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Practical Syntheses of Some Insect Sex Pheromones, 10- and 12-Alken-1-ol Acetates

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PRACTICAL SYNTHESSES OF SOME INSECT SEX PHEROMONES, 10- AND 12-ALKEN-1-OL ACETATES

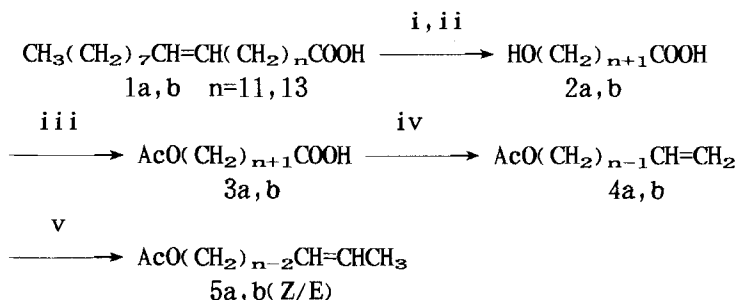
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ABSTRACT Some insect sex pheromones 10-dodecen-1-ol acetates 5a(Z/E) and 12-tetradecen-1-ol acetates 5b(Z/E) have been synthesized from *cis*-13-docosenoic acid 1a and *cis*-15-tetracosenoic acid 1b via the isomerization of key intermediates 11-dodecen-1-ol acetate 4a and 13-tetradodecen-1-ol acetate 4b.

The sex pheromones of Lepidoptera insects are usually unsaturated straight-chain aliphatic alcohol acetates^[1], having disubstituted double bonds. 10-dodecen-1-ol acetates 5a (Z/E) were identified as sex pheromones of some insects, such as *Hedya atropunctana*^[2] and *Laspeyresia nigricana*^[3]. For the synthesis of 5a(Z/E), few papers were reported^{[4], [5]}. In addition, the key intermediate 4a is also a sex pheromone of a few insects, such as *Homona magnanima*^[6]. Its synthetic methods previously reported are mainly from 1,12-dodecanediol as a starting material^{[7], [8]}. 12-tetradecen-1-ol acetates 5b(Z/E) were identified as the sex pheromones of *Ostrinia furnacalis* Guenee (Asian Corn Borer)^[9]. We previously reported^[10] the synthetic methods of the pheromones 5b(Z/E).

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(i) O_3 , $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ -*n*-hexane, (ii) KBH_4 , NaOH , H_2O , (iii) acetic anhydride, pyridine, (iv) $\text{Pb}(\text{AcO})_4$, $\text{Cu}(\text{AcO})_2$, pyridine, (v) CoCl_2 , Ph_3P , NaBH_4 .

Scheme

In this paper, a practical approach for the synthesis of 5a (Z/E) and 5b (Z/E) respectively from *cis*-13-docosenoic acid 1a and *cis*-15-tetracosenoic acid 1b is described (outlined in scheme). The key step in these syntheses is an isomerization of 4a and 4b to 5a (Z/E) and 5b (Z/E). Satyanarayana^[11] reported the isomerization of terminal olefins by a $\text{CoCl}_2/\text{Ph}_3\text{P}/\text{NaBH}_4$ system. According to their method, we completed the synthesis of 5a (Z/E) and 5b (Z/E) with a satisfactory yield of 70–80 %, the Z and E ratios of 5a and 5b have been analysed by GC.

Experimental

All melting and boiling points were uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu 450S infrared spectrophotometer. ^1H NMR spectra were measured with FX-90 spectrometer (90 MHz) using TMS as an internal standard and CDCl_3 as a solvent. Mass spectra were measured on a GC/MS QP1000 spectrometer. GC measurement was made on a Shimadzu GC-9A (Finnigan) instrument (30 m \times 0.25 mm glass capillary column, carrier gas, N_2 , 1.0 ml/min, column temperature, 200°C). Column Chromatography silica gel 200–300 mesh (Tsing Dao Oceanography Chemical Factory).

13-Hydroxytridecanoic acid 2a and 13-acetoxytridecanoic acid 3a were synthesized according to Lit.^[10].

Cis-15-tetracosenoic acid 1b was prepared as described in Lit.^[12].

15-Hydroxypentadecanoic acid 2b:

According to Lit.^[10], 30 g (80 mmol) of 1b was converted into 15.3 g (74.1%) of 2b, m.p. 82–84°C (Lit.^[13] m.p. 84°C). IR(KBr): 3455(OH), 1698(CO) cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR(δ , ppm): 1.27[m, 26H, $(\text{CH}_2)_{13}$], 2.30(t, 2H, CH_2COO), 3.60(t, 2H, CH_2O), 5.34(s, 1H, OH, D_2O exchangeable), 11.6(s, 1H, COOH, D_2O exchangeable).

15-Acetoxypentadecanoic acid 3b:

According to Lit.^[10], 25.8 g (100 mmol) of 2b was converted into 22g (73.5%) of 3b. IR(KBr): 1739, 1712(CO), 1235, 1047 (CH_3COO) cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR(δ , ppm): 0.95[m, 26H, $(\text{CH}_2)_{13}$], 2.04(s, 3H, COCH_3), 2.34(t, 2H, CH_2COO), 4.03(t, 2H, OCH_2), 11.7(s, 1H, COOH, D_2O exchangeable).

11-Dodecen-1-ol acetate 4a^[14]:

13-Acetoxytridecanoic acid 3a (5.4 g, 20 mmol) and lead tetraacetate (17.7 g, 40 mmol) was added to the mixed solvents of anhydrous benzene (50 mL) and dry pyridine (2 mL) in a 3-necked round-bottom flask with a magnetic stirrer during 15min under stirring, then heated to reflux for 4 h, cooled, diluted with ether (50 mL), filtered through celite and the filtrate was subsequently washed with 2 M hydrochloric acid (2×50 mL), saturated brine and water, dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Solvent removal and distillation gave 4a (1.74 g, 38.5%), b.p. 215–217 °C/ 15 mmHg. IR(film): 3015(=CH), 1745 (CO), 1240, 1040(CH_3COO), 988, 918($\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$) cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR(δ , ppm): 1.26[br, 16H, $(\text{CH}_2)_8$], 1.58–1.80(m, 2H, $\text{CH}_2\text{C}=\text{C}$), 2.04 (s, 3H, CH_3CO), 4.04(t, 2H, OCH_2), 4.84(dd, $J = 5.4$ Hz, $J = 13$ Hz, 2H, $=\text{CH}_2$), 6.0(m, 1H, $=\text{CH}$). MS(70 eV, m/z): 226(<1%) (M^+), 166(10) ($\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$).

13-tetradecen-1-ol acetate 4b:

Analogously, 6.0 g (20 mmol) of 3b was converted into 2.1 g (41.0%) of 4b, b.p. 218–220 °C/ 15 mmHg. IR(film): 3010(=CH), 1751(CO), 1245, 1045 (CH_3COO), 990, 920($\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$) cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR

(δ , ppm): 1.24[br, 20H, $(CH_2)_{10}$], 1.55–1.80(m, 2H, $CH_2C=C$), 2.10(s, 3H, CH_3CO), 4.15(t, 2H, OCH_2), 4.82(dd, $J = 7$ Hz, $J = 15$ Hz, 2H, $=CH_2$), 5.90(m, 1H, $=CH$). MS (70 ev, m/z): 254(<1%) (M^+), 194(8) ($M^+ - CH_3COOH$).

10-Dodecen-1-ol acetate 5a:

A solution of anhydrous cobalt dichloride (1.3 g, 10 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (7.9 g, 30 mmol) in anhydrous THF (80 mL) was cooled to -10°C . Sodium borohydride (0.4 g, 10.5 mmol) was added to the solution during 15 min with vigorous stirring under nitrogen, then a solution of anhydrous THF (20 mL) of 4a (4.5 g, 20 mmol) was added, stirred about 4 h. Ether (50 mL) was added and followed by 2 M hydrochloric acid (50 mL), the aqueous phase was then extracted with ether (2×30 mL), the combined ethereal layers were washed with saturated brine and water, dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and evaporated to dryness to give a crude oil, n-hexane (2×30 mL) was added to the oil to precipitate the Ph_3PBH_3 complex and most of the Ph_3P . The solvent was evaporated from the filtrate and the residue purification by column chromatograph [silica gel, petroleum ether / EtOAc (10:1)] yielded 5a (3.6 g, 80%). IR (film): 3015($=CH$), 1745(CO), 1240, 1040(CH_3COO), 975, 724($C=C$) cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (δ , ppm): 1.29[br, 14H, $(CH_2)_7$], 1.60(d, 3H, $CH_3C=$), 1.90(m, 2H, $CH_2C=$), 2.03(s, 3H, CH_3CO), 4.04(t, 2H, OCH_2), 5.40(m, 2H, $CH=CH$). MS (70 ev, m/z): 226(<1%) (M^+), 166(12) ($M^+ - CH_3COOH$). GC: purity, 90.2%, Z : E = 93.5 : 6.5.

12-tetradecen-1-ol acetate 5b:

Analogously, 5.1 g 20 mmol of 4b was converted into 4.0 g (78.5%) of 5b. IR (film): 3050($=CH$), 1750(CO), 1245, 1045(CH_3COO), 970, 720($C=C$) cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (δ , ppm): 1.25[br, 18H, $(CH_2)_9$], 1.63(d, 3H, $CH_3C=$), 1.95(m, 2H, $CH_2C=$), 2.04(s, 3H, CH_3CO), 4.05(t, 2H, OCH_2), 5.40(m, 2H, $CH=CH$). MS (70 ev, m/z): 254(<1%) (M^+), 194(10) ($M^+ - CH_3COOH$). GC: purity, 92.5%, Almost (Z)-isomer.

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