No. 11

(11a, b) were heated at 200°C for 10 h, no reaction occurred. An analogous difference in thermolytic behavior between oxepines and azepines has been observed for a variety of heteroepines.^{2,7)}

Hydrolysis of the N-methoxymethyl(MOM)-diheteroepinones (10a and 11a) with hydrogen chloride in acetone

gave the N-hydroxymethyl compounds 13a and 14a in 47% and 35% yields, respectively. In the infrared (IR) spectra of 13a and 14a, the amide carbonyl absorption bands appeared at lower wave-lengths (13a: 1650 cm⁻¹; 14a: 1652 cm⁻¹) than those of the MOM compounds 10a and 11a (1670 cm⁻¹); indicating that the carbonyl oxygen is hydrogen bonded with the OH hydrogen atom.

Treatment of 13a and 14a with ammonia in ether resulted in dehydroxymethylation to afford the desired N-unsubstituted parent 1,4-oxazepin-5-one (15a) and 1H-1,4-diazepin-5-one (16a), respectively, in ca. 50% yields. The N-unsubstituted compounds 15 and 16 could also be prepared by the following different route, shown in Chart 3.

The 2-aza-3-oxobicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-enes (17a—c), prepared from the corresponding *N*-unsubstituted 2-pyridones (5) by irradiation, were treated with *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl

(TBDMS) chloride¹⁴⁾ in dimethylformamide to give the N-TBDMS derivatives 18 in ca. 90% yields. Treatment of **18a**—c with *m*-CPBA afforded the oxirane compounds 19 in 95—97% yields and treatment with ethoxycarbonylnitrene generated by the method described for 9 gave the aziridine compounds 20 in ca. 50% yields. The protecting TBDMS group in 19 and 20 could be readily removed only by passage through a short alumina column using ether-methanol (50:1) as an eluent, giving rise to the N-unsubstituted lactam compounds 21 and 22, respectively, in quantitative yields. These compounds (21 and 22) were also obtained directly from the N-unsubstituted bicyclic compounds 17 by treatment with m-CPBA or ethoxycarbonylnitrene, but in very low yields (10-20%). Heating the tricyclic compounds 21 and 22 also resulted in ring opening to give the 1,4-oxazepin-5-ones (15a-c) and 1H-1,4-diazepin-5-ones (16a—c), respectively, in ca. 90%

The structures of the new diheteroepinones were elucidated from their spectral data and the results of the following chemical studies. For example, the IR spectra of **15a** and **16a** showed a strong absorption band at $1670\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ due to the conjugated amide carbonyl group. The ¹H-NMR of **15a** and **16a** showed two AB pairs of doublets at δ 5.52 and 4.99 ($J=6\,\mathrm{Hz}$) for **15a**; 5.58 and 5.18 ($J=8\,\mathrm{Hz}$) for **16a** assignable to 2-H and 3-H, and at δ 4.80 and 6.26 ($J=7.5\,\mathrm{Hz}$) for **15a**; 4.92 and 6.98 ($J=10\,\mathrm{Hz}$) for **16a** due to 6-H and 7-H, respectively, in addition to the signal at δ 7.5

(NH).

In order to convert the diheteroepinones into fully unsaturated diheteroepines, 15 and 16 were treated with TBDMS chloride in the presence of diethylamine or with n-butyl lithium followed by methyl iodide, but only decomposition occurred, and the expected O-silylation or O-methylation products could not be obtained. However, treatment of 15 and 16 with triethyloxonium tetrafluoroborate in dichloromethane resulted in O-ethylation predominantly to give the desired fully unsaturated 5-ethoxy-1,4-oxazepines (23a-c) and 5-ethoxy-1H-1,4diazepines (24a—c), respectively, in 75–90% yields. As was expected, the 1,4-oxazepines (23) having an anti-aromatic ring system with 8π -electrons are relatively unstable and susceptible to decomposition in a silica gel or alumina column, whereas the 1,4-diazepines (24) stabilized by the electron-withdrawing ethoxycarbonyl group on the nitrogen atom are stable and can be purified by chromatography, by analogy with 1,3-diheteroepines, 2,4,5) 1,4-diheteroepines, 7,9) and 1-acylazepines.2)

The structures of the diheteroepines 23 and 24 were characterized on the basis of the spectral data and the result of the following thermolysis. For example, in the ${}^{1}\text{H-NMR}$ spectra of 23a and 24a, signals due to four ring protons lie in the olefinic range (δ 5.1—5.9 for 23a; δ 5.1—6.6 for 24a) as two pairs of doublets. Heating the oxazepine (23a) at 45°C for 1 h in benzene gave 2-ethoxy-5-hydroxypyridine (26) in 60% yield, presumably via the aza-norcaradiene

TABLE I. ¹H-NMR Spectral Data for the 1,4-Diheteroepin-5-ones (10, 11, 15, and 16)

Compd No.	2-Н	3-Н	6-H	7-H	Me	CH ₃ -O-CH ₂ - NH	CH ₃ -CH ₂ -O ₂ C
10a	5.67 (d) $J_{2,3} = 6, J_{6,3}$	5.15 (d)	4.94 (d)	6.33 (d)		3.30 4.73	
10b	$J_{2,3} = 6, J_{6,4}$ 5.80 (d) $J_{2,3} = 6, J_{7-1}$	5.30 (d)	5.06 (q)	-	1.86 (d)	3.32 4.82	
10c	$J_{2-Me, 3} = 1, J_{3-Me, 3}$	5.26 (q)	5.10 (d)	6.54 (d)	1.80 (d)	3.32 4.76	
10d		5.45 (d)		6.57 (q)	1.78 (d)	3.34 4.86	
10e	6.06 (q) $J_{2, 3-Me} = 1.5.$		5.27 (d)	6.73 (d)	1.83 (d)	3.34 4.99	
11a	6.05 (d) $J_{2.3} = 8, J_{6.4}$	5.38 (d)	5.08 (d)	7.01 (d)	_	3.32 4.80	1.32 4.28
11b	$J_{2,3} = 6, J_{6,4}$ 6.08 (d) $J_{2,3} = 6, J_{6,4}$	5.76 (d)	5.45 (q)		2.14 (d)	3.28 4.86	1.28 4.18
11c	$J_{2,3} = 0, J_{6,3}$ $J_{2-Me,3} = 1,$	5.70 (q)	5.39 (d)	7.01 (d)	2.01 (d)	3.30 4.84	1.30 4.24
11d		5.56 (d)		6.90 (q)	1.91 (d)	3.34 4.87	1.32 4.26
11e	6.08 (q)		5.26 (d)	7.09 (d)	1.94 (d)	3.32 4.96	1.32 4.27
15a		$V_{6,7} = 9$ 4.99 (dd) $N_{NH} = 6, J_{NH,6} = 2.5,$	4.80 (dd)	6.26 (d)		7.5 (br)	
15b	5.56 (d)	5.08 (dd)	4.90 (m)	Marrier .	1.82 (d)	7.3 (br)	
15c		$J_{NH} = 6, J_{NH, 6} = 2.5,$ 5.01 (m)	4.88 (dd)	6.37 (d)	1.71 (d)	7.2 (br)	
16a	$J_{2-Me, 3} = 1.2$ 5.85 (d) I_{-8}	$J_{3, NH} = 6, J_{NH, 6} = 5.18 \text{ (dd)}$ $J_{NH} = 6, J_{NH, 6} = 2, J_{6} = 6$	4.92 (dd)	6.98 (d)	_	7.4 (br)	1.32 4.27
16b	5.93 (d)	5.75 (dd)	5.49 (s)	<u>-</u> ·	2.16 (s)	8.6 (br)	1.30 4.23
16c	$J_{2,3} = 6, J_{3,1}$ $$	5.68 (m) $J_{3, \text{NH}} = 5, J_{\text{NH}, 6} = 2$	5.40 (dd) , J _{6,7} =9	7.02 (d)	2.00 (d)	8.2 (br)	1.35 4.28

 $(CDCl_3), J = Hz.$

intermediate **25**. Similarly, thermolysis of **24a** afforded 2-ethoxy-5-ethoxycarbonylaminopyridine (**27**) in 78% yield, though somewhat more drastic conditions (heating in dichlorobenzene at 180°C for 12 h) were required.

These thermal behaviors are similar to those observed for 5-phenyl-1,4-diheteroepines.⁷⁾ In both cases (23a and 24a), the formation of other possible rearrangement products (28) was not observed, probably because the electron-donating ethoxy group favors the C⁴-X bond cleavage to give predominantly 26 and 27, as shown in the structure 25, and therefore, the C⁵-X bond cleavage products 28 are not formed.

In conclusion, the present results provide the first examples of 1,4-diheteroepinones as well as a new route to fully unsaturated 1,4-oxazepines and 1,4-diazepines.

Experimental

Melting points were measured on a Yanagimoto micro melting point hot stage apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were determined with a Hitachi 270—30 spectrometer and mass spectra (MS) were measured with a JEOL DX-300 instrument. ¹H-NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-MH100 or GSX-400 spectrometer in CDCl₃ using tetramethylsilane as an internal standard unless otherwise stated; spectral assignments were confirmed by spin-decoupling experiments and, in the case of NH protons, by exchange with D₂O. Microanalyses were performed in the Microanalytical Laboratory of this Faculty by Mrs. R. Igarashi. Photolyses were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere in an immersion apparatus equipped with a 400 W high-pressure Hg lamp, which was cooled internally with running water.

1-Methoxymethyl-2-pyridones (6a—e) General Procedure: A solution of chloromethyl methyl ether (1.2 mol eq) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml) was added with stirring to a solution of a 2-pyridone (5a—e;¹⁵ ca. 10 g) in CH₂Cl₂ (150 ml). The reaction solution was stirred for 24 h at room temperature and then diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (200 ml). The mixture was successively washed with saturated NaHCO₃ and saturated NaCl, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether—hexane (1:2) as an eluent to give 6 as a colorless oil.

1-Methoxymethyl-2-pyridone (**6a**): 54% yield, bp 102—103.5 °C (2.5 mmHg). IR (neat): 1660 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 3.39 and 5.35 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 6.30 (1H, m, 5-H), 6.62 (1H, m, 3-H), 7.40 (1H, m, 4-H), 7.50 (1H, m, 6-H), $J_{3,4}$ =9 Hz, $J_{3,5}$ =1.5 Hz, $J_{3,6}$ =2 Hz, $J_{4,6}$ =2 Hz, $J_{5,6}$ =7 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₇H₉NO₂; 139.0633. Found: 139.0631.

1-Methoxymethyl-4-methyl-2-pyridone (**6b**): 66% yield, bp 107—109 °C (3.5 mmHg). IR (neat): 1672 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 3.38 and 5.30 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 2.19 (3H, s, 4-Me), 6.06 (1H, dd, 5-H), 6.35 (1H, d, 3-H), 7.36 (1H, d, 6-H), $J_{3,5}$ =1.5 Hz, $J_{5,6}$ =7 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁N₂O: 153.0790. Found: 153.0784.

1-Methoxymethyl-5-methyl-2-pyridone (**6c**): 61% yield, bp 111—113 °C (3 mmHg). IR (neat): 1674 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 3.40 and 5.31 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 2.08 (3H, br s, 5-Me), 6.54 (1H, dd, 3-H), 7.18 (1H, br dd, 6-H), 7.26 (1H, dd, 4-H), $J_{3,4}$ =9 Hz, $J_{3,6}$ =2 Hz, $J_{4,6}$ =2 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₂: 153.0790. Found: 153.0796.

1-Methoxymethyl-3-methyl-2-pyridone (**6d**): 51% yield, bp 115—118 °C (3.5 mmHg). IR (neat): 1662 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 3.43 and 5.38 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 2.16 (3H, br s, 3-Me), 6.20 (1H, dd, 5-H), 7.28 (1H, m, 4-H), 7.36 (1H, dd, 6-H), $J_{3\text{-Me},4}$ =1 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ =7 Hz, $J_{4,6}$ =2 Hz, $J_{5,6}$ =7 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₂: 153.0790. Found: 153.0788.

1-Methoxymethyl-6-methyl-2-pyridone (**6e**): 55% yield, bp 112—114 °C (3.5 mmHg). IR (neat): 1664 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 3.33 and 5.43 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 2.38 (3H, s, 6-Me), 5.95 (1H, d, 5-H), 6.26 (1H, d, 3-H), 7.15 (1H, dd, 4-H), $J_{3,4}$ =9 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ =7 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₂: 153.0790. Found: 153.0781.

2-Methoxymethyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-ones (7a—e) General Procedure: A solution of a 2-pyridone (6a—e, 1—2 g) in benzene (300 ml) was irradiated; this photolysis was followed in terms of the disappearance of the spot of the starting 6 on silica gel thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and was complete in 20—40 h. After removal of the solvent *in vacuo*, the

residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether-hexane (1:2) as an eluent to give 7 as a colorless viscous oil.

2-Methoxymethyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (**7a**): 42% yield. IR (neat): 1755 (C=O), 1558 (C=C) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 3.28 and 4.54 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=11 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 4.27 (1H, m, 4-H), 4.47 (1H, dd, 1-H), 6.65 (1H, m, 5-H), 6.72 (1H, dd, 6-H), J_{1,4}=2 Hz, J_{1,5}=3 Hz, J_{4,5}=0.8 Hz, J_{4,6}=1.2 Hz, J_{5,6}=2.5 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₇H₉NO₂: 139.0633. Found: 139.0621.

2-Methoxymethyl-5-methyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (7b): 71% yield. IR (neat): 1750 (C=O), 1624 (C=C) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 3.25 and 4.43 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 1.90 (3H, m, 5-Me), 4.06 (1H, m, 4-H), 4.23 (1H, m, 1-H), 6.23 (1H, m, 6-H), $J_{1,4}$ =2 Hz, $J_{1,5-\text{Me}}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{4,5-\text{Me}}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{4,6}$ =1.2 Hz, $J_{5-\text{Me},6}$ =1.6 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₂: 153.0790. Found: 153.0779.

2-Methoxymethyl-6-methyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (7c): 52% yield. IR (neat): 1756 (C=O), 1624 (C=C) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 3.25 and 4.53 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=11 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 1.86 (3H, m, 6-Me), 3.97 (1H, m, 4-H), 4.23 (1H, m, 1-H), 6.16 (1H, m, 5-H), J_{1,4}=2 Hz, J_{1,5}=3 Hz, J_{1,6-Me}=0.5 Hz, J_{4,5}=0.8 Hz, J_{4,6-Me}=1.5 Hz, J_{5,6-Me}=1.6 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₂: 153.0790. Found: 153.0799.

2-Methoxymethyl-4-methyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (**7d**): 40% yield. IR (neat): 1760 (C=O), 1546 (C=C) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 3.24 and 4.47 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=11 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 1.49 (3H, s, 4-Me), 4.12 (1H, d, 1-H), 6.48 (1H, dd, 5-H), 6.57 (1H, d, 6-H), J_{1,5}=3 Hz, J_{5,6}=2.5 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₂: 153.0790. Found: 153.0785.

2-Methoxymethyl-1-methyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (7e): 54% yield. IR (neat): 1756 (C=O), 1550 (C=C) cm $^{-1}$. 1 H-NMR δ : 3.29 and 4.50 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=11 Hz, CH $_{3}$ OCH $_{2}$), 1.60 (3H, s, 1-Me), 3.91 (1H, dd, 4-H), 6.50 (1H, dd, 5-H), 6.61 (1H, dd, 6-H), $J_{4.5}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{4.6}$ =1.2 Hz, $J_{5.6}$ =2.5 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M $^{+}$ Calcd for C $_{8}$ H $_{11}$ NO $_{2}$: 153.0790. Found: 153.0797.

6-Methoxymethyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-ones (8a—e) General Procedure: A solution of m-CPBA (1.2 mol eq) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml) was added dropwise with stirring to a solution of a bicyclic compound (7a—e, ca. 1g) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml). Stirring was continued for an additional 8 h at room temperature, then the reaction mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (50—100 ml). The solution was successively washed with saturated NaHCO₃ and saturated NaCl, dried, and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether–hexane (1:1) as an eluent to give **8** as a colorless viscous oil.

6-Methoxymethyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2,4}]heptan-7-one (**8a**): 95% yield. IR (neat): 1766 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 3.27 and 4.48 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=12 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 3.72 (1H, dd, 5-H), 4.04 (1H, dd, 1-H), 4.14 (1H, dd, 4-H), 4.27 (1H, dd, 2-H), $J_{1,2}$ =3.5 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ =1.8 Hz, $J_{2,4}$ =2 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ =4 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₇H₉NO₃: 155.0582. Found: 155.0594.

6-Methoxymethyl-2-methyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one (**8b**): 97% yield. IR (neat): 1768 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 3.30 and 4.48 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=12 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 1.63 (3H, s, 2-Me), 3.68 (1H, dd, 5-H), 3.96 (1H, d, 1-H), 4.23 (1H, d, 4-H), J_{1.5}=1.8 Hz, J_{4.5}=4 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₃: 169.0739. Found: 169.0753.

6-Methoxymethyl-4-methyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[$3.2.0.0^{2.4}$]heptan-7-one (8c): 96% yield. IR (neat): 1762 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 3.27 and 4.51 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=12 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 1.61 (3H, s, 4-Me), 3.60 (1H, d, 5-H), 4.01 (1H, dd, 1-H), 4.09 (1H, d, 2-H), $J_{1,2}$ =3.5 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ =1.8 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₃: 169.0739. Found: 169.0732.

6-Methoxymethyl-1-methyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one (**8d**): 94% yield. IR (neat): 1764 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 3.33 and 4.48 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=12 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 1.36 (3H, s, 1-Me), 3.83 (1H, d, 5-H), 4.02 (1H, dd, 4-H), 4.22 (1H, d, 2-H), J_{2,4}=2 Hz, J_{4,5}=4 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₃: 169.0739. Found: 169.0738.

6-Methoxymethyl-5-methyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[$3.2.0.0^{2.4}$]heptan-7-one (8e): 94% yield. IR (neat): 1766 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 3.30 and 4.47 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=12 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 1.42 (3H, s, 5-Me), 3.41 (1H, d, 1-H), 4.06 (1H, d, 4-H), 4.15 (1H, dd, 2-H), J_{1,2}=3.5 Hz, J_{2,4}=2 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₃: 169.0739. Found: 169.0754.

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-6-methoxymethyl-3,6-diazatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2,4}]**heptan-7-ones (9a—e)** General Procedure: Benzyltriethylammonium bromide (0.2 mol eq) and saturated NaHCO₃ (*ca.* 5 mol eq) were added with stirring

to a solution of a bicyclic compound (7a—e, ca. 1 g) in CH₂Cl₂ (100 ml). N-Ethoxycarbonyl-p-nitrobenzenesulfonylhydroxylamine (1.5 mol eq) was added in small portions over a 0.5 h period to the above mixture with vigorous stirring in an ice bath. The reaction mixture was stirred for a further 5 h at room temperature and diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (100 ml). The organic layer was separated, washed with saturated NaCl, dried, and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether—hexane (1:2—1:1) as an eluent to give 9 as a colorless viscous oil.

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-6-methoxymethyl-3,6-diazatricyclo[$3.2.0.0^{2.4}$]heptan-7-one (9a): 35% yield. IR (neat): 1770 and 1726 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.29 and 4.19 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 3.32 and 4.57 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=11 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 3.59 (1H, dd, 4-H), 3.74 (2H, m, 2-and 5-H), 4.12 (1H, dd, 1-H), J_{1,2}=3.5 Hz, J_{1,5}=1.8 Hz, J_{2,4}=2 Hz, J_{4,5}=3 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₀H₁₄N₂O₄: 226.0954. Found: 226.0959.

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-6-methoxymethyl-2-methyl-3,6-diazatricyclo-[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one (**9b**): 40% yield. IR (neat): 1768 and 1720 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.28 and 4.09 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 3.72 and 4.49 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=11.5 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 1.55 (3H, s, 2-Me), 3.52 (1H, d, 4-H), 3.66 (1H, dd, 5-H), 3.96 (1H, d, 1-H), J_{1.5}=1.8 Hz, J_{4.5}=3.5 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₄: 240.1110. Found: 240.1125.

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-6-methoxymethyl-4-methyl-3,6-diazatricyclo-[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one (**9c**): 39% yield. IR (neat): 1774 and 1726 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.29 and 4.20 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 3.35 and 4.60 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 1.61 (3H, s, 4-Me), 3.48 (1H, d, 2-H), 3.69 (1H, d, 5-H), 4.12 (1H, dd, 1-H), $J_{1,2}$ =3.5 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ =1.8 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₄: 240.1110. Found: 240.1104.

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-6-methoxymethyl-1-methyl-3,6-diazatricyclo-[3.2.0.0²-⁴]heptan-7-one (9d): 40% yield. IR (neat): 1768 and 1726 (C=O) cm $^{-1}$. 1 H-NMR δ : 1.29 and 4.16 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 3.33 and 4.53 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=11.5 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 1.37 (3H, s, 1-Me), 3.56 (1H, dd, 4-H), 3.68 (1H, d, 2-H), 3.95 (1H, d, 5-H), $J_{2.4}$ =2 Hz, $J_{4.5}$ = 3.5 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M $^{+}$ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₄: 240.1110. Found: 240.1096.

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-6-methoxymethyl-5-methyl-3,6-diazatricyclo-[3.2.0.0^{2,4}]heptan-7-one (**9e**): 34% yield. IR (neat): 1766 and 1724 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.28 and 4.18 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 3.33 and 4.55 (3H, s, and 2H, d, J=12 Hz, CH₃OCH₂), 1.43 (3H, s, 5-Me), 3.52 (1H, d, 1-H), 3.55 (1H, d, 4-H), 3.75 (1H, dd, 2-H), J_{1,2}=3.5 Hz, J_{2,4}=2 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₄: 240.1110. Found: 240.1108.

Thermolysis of 8a—d: Formation of 4-Methoxymethyl-1,4-oxazepin-5-ones (10a—d) A solution of a tricyclic compound (8a—d, ca. 0.5 g) in dichlorobenzene (3—5 ml) was heated at 150 °C. The reaction was followed in terms of the disappearance of the spot of the starting 8 on thin layer chromatography (TLC) and was complete in 4—6 h. After removal of the solvent *in vacuo*, the residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether–hexane (1:3) as an eluent to give 10 as a yellow viscous oil. ¹H-NMR spectral data of 10a—d are collected in Table I.

4-Methoxymethyl-1,4-oxazepin-5-one (**10a**): 72% yield. IR (neat): 1670 (C=O) cm⁻¹. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₇H₉NO₃: 155.0582. Found: 155.0580.

4-Methoxymethyl-7-methyl-1,4-oxazepin-5-one (10b): 87% yield. IR (neat): 1670 (C=O) cm $^{-1}$. High-resolution MS $\it{m/z}$: M $^+$ Calcd for $\rm C_8H_{11}NO_3$: 169.0739. Found: 169.0722.

4-Methoxymethyl-2-methyl-1,4-oxazepin-5-one (**10c**): 70% yield. IR (neat): $1671 \text{ (C=O) cm}^{-1}$. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for $C_8H_{11}NO_3$: 169.0739. Found: 169.0745.

4-Methoxymethyl-6-methyl-1,4-oxazepin-5-one (10d): 75% yield. IR (neat): $1660 \text{ (C=O) cm}^{-1}$. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for $C_8H_{11}NO_3$: 169.0739. Found: 169.0738.

Thermolysis of 8e i) At 150 °C for 5 h: A solution of **8e** (400 mg) in dichlorobenzene (4 ml) was heated at 150 °C for 5 h and worked up as described for the thermolysis of **8a—d** gave only 5-hydroxy-1-methoxy-methyl-6-methyl-2-pyridone (**12e**: 340 mg, 85% yield).

ii) At 120 °C for 2 h: A solution of 8e (400 mg) in dichlorobenzene (4 ml) was heated at 120 °C for 2 h. After removal of the solvent *in vacuo*, the residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether–hexane (1:3—1:2) as an eluent to give 4-methoxymethyl-3-methyl-1,4-oxazepin-5-one (10e: $160 \, \text{mg}$, 40% yield), the starting 8e ($140 \, \text{mg}$, 35% yield), and 12e ($80 \, \text{mg}$, 20% yield), successively.

10e: Yellow viscous oil. IR (neat): $1662 (C=O) \text{ cm}^{-1}$. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for $C_8H_{11}NO_3$: 169.0739. Found: 169.0730. The

¹H-NMR spectral data of 10e are collected in Table I.

12e: mp 122—124 °C, colorless prisms (from AcOEt). IR (KBr): 3200 (OH), 1678 (C=O) cm⁻¹. MS m/z: 169 (M⁺). ¹H-NMR δ : 3.37 and 5.25 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 2.40 (3H, s, 6-Me), 6.48 (1H, d, 3-H), 7.42 (1H, d, 4-H), $J_{3,4}$ = 10 Hz. *Anal*. Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₃: C, 56.79; H, 6.55; N, 8.23. Found: C, 56.71; H, 6.53; N, 8.10.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-4-methoxymethyl-1*H*-1,4-diazepin-5-ones (11a—e) The tricyclic compounds (9a—e, ca. 0.5 g) were heated in dichlorobenzene and worked up as described for 10a—d to give 11a—e, of which spectral data are collected in Table I.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-4-methoxymethyl-1H-1,4-diazepin-5-one (11a): 70% yield, yellow viscous oil. IR (neat): 1740 and 1670 (C=O) cm $^{-1}$. High-resolution MS m/z: M $^+$ Calcd for C $_{10}$ H $_{14}$ N $_{2}$ O $_{4}$: 226.0954. Found: 226.0971.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-4-methoxymethyl-7-methyl-1H-1,4-diazepin-5-one (11b): 86% yield, mp 65—66.5°C, colorless prisms (from isopropyl ether (IPE)). IR (KBr): 1726 and 1670 (C=O) cm $^{-1}$. High-resolution MS m/z: M $^+$ Calcd for C $_{11}$ H $_{16}$ N $_{2}$ O $_{4}$: 240.1110. Found: 240.1139.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-4-methoxymethyl-2-methyl-1H-1,4-diazepin-5-one (11c): 76% yield, pale yellow viscous oil. IR (neat): 1730 and 1670 (C=O) cm⁻¹. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₄: 240.1110. Found: 240.1094.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-4-methoxymethyl-6-methyl-1H-1,4-diazepin-5-one (11d): 71% yield, pale yellow viscous oil. IR (neat): 1731 and 1665 (C=O) cm⁻¹. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₄: 240.1110. Found: 240.1113.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-4-methoxymethyl-3-methyl-1H-1,4-diazepin-5-one (11e): 73% yield, mp 71—72.5 °C, pale yellow prisms (from IPE). IR (KBr): 1728 and 1670 (C=O) cm $^{-1}$. High-resolution MS m/z: M $^+$ Calcd for C $_{11}$ H $_{16}$ N $_{2}$ O $_{4}$: 240.1110. Found: 240.1121.

Thermolysis of 10a, b, e: Formation of 5-Hydroxy-1-methoxymethyl-2-pyridones (12a, b, e) General Procedure: A solution of 10 (ca. 100 mg) in dichlorobenzene (3 ml) was heated at 165 °C for 10 h in a sealed tube. After cooling, the reaction solution was chromatographed on silica gel using ether—hexane (1:2) as an eluent to give 12.

5-Hydroxy-1-methoxymethyl-2-pyridone (12a): 60% yield, mp 157—159 °C, colorless prisms (from acetone–isopropyl alcohol). IR (KBr): 3200 (OH), 1670 (C=O) cm⁻¹. MS m/z: 155 (M⁺). ¹H-NMR δ : 3.38 and 5.26 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 6.50 (1H, d, 3-H), 7.04 (1H, d, 6-H), 7.04 (1H, d, 6-H), 7.29 (1H, dd, 4-H), $J_{3.4}$ =10 Hz, $J_{4.6}$ =2.5 Hz. Anal. Calcd for C₇H₉NO₃: C, 54.19; H, 5.85; N, 9.03. Found: C, 54.15; H, 5.88; N, 8.92. The structure of 12a was further confirmed by the following result. A solution of 12a (30 mg) in 20% H₂SO₄ was heated at 50 °C for 8 h with stirring and then neutralized with Na₂CO₃. The mixture was evaporated m vacuo and the residue was extracted with boiling EtOH. The extract was evaporated and the residue was sublimed to give 5-hydroxy-2-pyridone (14 mg), which was identical with an authentic sample prepared by the reported method. ¹⁶

5-Hydroxy-1-methoxymethyl-4-methyl-2-pyridone (12b): 41% yield, mp 131—133 °C, colorless prisms (from benzene–EtOH). IR (KBr): 3200 (OH), 1670 (C=O) cm⁻¹. MS m/z: 169 (M⁺). ¹H-NMR δ : 3.35 and 5.20 (3H, s, and 2H, s, CH₃OCH₂), 2.17 (3H, s, 4-Me), 6.35 (1H, s, 3-H), 6.93 (1H, s, 6-H). *Anal*. Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₃: C, 56.79; H, 6.55; N, 8.23. Found: C, 56.80; H, 6.41; N, 8.13.

12e: 85% yield.

Thermolysis of 11a, b A solution of 11 (ca. 50 mg) in dichlorobenzene was heated at 200 °C for 10 h in a sealed tube and worked up as described for the thermolysis of 10a, b, e to result in recovery of the starting 11 (50—95%). No other characterizable product was obtained.

4-Hydroxymethyl-1,4-oxazepin-5-one (13a) A mixture of **10a** (200 mg), acetone (4 ml), and 0.5 n HCl (4 ml) was stirred for 4 h at room temperature and then diluted with $\mathrm{CH_2Cl_2}$ (100 ml). The organic layer was separated, washed with water, dried, and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether–hexane (1:3) as an eluent to give **13a**: 108 mg, 47% yield, mp 70.5—71.5 °C, yellow plates (from IPE). IR (KBr): 3330 (OH), 1650 (C=O) cm⁻¹. MS m/z: 141 (M⁺). ¹H-NMR 6: 3.95 and 4.80 (1H, t, and 2H, d, J=8 Hz, HOCH₂), 5.00 (1H, d, 6-H), 5.32 (1H, d, 3-H), 5.72 (1H, d, 2-H), 6.40 (1H, d, 7-H), $J_{2,3}$ =6 Hz, $J_{6,7}$ =8 Hz. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_6H_7NO_3$: C, 51.06; H, 5.00; N, 9.93. Found: C, 51.13; H, 4.91; N, 9.92.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-4-hydroxymethyl-1*H***-1,4-diazepin-5-one (14a)** Compound **11a** (125 mg) was treated with 0.5 N HCl and worked up as described for **13a** to give **14a**: 32 mg, 35% yield, mp 97—98 °C, pale yellow prisms (from benzene). IR (KBr): 3380 (OH), 1740 and 1652 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.33 and 4.27 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 3.43 and 4.78 (1H,

t, and 2H, d, J=8 Hz, HOCH₂), 4.27 (1H, d, 6-H), 5.06 (1H, d, 3-H), 5.45 (1H, d, 2-H), 7.00 (1H, d, 7-H), $J_{2,3}=8$ Hz, $J_{6,7}=10$ Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₉H₁₂N₂O₄: 212.0797. Found: 212.0809.

1,4-Oxazepin-5-one (15a) Ammonia (0.1 N, 4 ml) was added dropwise over a 5 min period to a solution of **13a** (56 mg) in ether (10 ml) with stirring. The reaction mixture was diluted with $\mathrm{CH_2Cl_2}$ (50 ml) and the organic layer was separated, washed with water, dried, and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether–hexane (1:4) as an eluent to give **15a**: 18.5 mg, 42% yield, yellow viscous oil (solidified below 20 °C). IR (neat): 3240 (NH), 1670 (C=O) cm⁻¹. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for $\mathrm{C_5H_5NO_2}$: 111.0320. Found: 111.0336. ¹H-NMR spectral data are collected in Table I.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-*ÎH***-1,4-diazepin-5-one (16a)** Compound **14a** (60 mg) was treated with aqueous ammonia and worked up as described for **15a** to give **16a**: 23 mg, 45% yield, mp 69—70 °C, yellow prisms (from benzene–IPE). IR (KBr): 3200 (NH), 1744 and 1674 (C=O) cm⁻¹. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for $C_8H_{10}N_2O_3$: 182.0691. Found: 182.0690. ¹H-NMR spectral data are collected in Table I.

2-Azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-ones (17a—c) The pyridones (**5a—c**, 1—2 g) were irradiated and worked up as described for **7** to give **17a—c**. 2-Azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (**17a**): 42% yield, mp 65—66°C (lit.¹⁷⁾ mp 65.5—66.5°C), colorless prisms (from benzene–IPE).

5-Methyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (17b): 65% yield, mp 55—56.5 °C, colorless prisms (from benzene–IPE). MS m/z: 109 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3262 (NH), 1734 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.91 (3H, m, 5-Me), 4.05 (1H, m, 4-H), 4.26 (1H, m, 1-H), 6.19 (1H, m, 6-H), 6.5 (1H, br, NH), $J_{1.4}$ =2.2 Hz, $J_{1.5-Me}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{4.6}$ =1.2 Hz, $J_{4.5-Me}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{5-Me,6}$ =1.6 Hz. Anal. Calcd for C₆H₇NO: C, 66.03; H, 6.47; N, 12.84. Found: C, 65.84; H, 6.45; N, 12.63.

6-Methyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (17c): 36% yield, mp 48—49 °C, colorless prisms (from benzene–IPE). MS m/z: 109 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3232 (NH), 1734 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 1.81 (3H, m, 6-Me), 3.98 (1H, m, 4-H), 4.21 (1H, m, 1-H), 6.21 (1H, m, 5-H), 6.5 (1H, br, NH), $J_{1,4}$ =2.2 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ =2.8 Hz, $J_{1,6-Me}$ =0.5 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ =0.7 Hz, $J_{4,6-Me}$ =1.5 Hz, $J_{5,6-Me}$ =1.6 Hz. Anal. Calcd for C₆H₇NO: C, 66.03; H, 6.47; N, 12.84. Found: C, 65.92; H, 6.38; N, 12.71.

2-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-ones (18a—c) General Procedure: tert-Butyldimethylsilyl chloride (1.2 mol eq) and triethylamine (1.2 mol eq) were successively added to a solution of a bicyclic compound (17a—c, 1—2 g) in dimethylformamide (10—20 ml) with stirring in an ice bath. The reaction mixture was further stirred for 2 h at room temperature and then extracted with ether. The extract was washed with saturated NaCl, dried, and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether—hexane (1:5) as an eluent to give 18 as a colorless viscous oil.

2-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (**18a**): 90% yield. IR (neat): 1738 (C=O), 1556 (C=C) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 0.18 and 0.22 (each 3H, s, Si-Me), 0.95 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 4.05 (1H, m, 4-H), 4.25 (1H, dd, 1-H), 6.42 (1H, m, 5-H), 6.54 (1H, dd, 6-H), $J_{1,4}$ =2 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ =3 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{4,6}$ =1.2 Hz, $J_{5,6}$ =2.5 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₉NOSi: 209.1236. Found: 209.1247.

2-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)-5-methyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (**18b**): 88% yield. IR (neat): 1737 (C=O), 1620 (C=C) cm $^{-1}$. 1 H-NMR δ : 0.18 and 0.22 (each 3H, s, Si-Me), 0.94 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 1.90 (3H, m, 5-Me), 4.05 (1H, m, 4-H), 4.16 (1H, m, 1-H), 6.16 (1H, m, 6-H), $J_{1,4}$ =2 Hz, $J_{1,5\text{-Me}}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{4,5\text{-Me}}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{4,5\text{-Me}}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{5,\text{-Me}}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{4,5\text{-Me}}$ =0.8 Hz, $J_{2,\text{-Ne}}$ =1.6 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M $^{+}$ Calcd for C $_{12}$ H $_{21}$ NOSi: 223.1392. Found: 223.1402.

2-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)-6-methyl-2-azabicyclo[2.2.0]hex-5-en-3-one (**18c**): 85% yield. IR (neat): 1736 (C=O), 1630 (C=C) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 0.12 and 0.17 (each 3H, s, Si-Me), 0.90 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 1.75 (1H, m, 6-Me), 3.88 (1H, m, 4-H), 4.07 (1H, m, 1-H), 6.13 (1H, m, 5-H), $J_{1,4}$ = 2 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ = 3 Hz, $J_{1,6-\text{Me}}$ = 0.5 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ = 0.7 Hz, $J_{4,6-\text{Me}}$ = 1.5 Hz, $J_{5,6-\text{Me}}$ = 1.6 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₂H₂₁NOSi: 223.1392. Found: 223.1408.

6-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-ones (19a—c) The bicyclic compounds (18a—c, 0.5—l g) were treated with m-CPBA and worked up as described for 8 to give 19a—c as colorless viscous oils

6-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2,4}]heptan-7-one (19a): 97% yield. IR (neat): 1750 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 0.25 and 0.30 (each 3H, s, Si-Me), 0.99 (9H, s, tert-Bu), 3.76 (1H, dd, 5-H), 3.95 (1H, dd, 1-H), 4.10 (1H, dd, 4-H), 4.19 (1H, dd, 2-H), $J_{1,2}$ =3.5 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ =1.8 Hz, $J_{2,4}$ =2 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ =4 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₉NO₂Si: 225.1185. Found: 225.1174.

6-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)-2-methyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]-heptan-7-one (**19b**): 95% yield. IR (neat): 1750 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 0.23 and 0.27 (each 3H, s, Si-Me), 0.96 (9H, s, tert-Bu), 1.63 (3H, s, 2-Me), 3.69 (1H, dd, 5-H), 3.82 (1H, d, 1-H), 4.08 (1H, d, 4-H), $J_{1,5}$ = 1.8 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ = 4 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for $C_{12}H_{21}NO_2Si$: 239.1342. Found: 239.1332.

6-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)-4-methyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]-heptan-7-one (**19c**): 95% yield. IR (neat): 1745 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 0.23 and 0.38 (each 3H, s, Si-Me), 0.99 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 1.60 (3H, s, 4-Me), 3.72 (1H, d, 5-H), 3.94 (1H, dd, 1-H), 4.18 (1H, d, 2-H), $J_{1,2}$ = 3.5 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ = 1.8 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₂H₂₁NO₂Si: 239.1342. Found: 239.1339.

6-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)-3-ethoxycarbonyl-3,6-diazatricyclo-[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-ones (20a—c) The bicyclic compounds 18a—c (0.5—1 g) were treated with N-ethoxycarbonyl-p-nitrobenzenesulfonylhydroxylamine (1.5 mol eq) and worked up as described for 9 to give 20a—c as colorless viscous oils.

6-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)-3-ethoxycarbonyl-3,6-diazatricyclo-[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one (**20a**): 46% yield. IR (neat): 1756 and 1734 (C = O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 0.26 and 0.31 (each 3H, s, Si-Me), 0.98 (9H, s, tert-Bu), 1.31 and 4.21 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 3.49 (1H, dd, 4-H), 3.60 (1H, dd, 2-H), 3.74 (1H, dd, 5-H), 3.94 (1H, dd, 1-H), $J_{1,2}$ = 3.5 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ = 1.8 Hz, $J_{2,4}$ = 2 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ = 3 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₄H₂₄N₂O₃: 268.1787. Found: 268.1782.

6-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)-3-ethoxycarbonyl-2-methyl-3,6-diazatricyclo[$3.2.0.0^{2.4}$]heptan-7-one (**20b**): 52% yield. IR (neat): 1754 and 1732 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 0.26 and 0.29 (each 3H, s, Si-Me), 0.98 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 1.36 and 4.23 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 1.59 (3H, s, 2-Me), 3.37 (1H, d, 4-H), 3.73 (1H, dd, 5-H), 3.88 (1H, d, 1-H), $J_{1.5}$ =1.8 Hz, $J_{4.5}$ =3 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₅H₂₆N₂O₃: 282.1943. Found: 282.1949.

6-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)-3-ethoxycarbonyl-4-methyl-3,6-diazatricyclo[$3.2.0.0^{2.4}$]heptan-7-one (**20c**): 49% yield. IR (neat): 1740 and 1725 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 0.21 and 0.37 (each 3H, s, Si-Me), 1.01 (9H, s, *tert*-Bu), 1.29 and 4.20 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 1.56 (3H, s, 4-Me), 3.43 (1H, d, 2-H), 3.68 (1H, d, 5-H), 3.92 (1H, dd, 1-H), $J_{1,2}$ =3.5 Hz, $J_{1.5}$ =1.8 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₅H₂₆N₂O₃: 282.1943. Found: 282.1944.

6-Aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2,4}]heptan-7-ones (21a—c) General Procedure: A solution of a silyl compound (19a—c: 0.2—0.3 g) in ether—MeOH (50:1) was passed through a short alumina column (0.25 × 3 cm). The eluent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the resulting solid residue was recrystallized from benzene–IPE to give 21 as colorless prisms.

6-Aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one (21a): 97% yield, mp 105—106 °C. MS m/z: 111 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3284 (NH), 1734 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 3.81 (1H, dd, 5-H), 4.08 (1H, dd, 1-H), 4.25 (1H, dd, 4-H), 4.28 (1H, dd, 2-H), 6.7 (1H, br, 6-NH), $J_{1.2}$ = 3.4 Hz, $J_{1.5}$ = 1.7 Hz, $J_{2.4}$ = 2 Hz, $J_{4.5}$ = 3.7 Hz. Anal. Calcd for C₅H₅NO₂: C, 54.05; H, 4.54; N, 12.61. Found: C, 54.03; H, 4.49; N, 12.48.

2-Methyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one (**21b**): 95% yield, mp 112.5—113.5 °C. MS m/z: 125 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3305 (NH), 1740 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 1.68 (3H, s, 2-Me), 3.76 (1H, dd, 5-H), 3.98 (1H, d, 1-H), 4.23 (1H, d, 4-H), 6.6 (1H, br, 6-NH), $J_{1.5}$ =1.5 Hz, $J_{4.5}$ =3.7 Hz. Anal. Calcd for C₆H₇NO₂: C, 57.59; H, 5.64; N, 11.20. Found: C, 57.65; H, 5.64; N, 11.09.

4-Methyl-6-aza-3-oxatricyclo[$3.2.0.0^{2.4}$]heptan-7-one (**21c**): 95% yield, mp 89—90 °C. MS m/z: 125 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3280 (NH), 1756 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.66 (3H, s, 4-Me), 3.69 (1H, d, 5-H), 4.02 (1H, dd, 1-H), 4.18 (1H, d, 2-H), 6.8 (1H, br, 6-NH), $J_{1,2}=3.4$ Hz, $J_{1,5}=1.7$ Hz. Anal. Calcd for C₆H₇NO₂: C, 57.59; H, 5.64; N, 11.20. Found: C, 57.49; H, 5.78; N, 11.18.

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-3,6-diazatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-ones (22a—c) The silyl compounds 20a—c (0.3—0.5 g) were passed through a short alumina column and worked up as described for 21 to give 22a—c as colorless needles (from benzene–IPE).

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-3,6-diazatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one (**22a**): 96% yield, mp 110—112 °C. MS m/z: 182 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3272 (NH), 1742 and 1722 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.29 and 4.20 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 3.60 (2H, m, 2- and 4-H), 3.75 (1H, dd, 5-H), 4.05 (1H, dd, 1-H), 7.04 (1H, br, 6-NH), $J_{1,2}$ = 3.5 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ = 1.8 Hz, $J_{4,5}$ = 3.5 Hz. Anal. Calcd for C₈H₁₀N₂O₃: C, 52.74; H, 5.53; N, 15.38. Found: C, 52.60; H, 5.52; N, 15.34.

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-2-methyl-3,6-diazatricyclo[$3.2.0.0^{2.4}$]heptan-7-one (**22b**): 95% yield, mp 91.5—92.5 °C. MS m/z: 196 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3270 (NH), 1734 and 1720 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.30 and 4.19 (3H, t,

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and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 1.60 (3H, s, 2-Me), 3.50 (1H, d, 4-H), 3.75 (1H, dd, 5-H), 3.97 (1H, d, 1-H), 6.75 (1H, br, NH), $J_{1,5} = 1.8$ Hz, $J_{4,5} = 3.5$ Hz. Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₂N₂O₃: C, 55.09; H, 6.17; N, 14.28. Found: C, 54.97; H, 6.19; N, 14.25.

3-Ethoxycarbonyl-4-methyl-3,6-diazatricyclo[3.2.0.0^{2.4}]heptan-7-one (22c): 96% yield, mp 92.5—93.5 °C. MS m/z: 196 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3216 (NH), 1746 and 1718 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ : 1.30 and 4.18 (3H, t, and 2H, q, CO₂Et), 1.56 (3H, s, 4-Me), 3.44 (1H, d, 2-H), 3.68 (1H, d, 5-H), 4.04 (1H, dd, 1-H), 7.04 (1H, br, NH), $J_{1,2}$ =3.5 Hz, $J_{1,5}$ =1.8 Hz. Anal. Calcd for C₉H₁₂N₂O₃: C, 55.09; H, 6.17; N, 14.28. Found: C, 55.05; H, 6.10; N, 14.13.

Thermal Isomerization of 21a—c: Formation of 1,4-Oxazepin-5-ones (15a—c) Compounds 21a—c (0.1—0.2 g) were heated in dichlorobenzene at 145 °C for 1—2 h and worked up as described for 10 to give 15a—c. The $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectral data for these compounds are collected in Table I.

1,4-Oxazepin-5-one (15a): 89% yield; this compound was identical with the product obtained from 13a.

7-Methyl-1,4-oxazepin-5-one (**15b**): 92% yield, mp 94—95°C, pale yellow prisms (from benzene–IPE). MS m/z: 125 (M $^+$). IR (KBr): 3250 (NH), 1670 (C=O) cm $^{-1}$. Anal. Calcd for $C_6H_7NO_2$: C, 57.59; H, 5.64; N, 11.20. Found: C, 57.66; H, 5.40; N, 11.06.

2-Methyl-1,4-oxazepin-5-one (15c): 87% yield, mp 30—32°C, pale yellow prisms (from IPE). MS m/z: 125 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3248 (NH), 1692 (C=O) cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₆H₇NO₂: C, 57.59; H, 5.64; N, 11.20. Found: C, 57.54; H, 5.57; N, 11.18.

Thermal Isomerization of 22a—c: Formation of 1H-1,4-Diazepin-5-ones (16a—c) Compounds 22a—c (0.1—0.2 g) were heated in dichlorobenzene at 160 °C for 1—2 h and worked up as described for 10 to give 16a—c, which were recrystallized from benzene—IPE to give colorless prisms. These ¹H-NMR spectral data are collected in Table I.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-1*H*-1,4-diazepin-5-one (**16a**): 90% yield. This compound was identical with the product from **14a**.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-7-methyl-1H-1,4-diazepin-5-one (16b): 95% yield, mp 139—140°C. MS m/z: 196 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3200 (NH), 1722 and 1686 (C=O) cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for $C_9H_{12}N_2O_3$: C, 55.09; H, 6.17; N, 14.28. Found: C, 54.86; H, 6.16; N, 14.22.

1-Ethoxycarbonyl-2-methyl-1H-1,4-diazepin-5-one (16c): 87% yield, mp 139—139.5 °C. MS m/z: 196 (M+). IR (KBr): 3200 (NH), 1714 and 1668 (C=O) cm⁻¹. Anal. Calcd for C₀H₁₂N₂O₃: C, 55.09; H, 6.17; N, 14.28. Found: C, 55.10; H, 6.06; N, 14.18.

5-Ethoxy-1,4-oxazepines (23a—c) General Procedure: A solution of an oxazepinone (15a—c, ca. 100 mg) and triethyloxonium tetrafluoroborate (1.5 mol eq) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml) was stirred for 3 h in an ice bath and then diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (50 ml). The reaction solution was successively washed with saturated NaHCO₃ and saturated NaCl, dried, and evaporated in vacuo to give 23 in 75—85% yield as a yellow viscous oil in a nearly pure state. However, the products 23a—c were unstable and readily decomposed in a column (silica gel, alumina, or Sephadex LH-20), so they could not be further purified.

5-Ethoxy-1,4-oxazepine (**23a**): IR (neat): 1650 (C=N) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (toluene- d_{9}) δ : 1.23 and 4.20 (3H, t, and 2H, q, OEt), 5.09 (1H, d, 6-H), 5.45 (1H, d, 2-H), 5.89 (1H, d, 3-H), 5.93 (1H, d, 7-H), $J_{2,3}$ =4.5 Hz, $J_{6,7}$ =6 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₇H₉NO₂: 139.0633. Found: 139.0626.

5-Ethoxy-7-methyl-1,4-oxazepine (**23b**): IR (neat): 1640 (C=N) cm⁻¹.
¹H-NMR (toluene- d_8) δ : 1.26 and 4.09 (3H, t, and 2H, q, OEt), 1.85 (3H, s, 7-Me), 5.13 (1H, br s, 6-H), 5.63 (1H, d, 2-H), 5.81 (1H, d, 3-H), $J_{2,3}$ =4.5 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₈H₁₁NO₂: 153.0790. Found: 153.0783.

5-Ethoxy-2-methyl-1,4-oxazepine (**23c**): IR (neat): 1652 (C=N) cm⁻¹.
¹H-NMR (toluene- d_8) δ : 1.30 and 4.24 (3H, t, and 2H, q, OEt), 1.75 (3H, d, 2-Me), 5.19 (1H, d, 6-H), 5.94 (1H, q, 3-H), 6.08 (1H, d, 7-H), $J_{2-\text{Me},3}=1$ Hz, $J_{6,7}=6$ Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for $C_8H_{11}NO_2$: 153.0790. Found: 153.0779.

5-Ethoxy-1-ethoxycarbonyl-1*H***-1,4-diazepines** (**24a**—**c**) The diazepinones (**16a**—**c**), *ca*. 100 mg) were treated with triethyloxonium tetraffuoroborate and worked up as described for **23** to give **24a**—**c**, which were purified by chromatography on alumina using ether–hexane (1:10) as an eluent.

5-Ethoxy-1-ethoxycarbonyl-1*H*-1,4-diazepine (**24a**): 86% yield, mp 36.5—37 °C, yellow prisms (from IPE–hexane). IR (KBr): 1720 (C=O), 1660 (C=N) cm $^{-1}$. 1 H-NMR δ : 1.28 and 1.30 (each 3H, t, OCH $_2$ CH $_3$), 4.09 and 4.23 (each 2H, q, OCH $_2$), 5.12 (1H, d, 6-H), 5.55 (1H, d, 2-H), 5.87 (1H, d, 3-H), 6.57 (1H, d, 7-H), $J_{2,3}=6$ Hz, $J_{6,7}=9$ Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M $^+$ Calcd for C $_{10}$ H $_{14}$ N $_{2}$ O $_{3}$: 210.1004. Found:

210.1011.

5-Ethoxy-1-ethoxycarbonyl-7-methyl-1H-1,4-diazepine (24b): 88% yield, pale yellow viscous oil (solidified at below 25 °C). IR (neat): 1722 (C=O), 1668 (C=N) cm⁻¹. 1 H-NMR δ : 1.28 and 1.30 (each 3H, t, OCH₂CH₃), 4.12 and 4.20 (each 2H, q, OCH₂), 2.20 (3H, s, 7-Me), 5.48 (1H, s, 6-H), 5.66 (1H, d, 2-H), 6.20 (1H, d, 3-H), $J_{2,3}$ =5 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₃: 224.1161. Found: 224.1180.

5-Ethoxy-1-ethoxycarbonyl-2-methyl-1H-1,4-diazepine (24c): 80% yield, pale yellow viscous oil. IR (neat): 1720 (C=O), 1648 (C=N) cm⁻¹.

1H-NMR δ : 1.28 and 1.30 (each 3H, t, OCH₂CH₃), 4.12 and 4.19 (each 2H, q, OCH₂), 1.97 (1H, d, 2-Me), 5.42 (1H, d, 6-H), 6.10 (1H, q, 3-H), 6.57 (1H, d, 7-H), $J_{2-\text{Me},3}$ = 1.5 Hz, $J_{6,7}$ = 9 Hz. High-resolution MS m/z: M⁺ Calcd for C₁, H₁₆N₂O₃: 224.1161. Found: 224.1168.

Thermolysis of 23a A solution of 23a (50 mg) in toluene (3 ml) was heated at 45 °C for 1 h and then evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel using ether–hexane (1:10) as an eluent to give 2-ethoxy-5-hydroxypyridine (26): 30 mg, 60% yield, mp 56—57 °C, colorless prisms (from benzene–IPE). MS m/z: 139 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3300—3500 (br, OH) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 1.36 and 4.24 (3H, t, and 2H, q, OEt), 6.64 (1H, d, 3-H), 7.20 (1H, dd, 4-H), 7.74 (1H, d, 6-H), $J_{3,4}$ =9 Hz, $J_{4,6}$ =2.5 Hz. *Anal*. Calcd for $C_7H_9NO_2$: C, 60.42; H, 6.52; N, 10.07. Found: C, 60.54; H, 6.38; N, 10.01. The structure of 26 was further confirmed by the following result. Compound 26 was treated with 48% HBr and worked up as reported for 4-hydroxy-2-methoxypyridine¹⁸⁾ to give 4-hydroxy-2-pyridone, which was identical with an authentic sample prepared by the reported method. ¹⁶⁾

Thermolysis of 24a A solution of 24a (50 mg) in dichlorobenzene (2 ml) was heated at *ca.* 180 °C for 12 h in a sealed tube and then chromatographed on silica gel using ether–hexane (1:5) as an eluent to give 2-ethoxy-5-ethoxycarbonylaminopyridine (27): 39 mg, 78% yield, mp 94—95 °C, colorless prisms (from EtOH). MS m/z: 210 (M⁺). IR (KBr): 3322 (NH), 1698 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR δ: 1.30 and 1.38 (each 3H, t, OCH₂CH₃), 4.22 and 4.30 (each 2H, q, OCH₂), 6.68 (1H, d, 3-H), 7.76 (1H, dd, 4-H), 8.02 (1H, d, 6-H), $J_{3,4}$ =9 Hz, $J_{4,6}$ =2 Hz. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{10}H_{14}N_2O_3$: C, 57.13; H, 6.71; N, 13.33. Found: C, 57.07; H, 6.63; N, 13.30.

References and Notes

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