An Adduct (1:2) from Diphenylcyclopropenone Oxime and Phenyl Isocyanate

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Diphenylcyclopropenone oxime combined with phenyl isocyanate to give 1,2,7-triphenyl-4-[(phenylamino)carbonyl]-5-oxa-4,7-diazaspiro-[2.4]hept-1-en-6-one.

In the course of an investigation on straightforward reactions of diphenylcyclopropenone oxime 1 to give hydroxylaminodiphenylcyclopropenylium tricyanomethanide (2) and the energetic trinitromethanide salt 3 from additions with tricyanomethane and trinitromethane, 1) a reexamination of the adduct obtained from a combination of two moles of an isocyanate with the ketoxime 1 was undertaken. The experimental procedure previously described was followed to give an adduct from phenyl isocyanate. 2,3) It was erroneously identified as 1,2,4-triphenyl-6-[(phenylamino)carbonyloxy]-4,6-diazaspiro[2.3]hex-1-en-5-one (4) and has been reassigned the structure of 1,2,7-triphenyl-4-[(phenylamino)carbonyl]-5-oxa-4,7-diazaspiro-[2.4]hept-1-en-6-one (5). Identification of the product as a derivative of the 1,2,4-oxadiazolidin-5-one heterocycle was supported by its physical properties and spectroscopy and confirmed by X-ray crystallography. 4,5)

An initial electrophilic attack by phenyl isocyanate at the nitrogen atom of the oxime moiety with simultaneous or subsequent tautomerization of the hydroxylamine derivative 6 was proposed to give the nitrone 7 as an intermediate adduct (1:1). An analogous formation of hydroxylamines 2,3 tended to support the intermediacy of the hydroxylamine 6. This addition of an isocyanate differed from related reactions of simpler oximes where the formation of oxime carbamate esters, $R_2C = NOCONHR$, predominated and isomeric nitrones, $R_2C = N^+(O^-)CONHR$, were not detected. 3) A 1,3-dipolar addition between the nitrone 7

and a second molecule of phenyl isocyanate presumably accounted for the formation of the oxadiazaspiro-[2.4]heptenone 5 with no trace of the isomeric diazaspiro[2.3]hexenone structure 4. Similar 1,3-dipolar additions between nitrones and isocyanates were known, e.g., 2,3,4-triphenyl-1,2,4-oxadiazolidin-5-one (8) was obtained from phenyl isocyanate and C, N-diphenylnitrone. 6)

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- 4) Compound 5: colorless needles (ether/petroleum ether) mp 141–142 °C (lit ³⁾ mp 142–145 °C); IR (KBr): v 1771 ³⁾ (lit ^{6,7)} v 1740 to 1785 for C=O in a 1,2,4-oxadiazolidin-5-one); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 67.8, 117.8, 120.0, 124.5, 125.6, 127.3, 128.2, 129.1, 129.3, 129.5, 130.4, 130.7, 132.9, 136.9, 154.2, 156.4.
- Crystal data for 5: $C_{29}H_{21}N_3O_3$, $M_r = 459.51$, triclinic, space group $P\bar{1}$, a = 9.973(7) Å, b = 10.774(4) Å, c = 12.412(8) Å, $\alpha = 74.28(3)^\circ$, $\beta = 67.39(7)^\circ$, $\gamma = 88.97(4)^\circ$, V = 1179.5(10) Å³, Z = 2, $D_{calc} = 1.294$ g cm⁻³, $\lambda(Mo K\alpha) = 0.71073$ Å, $\mu = 0.795$ cm⁻¹, F(000) = 960, T = 293 K, R = 0.0285, $R_W = 0.0312$ for 900 observed reflections (I > $3\sigma_I$). A total of 1615 intensities were measured with an Enraf-Nonius CAD4 diffractometer using the ω -20 scan mode. The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least squares techniques. C, N, and O atoms were refined anisotropically and H atom positions were refined with fixed isotropic temperature factors. The molecular structure is depicted in Fig. 1. Full details of the structure will be published elsewhere.
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