A New Method for the Synthesis of Novel 1,2,4-Triazolo[3,4-f][1,2,4]triazines

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Novel compounds 8-(quinoxalin-2-yl)-1,2,4-triazolo[3,4-f][1,2,4]triazines 3a,b were obtained by a new annulation method in the 1,2,4-triazine synthesis.

J. Heterocyclic Chem., 22, 935 (1985).

In a previous paper [1], we reported the synthesis of the oxime 1 and its facile cyclization into the isoxazolo[4,5-b]-quinoxalines 2 by dehydration between the quinoxaline and oxime moieties (Scheme 1). In continuation of this work, we also succeeded in the other type of one-step cyclization by insertion of the one-carbon moiety between the

Scheme 1

amino and oxime groups of 1, giving 8-(3-oxo-3,4-dihydro-quinoxalin-2-yl)-3-methyl-1,2,4-triazolo[3,4-f][1,2,4]triazine (3a) and 8-(3-oxo-3,4-dihydroquinoxalin-2-yl)-3,6-dimethyl-1,2,4-triazolo[3,4-f][1,2,4]triazine (3b). Namely, reduction of the oxime into the imino or amino group [2] would produce the intermediary ambident diamine A or B (Scheme 2), which easily incorporated the one-carbon moieties. Concerning the 1,2,4-triazolo[3,4-f][1,2,4]triazine ring system,

Scheme 2

only a report has been contributed by Becker et al. [3], who synthesized 6-substituted 8-oxo-7,8-dihydro-1,2,4-triazolo-[3,4-f][1,2,4]triazines. The above successful cyclization enabled us to furnish novel 8-(quinoxalin-2-yl)-1,2,4-triazolo-[3,4-f][1,2,4]triazines 3a,b. In addition, the present annu-

lation method may be the first example in the 1,2,4-triazine synthesis [4]. This paper describes the convenient synthesis of the novel compounds 3a,b.

The reactions of 1 with orthoesters (R = H, Me) and Fe powder in acetic acid afforded 3a, b and the 7,8-dihydro-1,2,4-triazolo[3,4-f][1,2,4]triazines 4a,b, while the absence of Fe powder did not provide the N-oxides 5a,b, but recovered the starting material 1 (Scheme 2). The above 7,8-dihydro compounds 4a,b were susceptible to oxidation, changing into 3a,b during purification, and hence the production of 4a,b had to be checked by high resolution mass spectrometry (ms). The molecular ion peaks of 4a,b were observed as the base peaks [4a, Calcd. for $C_{13}H_{11}N_7O$ 281.103, Found 281.103 (M*); 4b, Calcd. for $C_{14}H_{13}N_7O$ 295.118, Found 295.118 (M*)].

General Procedure.

A solution of 1 (2 g), the appropriate orthoester (20 ml), and Fe powder (2 g) in acetic acid (200 ml) was refluxed in an oil bath for 2 hours to precipitate yellow crystals of 4, which were collected by suction filtration while hot [5]. A solution of the whole crystals 4 in DMF (100 ml) was refluxed in an oil bath for 30 minutes and then the solution was filtered. Removal of the solvent by evaporation in vacuo afforded yellow crystals of 3, which were recrystalized from DMF/ethanol/n-hexane to provide yellow needles [3a (360 mg), 3b (330 mg)].

Evaporation of the above filtrate (acetic acid solution) in vacuo gave yellow crystals, which were collected by suction filtration. Recrystallization from the same solvent system as the above afforded yellow needles 3 [3a (650 mg), 3b (630 mg)]. Total yields, 3a (56%), 3b (47%).

Compound **3a** had mp 313-314° dec; ms: m/z 279 (M⁺); ir (potassium bromide): ν cm⁻¹ 1665, 1605; nmr (DMSO-d₆): δ 13.07 (brs, 1H, NH), 9.34 (s, 1H, C₆-H), 8.00-7.30 (m, 4H, aromatic), 2.80 (s, 3H, C₂-Me).

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₃H₉N₇O: C, 55.91; H, 3.25; N, 35.11. Found: C, 55.66; H, 3.23; N, 34.93.

Compound **3b** had mp 311-312° dec; ms: m/z 293 (M⁺); ir (potassium bromide): ν cm⁻¹ 1665, 1630, 1605; nmr (DMSO-d₆): δ 13.00 (brs, 1H, NH), 8.00-7.30 (m, 4H, aromatic), 2.77 (s, 6H, C₃- and C₆-Me).

Anal. Calcd. for $C_{14}H_{11}N_7O$: C, 57.33; H, 3.78; N, 33.43. Found: C, 57.16; H, 3.96; N, 33.26.

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- [5] The crystals of 4 were collected with a small amount of Fe powder.