

New Efficient Synthesis of 2-Substituted 5,6,7,8-Tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones

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Abstract: The carbodiimides **4**, obtained from aza-Wittig reactions of iminophosphorane **3** with aromatic isocyanates, reacted with secondary amines to give 2-dialkylamino-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones **6** in presence of catalytic EtO^-Na^+ . Reactions of **4** with phenols or ROH in presence of catalytic K_2CO_3 or RO^-Na^+ gave 2-aryl(alkyl)oxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones **6** in satisfactory yields. The effects of the nucleophiles on cyclization have been investigated.

Key words: benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones, iminophosphorane, carbodiimide, aza-Wittig reaction, synthesis

The derivatives of heterocycles containing thienopyrimidine system, which are well known bioisosteres of quinazolines, are of great importances because of their remarkable biological properties. For example, some 2-alkoxy or 2-alkyl substituted thienopyrimidinones show significant antifungal and antibacterial activities,^{1–4} whereas others exhibited good anticonvulsant and angiotensin or H₁ receptor antagonistic activities.^{5–7} The chemistry of thienopyrimidinones have also received attention because their starting materials, 2-amino-3-carboxythiophenes, can be conveniently synthesized. Though there are many known methods for the synthesis of thienopyrimidinones,^{8–10} 2-amino or 2-aryl(alkyl)oxy substituted thienopyrimidinones are not easily accessible by currently existing routes. Recently we became interested in the synthesis of imidazolinones and quinazolinones via aza-Wittig reaction, with the aim of evaluating their fungicidal activities.^{11–15} Here we wish to report a new efficient synthesis of 2-substituted 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones **6** from easily accessible iminophosphorane **3**.

The tetrahydrobenzo[b]thiophene **2**, easily obtained by Gewald method from cyclohexanone **1**, ethyl cyanoacetate

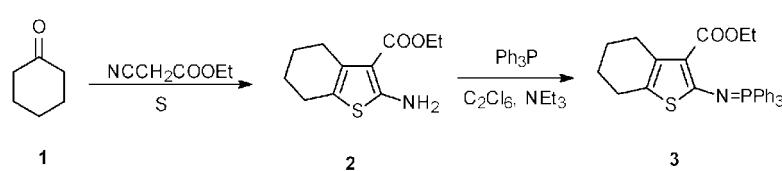
and sulfur, was converted to iminophosphorane **3** via reaction with triphenylphosphine, hexachloroethane and Et_3N (Scheme 1).¹⁶

Iminophosphorane **3** reacted with aromatic isocyanates to give carbodiimides **4**, which were allowed to react with secondary amines to provide guanidine intermediates **5**. Even in refluxing toluene, **5** did not cyclize, however, in the presence of catalytic amount of NaOEt, **5** were converted easily to 2-dialkylamino-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones **6** in satisfactory yields at room temperature (Scheme 2). It is noteworthy that the isolated yields of **6** were good even when Y is the bulky di-*iso*-propylamino group. The results are listed in Table 1.

The direct reaction of carbodiimide **4** with phenols did not produce 2-aryloxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones **6** either. However, when carried out in presence of catalytic K_2CO_3 , the reaction took place to give **6** in good yields. The formation of **6** can be rationalized in terms of an initial nucleophilic addition of phenoxides to the carbodiimides **4** to give the intermediate **5** which cyclize to give **6**. Irrespective of the fact whether the substituents on the phenols were electron-withdrawing or electron-releasing groups, the cyclization was completed smoothly at room temperature.

The direct reaction of carbodiimide **4** with ROH gave a complex mixture, however, when the reaction was carried out in presence of catalytic RO^-Na^+ , the reaction took place smoothly and 2-alkoxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones **6** were obtained in satisfactory yields.

The structure of the synthesized compound **6** was confirmed by their spectral data. For example, the IR spectra of **6a** revealed C=O absorption bands at 1676 cm^{-1} . The



Scheme 1

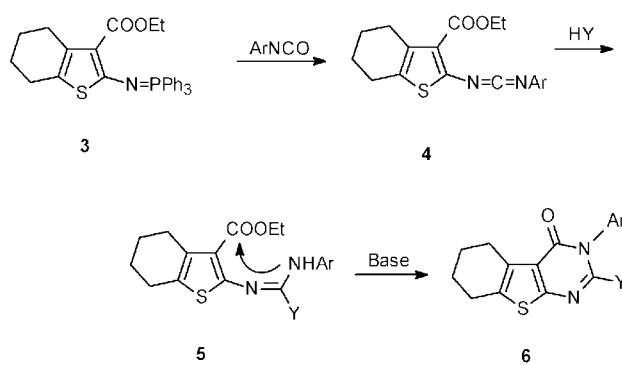


Table 1 Preparation of 2-Substituted 5,6,7,8-Tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones

Ar	Y	Conditions	Yield (%) ^a
6a	Ph	NEt ₂	82
6b	Ph	N(<i>n</i> -Pr) ₂	71
6c	Ph	N(<i>n</i> -Bu) ₂	78
6d	Ph	N(<i>n</i> -Pentyl) ₂	69
6e	Ph	N(<i>n</i> -Hexyl) ₂	62
6f	Ph		88
6g	Ph		85
6h	Ph	N(<i>i</i> -Bu) ₂	80
6i	Ph	N(<i>i</i> -Pr) ₂	75
6j	4-ClC ₆ H ₅	NEt ₂	85
6k	4-ClC ₆ H ₅		84
6l	4-ClC ₆ H ₅		81
6m	Ph	3-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₅ O	62
6n	Ph	4-ClC ₆ H ₅ O	76
6o	Ph	4-BrC ₆ H ₅ O	66
6p	Ph	PhO	81
6q	Ph	4-MeSC ₆ H ₅ O	80
6r	Ph	4-MeOC ₆ H ₅ O	73
6s	4-ClC ₆ H ₅	4-BrC ₆ H ₅ O	67
6t	4-MeC ₆ H ₅	4-BrC ₆ H ₅ O	77
6u	4-MeC ₆ H ₅	PhO	83
6v	Ph	MeO	71
6w	Ph	EtO	82

^a Isolated yields based on iminophosphorane **3**.

¹H NMR spectral data of **6a** show the signals of –NCH₂ at 3.03 ppm as quartet and signals of cyclohexenyl CH₂ at 2.92–2.71 and 1.84–1.78 ppm as multiplets. The other signals appeared at 7.46–7.23 (m, 5 H, Ar-H) and 0.80 (t, 6 H, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2 CH₃). The MS spectrum of **6a** shows an obvious molecule ion peak at *m/z* 353 with 70% abundance.

In conclusion, we have developed an efficient synthesis of 2-substituted 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones via base-catalyzed reaction of functionalized carbodiimides with various amine, phenols or alcohols. Due to the easily accessible and versatile starting material, this method has the potential in the synthesis of many biologically and pharmaceutically active thienopyrimidinones derivatives.

Melting points were uncorrected. MS were measured on a Finnigan Trace MS spectrometer. IR spectra were recorded on a PE-983 infrared spectrometer as KBr pellets with absorption given in cm⁻¹. NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Varian Mercury 300 spectrometer and resonances are given in ppm (*δ*) relative to TMS. Elementary analyses were taken on a Perkin-Elmer CHN 2400 elementary analysis instrument.

Preparation of 2-Dialkylamino-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones

To a solution of iminophosphorane **3**¹⁶ (2.42 g, 5 mmol) in anhyd CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) was added aromatic isocyanate (5 mmol) under N₂ at r.t. After the reaction mixture was left unstirred for 6–12 h at 0–5 °C, the solvent was removed off under reduced pressure and Et₂O/petroleum ether (1:2, 20 mL) was added to precipitate triphenylphosphine oxide. Removal of the solvent gave carbodiimides **4**, which were used directly without further purification.

To the solution of **4** prepared above in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) was added dialkylamine (5 mmol). After the reaction mixture was left unstirred for 5–6 h, the solvent was removed and anhyd EtOH (10 mL) with several drops of EtONa in EtOH was added. The mixture was stirred for 6–12 h at r.t. The solution was condensed and the residue was recrystallized from EtOH to give 2-dialkylamino-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-benzothieno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones **6**.

6a

White crystals; mp 144–145 °C.

IR (KBr): 1676 (C=O), 1532, 1383, 697 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* = 7.46–7.23 (m, 5 H, Ar-H), 3.03 (q, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 4 H, 2 × NCH₂), 2.92–2.71 (m, 4 H, 2 × CH₂), 1.84–1.78 (m, 4 H, 2 × CH₂), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6 H, 2 × CH₃).

MS: *m/z* (%) = 353 (70) [M⁺], 324 (61), 281 (54), 248 (100), 179 (83), 152 (64).

Anal. Calcd for C₂₀H₂₃N₃OS: C, 67.96; H, 6.56; N, 11.89. Found: C, 67.88; H, 6.74; N, 11.97.

6b

White crystals; mp 138–140 °C.

IR (KBr): 1675 (C=O), 1531, 1382, 705 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* = 7.48–7.24 (m, 5 H, Ar-H), 2.93 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4 H, 2 × NCH₂), 2.91–2.70 (m, 4 H, 2 × CH₂), 1.85–1.78 (m, 4 H, 2 × CH₂), 1.27–0.70 (m, 10 H, 2 × CH₂CH₃).

MS *m/z* (%) = 381 (100) [M⁺], 352 (37), 338 (52), 281 (59), 262 (52), 179 (76), 119 (33).

Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈N₂O₂S: C, 66.23; H, 5.56; N, 8.58. Found: C, 66.15; H, 5.57; N, 8.74.

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