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# Synthesis of Quaternary Phosphonium Salts on the Basis of 2,6-Di-*tert*-butyl-4-methylphenol

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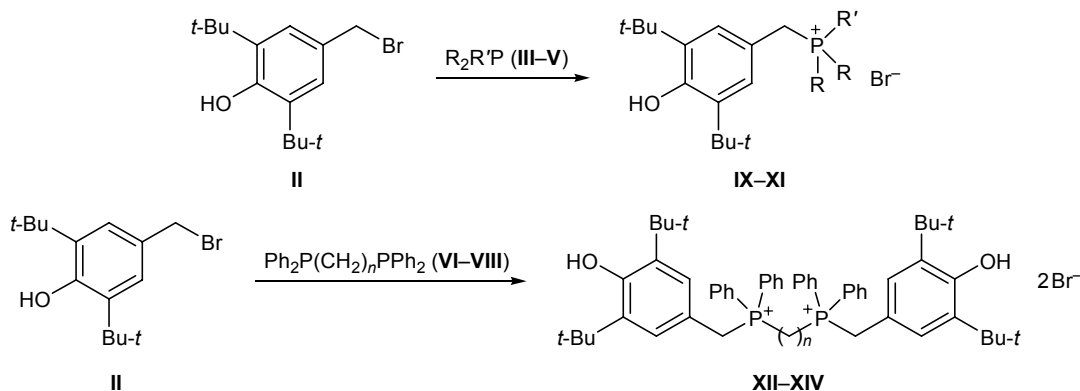
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Phosphorus-containing 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl-4-methylphenol derivatives exhibit a broad spectrum of antibacterial and antimycotic activity and are widely used as antioxidants [1, 2]. Depending on the substituents on the phosphorus atom, these compounds are active against pathogenic microorganisms in humans and animals, in particular against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella paratyphi B*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Candida albicans*. We previously described a procedure for the synthesis of quaternary phosphonium derivatives of 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl-4-methylphenol (**I**) by quaternization of tertiary phosphines with 3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl bromide (**II**) which was prepared by bromination of phenol **I** with *N*-bromosuccinimide [3]. The reactions of benzyl bromide **II** with triphenylphosphine (**III**), methyldiphenylphosphine (**IV**), and tributylphosphine (**V**), as well as with 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane (**VI**), 1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane (**VII**), and 1,6-bis(diphenylphosphino)hexane (**VIII**), in diethyl ether at room temperature gave the corresponding crystalline phosphonium salts **IX–XIV**.

The  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra of **IX–XIV** contained only one signal in the region  $\delta_{\text{P}}$  23.2–33.4 ppm, which corresponds to the phosphonium group. In the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of these compounds, a singlet at  $\delta$  2.5 ppm from protons in the *tert*-butyl groups, a doublet at  $\delta$  ~6 ppm from the methylene protons, a singlet at  $\delta$  7 ppm from the OH proton, and a doublet at  $\delta$  8.0–8.5 ppm from protons in the *meta* positions of the phenol ring were observed. The structure of phosphonium salt **XII** was confirmed by X-ray analysis; the results will be reported elsewhere. All newly synthesized phosphonium salts showed a high antimicrobial activity.

**4-Bromomethyl-2,6-di-*tert*-butylphenol (II)** was synthesized as described in [3]. mp 56°C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$ ),  $\delta$ , ppm: 2.80 s [18H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 5.97 s (1H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}$ ), 7.00 s (1H, OH), 8.62 s (2H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_2$ ). Found, %: C 60.54; H 8.01.  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{23}\text{BrO}_4$ . Calculated, %: C 60.21; H 7.75.

**Phosphonium salts IX–XIV (general procedure).** Equimolar amounts (0.001 mol) of bromide **II** in 5 ml



**III, IX**, R = R' = Ph; **IV, X**, R = Ph, R' = Me; **V, XI**, R = R' = Bu; **VI, XII**,  $n = 2$ ; **VII, XIII**,  $n = 3$ ; **VIII, XIV**,  $n = 6$ .

of diethyl ether and the corresponding tertiary phosphine or bis-phosphine in 5 ml of diethyl ether were mixed together at room temperature, and the mixture was kept for 10–20 min. The precipitate was filtered off and washed with diethyl ether.

**(3,5-Di-*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (IX).** Yield 0.533 g (95%), mp 225°C (decomp.).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$ ),  $\delta$ , ppm: 2.58 s [18H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 5.92 d (2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ,  $J_{\text{PH}} = 13.87$  Hz), 7.00 s (1H, OH), 8.09 d (2H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_2$ ,  $J_{\text{PH}} = 2.69$  Hz), 8.87–9.28 m (15H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta_{\text{P}}$  23.4 ppm. Found, %: C 70.70; H 7.00; P 5.62.  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{38}\text{BrOP}$ . Calculated, %: C 70.58; H 6.82; P 5.52.

**(3,5-Di-*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)methyl(diphenyl)phosphonium bromide (X).** Yield 0.489 g (98%), mp 242°C (decomp.).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$ ),  $\delta$ , ppm: 2.65 s [18H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 3.70 d (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ,  $J_{\text{PH}} = 13.68$  Hz), 5.63 d (2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ,  $J_{\text{PH}} = 14.41$  Hz), 7.02 s (1H, OH), 8.17 d (2H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_2$ ,  $J_{\text{PH}} = 2.78$  Hz), 9.04–9.25 m (10H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta_{\text{P}}$  23.2 ppm. Found, %: C 67.40; H 7.29; P 6.17.  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{36}\text{BrOP}$ . Calculated, %: C 67.33; H 7.26; P 6.20.

**Tributyl(3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)phosphonium bromide (XI).** Yield 0.476 g (95%), colorless crystals, mp 188°C (decomp.).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$ ),  $\delta$ , ppm: 2.27–3.47 m (27H,  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_9$ ), 2.80 s [18H,  $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ ], 4.90 d (2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ,  $J_{\text{PH}} = 14.09$  Hz), 7.11 s (1H, OH), 8.45 d (2H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_2$ ,  $J_{\text{PH}} = 2.52$  Hz).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta_{\text{P}}$  33.4 ppm. Found, %: C 64.82; H 10.19; P 6.17.  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{50}\text{BrOP}$ . Calculated, %: C 64.66; H 10.05; P 6.18.

**Ethane-1,2-diylbis[(3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)diphenylphosphonium] dibromide (XII).** Yield 0.463 g (93%), mp 195°C (decomp.).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta_{\text{P}}$  29.2 ppm. Found, %: C 67.53; H 7.14; P 6.20.  $\text{C}_{56}\text{H}_{70}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_2\text{P}_2$ . Calculated, %: C 67.47; H 7.08; P 6.21.

**Propane-1,3-diylbis[(3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)diphenylphosphonium] dibromide (XIII).** Yield 0.454 g (90%), mp 215°C (decomp.).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta_{\text{P}}$  24.9 ppm. Found, %: C 67.74; H 7.25; P 6.20.  $\text{C}_{57}\text{H}_{72}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_2\text{P}_2$ . Calculated, %: C 67.72; H 7.18; P 6.13.

**Hexane-1,6-diylbis[(3,5-di-*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)diphenylphosphonium] dibromide (XIV).** Yield 0.481 (92%), mp 162°C (decomp.).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{C}_2\text{D}_5\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta_{\text{P}}$  25.4 ppm. Found, %: C 68.65; H 7.51; P 5.94.  $\text{C}_{60}\text{H}_{78}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_2\text{P}_2$ . Calculated, %: C 68.44; H 7.47; P 5.88.

The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance-400 spectrometer; the chemical shifts were determined relative to the residual proton signal of the solvent ( $^1\text{H}$ ) or 85%  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  ( $^{31}\text{P}$ , external reference).

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