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When 1a was refluxed with excess of hydrazine hydrate in ethanol the reaction mixture showed (TLC) formation of only one product (68%) which after isolation was characterized as 5-bis(methylthio)methyl-6-phenyl-3(2H)-pyridazinone (3a). The 3(2H)-pyridazinone 3a is presumably formed by cyclocondensation of hydrazine hydrate at carbonyl and nitrile groups (route b) to give the 3-aminopyridazine 2a followed by its hydrolysis under experimental conditions. The other substituted 3 (2H)-pyridazinones 3b-e were similarly obtained in 63-67% overall yields (Table).

When 1b was reacted with either one or four equivalents of hydroxylamine hydrochloride, the product isolated was identified as amidoxime 4. Our attempts to isolate any of the five or six membered heterocyclic compounds like oxazine, 4 isoxazole, 5 or cyclic nitrone 6 from this reaction were however not successful.

Formation of novel pyridazinone derivatives from reaction of 1 and hydrazine hydrate is of considerable interest in view of the various pharmacological properties exhibited by these class of compounds especially in central nervous system and cardiovascular area.^{7,8}

The desired ketene dithioacetals 1a-e were prepared according to our earlier reported procedure.³

6-aryl-5-bis(methylthio)methyl-3(2H)-pyridazinones 3a~e; General Procedure:

A solution of 1 (5 mmol) and $N_2H_4 \cdot H_2O$ (0.28 g, 5.5 mmol) in EtOH (15 mL) is refluxed for 15–16 h. The solvent is removed under vacuum and the residue poured onto ice-cold water (15 mL), extracted with CHCl₃ (3×15 mL), dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated to give the crude 3(2H)-pyridazinones 3, which are purified by column chromatography over silica gel column, using benzene/hexane (1:2) as eluent and crystallized from benzene/hexane (Table).

3-Bis(methylthio)methylene-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanamide Dioxime (4):

A solution of 1b (1.4 g, 5 mmol) and NH_2OH [generated from $NH_2OH \cdot HCl$ (1.40 g, 20 mmol) and NaOH (0.8 g, 20 mmol) in water (5 mL), neutral to litmus] in ethanol (20 mL) is refluxed for 1 h. The mixture is poured onto ice-cold water (20 mL). the precipitated product is filtered, washed with water and crystallized from MeOH to give 4 as white crystals; yield 1.52 g (88%); mp 167–168°C.

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4-Aryl-3-bis(methylthio)methylene-4-oxobutanenitriles 1a-e undergo cyclocondensation with hydrazine hydrate to give novel 6-aryl-5-bis(methylthio)methyl-3(2H)-pyridazinones 3a-e in good yields. The reaction of ketene dithioacetal 1b with hydroxylamine afforded only the open-chain amidoxime 4.

The acyl- and α-cyanoalkylketene dithioacetals have been shown by us as useful 1,3-electrophilic fragments which react with binucleophiles to yield a wide variety of heterocycles.2 However, the dithioacetals 1 derived from β -aroylpropiononitrile possess additional 1,4-electrophilic sites in addition to its 1,3-electrophilic reactivity. They can therefore react with binucleophiles (or nucleophiles) through either of the routes a, b or c depending upon the relative electrophilicities of reactive centers and other factors. Thus, when 1 were reacted with alkylamines, the corresponding 1-substituted 2-amino-4-aroyl-5-methylthiopyrroles were obtained in good yields.3 However, 1 can react with hydrazine hydrate to give either substituted pyrazole (route a) or the corresponding pyridazine derivatives (routes b or c). We have observed that pyridazine formation (route b) is preferred over pyrazole ring closure. We report our results in the present communication.

Table. 6-Aryl-5-bis(methylthio)methyl-3(2 H)-pyridazinones 3a-e Prepared

Product	Yield ^a (%)	mp (°C)	Molecular Formulab	IR (KBr)° v(cm ⁻¹)	$^{1}\text{H-NMR} (\text{CDCl}_{3}/\text{TMS})^{\text{d}}$ δ	MS (70eV) ^e m/z (M ⁺)
3a	68	153-154	C ₁₃ H ₁₄ N ₂ OS ₂ (278.4)	3100, 3185, 3250 (w), 1655 (s)	2.10 (s, 6H, SCH ₃); 4.62 [s, 1H, -CḤ(SCH ₃) ₂]; 7.28 (s, 1H, H-4); 7.60 (s, 5H _{arom}); 12.60 (s, 1H, NḤ, exchangeable with D ₂ O) ^f	278
3b	63	165–166	C ₁₃ H ₁₃ ClN ₂ OS ₂ (312.9)	3100, 3200, 3250 (w), 1655 (s), 3370, 1670 ^h	2.08 (s, 6H, SCH ₃); 4.52 [s, 1H, -CH(SCH ₃) ₂]; 7.28 (s, 1H, H-4); 7.52 (s, 4H _{arom}); 12.55 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O) ^{f,g}	312, 314
3c	65	162–163	$C_{14}H_{16}N_2O_2S_2$ (308.4)	3105, 3200, 3250 (w), 1660 (s)	2.06 (s, 6H, SCH ₃); 3.80 (s, 3H, OCH ₃); 4.58 [s, 1H, $-$ CH(SCH ₃) ₂]; 6.83 $-$ 7.72 (m, 5H _{arom} + H-4); 12.65 (br s, 1H, NH-exchangeable with D ₂ O) ^f	308
3d	67	171–172	$C_{14}H_{16}N_2OS_2$ (292.4)	3100, 3185, 3240 (w), 1655 (s)	1.98 (s, 6H, SCH ₃); 2.32 (s, 3H, CH ₃); 4.52 [s, 1H, -CH(SCH ₃) ₂]; 7.15 (s, 1H, H-4); 7.10-7.50 (m, 4H _{arom}); 12.60 (s, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O) ^f	292
3e	66	148–149	C ₁₃ H ₁₃ BrN ₂ OS ₂ (357.3)	3110, 3190, 3242 (w), 1655 (s)	2.05 (s, 6H, SCH ₃); 4.48 [s, 1H, $-\text{CH}(\text{SCH}_3)_2$]; 7.15 (s, 1H, H-4); 7.48 (s, 4H _{arom}); 12.80 (br, NH, exchangeable with D ₂ O) ^f	356, 358

^a Yield of pure isolated products.

h Recorded in CH₂Cl₂.

IR (KBr): v = 3350 (w, NH), 1660 cm⁻¹ (s, C=O).

¹H-NMR (DMSO- d_6 /TMS): δ = 2.00 (s, 3 H, SCH₃); 2.31 (s, 3 H, SCH₃); 3.30 (s, 2 H, CH₂); 5.15 (br s, 2 H, N₂, exchangeable with D₂O); 7.35–7.74 (dd, A₂B₂, 4H_{arom}); 8.90 (s. 1 H, OH, exchangeable with D₂O).

¹³C-NMR (DMSO- d_6): δ = 16.18 (q, SCH₃); 16.21 (q, SCH₃); 35.47 (t, CH₂); 127.70; 128.01 (d, CH, arom); 132.85 [s, C=C(SCH₃)₂]; 133.90 (s, C-1 of phenyl); 136.00, 136.18 (s, C-4' of *p*-chlorophenyl and ArC=NOH); 149.50 (s, H₂NC=NOH); 154.77 [s, C=C(SCH₃)₂].

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^b Satisfactory microanalyses obtained $C \pm 0.28$, $H \pm 0.31$, $N \pm 0.26$.

^c Recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 297 spectrophotometer.

Recorded on a Varian EM-390 spectrometer.

^e Recorded on a Jeol-D 300 mass spectrometer.

^f The δ value for the NH proton is very similar to that reported for other pyridazinones.⁹

^{*} $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl₃/TMS): $\delta = 13.90$ (SCH₃); 50.85 [CH(SCH₃)₂]; 126.50 (C-1' of 4-chlorophenyl); 128.82, 130.35 (CH, aromatic); 132.83 (C –Cl); 135.51 (HC-4); 144.39 (C-5); 146.48 (C-6); 162.05 (C=O).

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Errata:

- Baldo, M.A., Chessa, G., Marangoni, G., Pitteri, B. *Synthesis* **1987**, 720. On p. 722, line 6, "degree of functionalization" should read "yield of binding". On the same page in the preparation of bis-hydrazone **5**, line 8, "solid product" should read "oil".
- Singh, L.W., Ila, H., Junjappa, H. Synthesis 1988, 89. On p. 90 in the ¹H-NMR data for dioxime 4, line 2, "N₂" should read "NH₂".

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- Baldo, M.A., Chessa, G., Marangoni, G., Pitteri, B. Synthesis 1987, 720. On p. 722, line 6, "degree of functionalization" should read "yield of binding". On the same page in the preparation of bis-hydrazone 5, line 8, "solid product" should read "oil".
- Singh, L.W., Ila, H., Junjappa, H. Synthesis 1988, 89. On p. 90 in the ¹H-NMR data for dioxime 4, line 2, "N₂" should read "NH₂".
- Burger, K., Hübl, D., Geith, K. Synthesis 1988, 194. On p. 196 in the table, for entries 41, 4m, and 4n, Y = O, and Nu = Cl, Br, and C_6H_5 , respectively.
- Tolstikov, A.G., Khakhalina, N.V., Spirikhin, L.V. *Synthesis* **1988**, 221. In the title and abstract, benzyl esters should read benzyl ethers.
- Gupta, A.K., Ila, H., Junjappa, H. *Synthesis* **1988**, 284. Compounds **4** are 1,6-dioxo-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyrano[3,4- ϵ]pyrroles; compounds **9** are 1,6-dioxo-2,3,5,6-tetrahydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4- ϵ]pyridines.
- Keshavarz-K., M., Cox, S.D., Angus, R.O., Jr., Wudl, F.
 Synthesis 1988, 641. On p. 642 the IR spectra shown in Figures 2 and 3 should be interchanged.

- Rodriguez, J., Waegell, B. Synthesis **1988**, 534. On p. 535, the first line of the general procedure should read: "DMAP (0.92 g, 7.5 mmol) and then α,β-unsaturated aldehyde **1** (0.1 mol)…"
- Zbiral, E., Drescher, M. Synthesis 1988, 735. On p. 738 in the last procedure, the name for compounds 14 should read: (5-Oxo-5,6-dihydroimidazo[1,2-c]pyrimidin-3-yl)methylphosphonsäuren.
- Valerio, R. M., Alewood, P. F., Johns, R. B. Synthesis 1988.
 786. On p. 787 formula 2 should be:

Also on p. 787 in the reaction of 5 in the scheme on the right side, the reagent should be:

- Garrigues, B., Mulliez, M. *Synthesis* **1988**, 810. The title should read: Salts of *N*-(Sulfoalkyl)ureas and -thioureas.
- Yokoyama, M., Watanabe, S., Seki, T. Synthesis 1988, 879.
 On p. 880 the name of compound 3a in the first procedure should be azido(2-benzyloxyethoxy)methane.