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ORGANIC PHOSPHORUS COMPOUNDS 93.¹ PREPARATION, PROPERTIES AND HERBICIDAL ACTIVITY OF 2-SUBSTITUTED 5-PHENOXY- AND 5-PYRIDY LOXY-PHENYLAMINOALKYLPHOSPHONIC-AND-PHOSPHINIC ACILAS WELL AS-PHOSPHINE OXIDE DERIVATIVES*

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ORGANIC PHOSPHORUS COMPOUNDS 93.¹ PREPARATION, PROPERTIES AND HERBICIDAL ACTIVITY OF 2-SUBSTITUTED 5-PHENOXY- AND 5-PYRIDYLOXY-PHENYLAMINOALKYL- PHOSPHONIC- AND -PHOSPHINIC ACID—AS WELL AS—PHOSPHINE OXIDE DERIVATIVES*

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*Dedicated in friendship to Professor Dr. L. Horner on the occasion of his
80th birthday*

(Received August 3, 1990)

Interaction of 4-phenoxy and 4-pyridyloxy substituted 1,2-dinitrobenzenes and aminoalkylphosphonates, -phosphinates, and -phosphine oxides produces mainly 5-phenoxy- and 5-pyridyloxy substituted 2-nitrophenylaminoalkylphosphonates, -phosphinates and -phosphine oxides (Table I to IV and Figure 1 to 5), some of which show high herbicidal and plant growth regulating activity. The herbicidal activity increases from pyridyloxy-phenylaminoalkylphosphonates to phenoxy-phenylaminoalkyl-phosphonates, -phosphinates, -phosphine oxides. Of all the compounds tested the phosphine oxide **4a** was at all concentrations the most active compound.

Key words: 5-Phenoxy- and 5-pyridyloxy-2-nitrophenylaminoalkylphosphonates, -phosphinates, and -phosphine oxides; NMR-spectra; PGR and herbicidal activity.

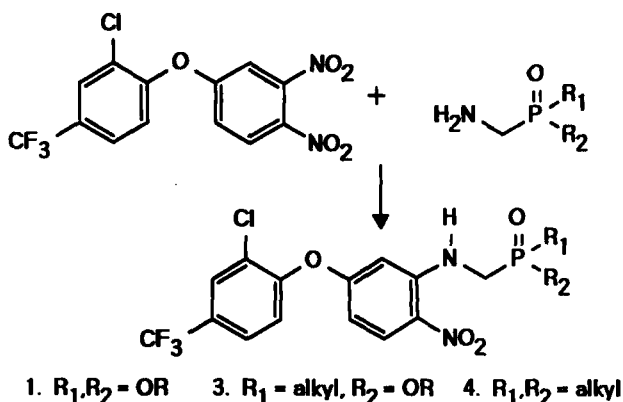
INTRODUCTION

A few years ago we described the preparation and reactions of phenoxyphenyl-phosphonates and -phosphinates and showed that some of these compounds exhibited a higher herbicidal activity than the commercial products bifenox and acifluorfen, but their selectivity was not as good.² Now we have studied the reaction of substituted 1,2-dinitrodiphenylethers with aminoalkylphosphonates, -phosphinates and -phosphine oxides and have determined the herbicidal activity of these compounds.^{3,4}

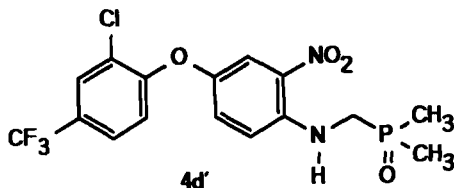
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1,2-Dinitro-4-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-benzene reacts readily with aminoalkylphosphonates, -phosphinates, and -phosphine oxides with substitution of one nitro group and yields the corresponding phosphonates, phosphinates and phosphine oxides in good yields, e.g.

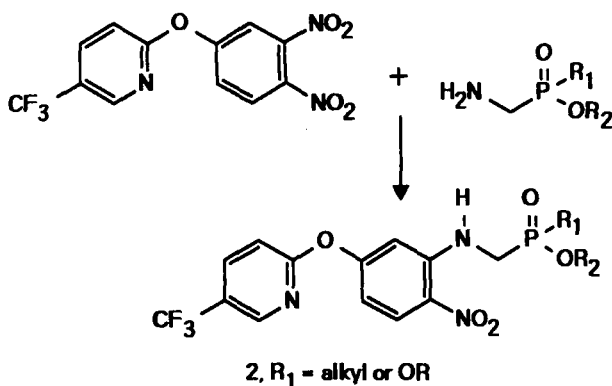
*Extended version of a poster (7th International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry, Hamburg, FRG, August 5–10th, 1990)



When carrying out the above reaction with aminomethyldimethylphosphine oxide in refluxing toluene a 1.2% yield of 2-nitro-4-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenyl-aminomethyl-dimethylphosphine oxide (**4d'**) was isolated in addition to 70% **4d** ($R_1, R_2 = CH_3$). Thus the reaction is not completely regiospecific.



The same reaction can also be applied for the preparation of pyridyloxy-phenylaminoalkylphosphonates and -phosphinates.



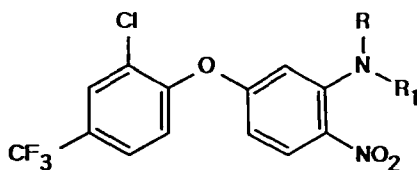
Hydrolysis of the esters **1** to **3** with 6N HCl under reflux yields the corresponding acids in nearly quantitative yield.

After completion of our work we learned that two other groups^{5,6} have also studied the reaction of 1,2-dinitrodiphenylethers with aminoalkylphosphonates.

Herbicidal Activity

Several of the substituted phenoxy- and pyridyloxy-phenylaminoalkylphosphonates, -phosphinates, and -phosphine oxides (Table I-IV) exhibit high herbicidal

TABLE I
Physical properties of 2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenylaminoalkylphosphonates

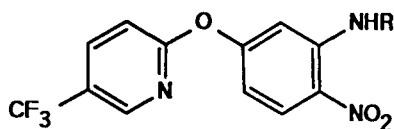


R	R ₁	Yield (%)	m.p. °C	Solvent	¹ H-NMR						arom. H see ex 3
					CH ₂ P	(J _{PCH})	NCH ₂	OCH	OH	OCH ₂	
H	(EtO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ CH ₂	89.2	yellow oil ^a	CDCl ₃	2.23	(J 18)	3.6			4.23	
H	(EtO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂	58	78–79.5 ^b	CDCl ₃	3.73	(J 13)				4.27	
H	[(EtO) ₂ P(O)] ₂ CH	41.2	yellow oil	CDCl ₃	3.7	(m)				4.17	
H	(i-PrO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ -CH ₂	82.3	orange oil	CDCl ₃	2.1	(J 18)	3.5	4.7			
H	(i-PrO) ₂ P(O)CH-(CH ₃)	95	orange oil	CDCl ₃	3.8	(m)		4.77			
H	(i-PrO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂	57.6	93–94	CDCl ₃	3.43	(J 14)		4.7			
H	(i-PrO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ -CH ₂ CH ₂	85.3	orange oil	CDCl ₃	2	(m)	3.4	4.75			
CH ₃	(HO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂	64.5	126–128	CD ₃ OD	3.3	(J 14)					
CH ₃	(i-PrO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂	78.7	orange oil	CDCl ₃	3.57	(J 9)	3.03	4.7			
C ₆ H ₅ CH ₂	(i-PrO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂	16.9	yellow oil	CDCl ₃	3.47	(J 8)	4.57	4.7			
H	(HO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ CH ₂	68.7	226–227.5	CD ₃ OD	2.33	(J 18)	3.4		5.17		
H	(HO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ -CH ₂ CH ₂	91.3	152–154.5	CD ₃ OD	1.55	(m)	3.03		4.8		
H	(HO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂	92	148–150	CD ₃ OD	3.37	(J 13)			4.93		
H	[(HO) ₂ P(O)] ₂ CH	82	190 (dec.)	CD ₃ OD	3.8	(J 21)			5.15		
H	(EtO) ₂ P(O)CH-(CH ₂ C ₆ H ₄ Br-4)	60.6	yellow resin	CDCl ₃	2.8–3.5					4.2	

orange oil;
m.p. 74–76°C.

TABLE II

Physical properties of 2-nitro-5-(5-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyloxy)-phenyl aminoalkylphosphonates and -phosphinates, 2

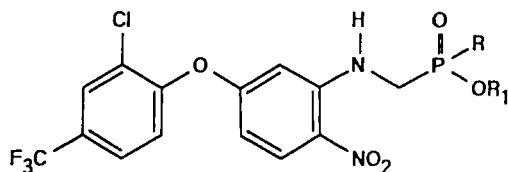


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No.	R	Yield %	m.p. °C	¹ H-NMR						³¹ P-NMR
				Solvent	CH ₂ P	NCH ₂	OCH ₂	OCH	OH	
a	(EtO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂	48.7	74–76	CDCl ₃	3.7(<i>J</i> 14)		4.2			20.93
b	(EtO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ CH ₂	98.5	orange oil	CDCl ₃	2.25(<i>J</i> 18)					27.82
c	(<i>i</i> -PrO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ -CH ₂ CH ₂	43.9	81–82	CDCl ₃	2.0(<i>m</i>)	3.4		4.73		28.47
d	(HO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ -CH ₂ CH ₂	80.6	134–136	CD ₃ OD	1.6(<i>m</i>)	3.0			4.8	
e	(HO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂	96.9	94 (dec.)	CD ₃ OD						19.07
f	(<i>i</i> -PrO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ -CH ₂	48.8	81–83	CDCl ₃	2.17(<i>J</i> 18)	3.32		4.8		25.49
g	(HO) ₂ P(O)CH ₂ CH ₂	94.3	105–106	CD ₃ OD	1.8(<i>J</i> 18)	3.17			5.15	
h	(EtO)CH ₂ P(O)CH ₂	28	88–90	CDCl ₃	3.6(<i>J</i> 11)	1.6(<i>J</i> 14) PCH ₃	4.17			

TABLE III

Physical properties of 2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenylaminomethylphosphinates, 3



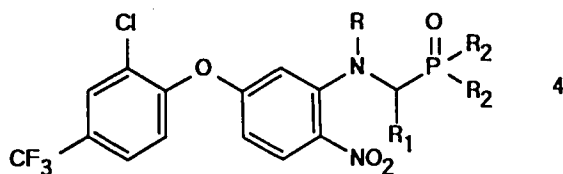
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No.	R	R ₁	Yield %	m.p.	¹ H-NMR					³¹ P-NMR
					Solvent	R–P	CH ₂ P	OCH ₂	OH	
a	CH ₃	C ₂ H ₅	76.6	118.5–119.5	CDCl ₃	1.6(13)	3.6(<i>J</i> 11)	4.13		46.89
b	C ₂ H ₅	C ₂ H ₅	51.9	yellow oil	CDCl ₃	0.9–2.1(<i>m</i>)	3.77(<i>J</i> 10)	4.2		
c	CH ₃	H	96.8	153–154.5	CD ₃ OD	1.4(<i>J</i> 14)	3.5(<i>J</i> 10)		4.8	41.03 (DMSO)
d	C ₂ H ₅	H	96.7	122–124	DMSO	0.7–2.0(<i>m</i>)	3.57(<i>J</i> 9)		7.2	44.19

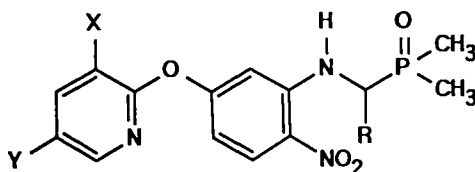
and plant growth regulating properties. It would seem that only those compounds are herbicidally active which have a 5-phenoxy- or pyridyloxy substituent, whereas the one compound with a 4-phenoxy substituent (**4d'**) is inactive. In the Figures 1–4 are shown the average herbicidal activities of the compounds tested against 4 weeds in the preemergent test and 7 weeds (3 monocotyledonous and 4 dicotyledonous) in the postemergent test at 4 kg/ha. Inspection of the curves shows that the herbicidal activity increases from pyridyloxy-phenylaminoalkylphosphonates (Figure 2) to phenoxy-phenylaminoalkyl-phosphonates (Figure 1) to phenoxy-

TABLE IV

Physical Properties of 2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenylaminoalkylphosphine oxides, **4a-h**, and 2-nitro-5-(subst.-2-pyridyloxy)-phenylaminoalkyl-phosphine oxides, **4e-g**



No.	R	R ₁	R ₂	Yield %	m.p. °C	Solvent	¹ H-NMR		³¹ P-NMR
							P-CH ₃	P-CH ₂	
a	H	CH ₃	CH ₃	41.2	151–153	CDCl ₃	1.53(<i>J</i> 12)	3.8(<i>m</i>)	46.24
b	<i>n</i> -C ₃ H ₇	H	CH ₃	17.6	resin	CDCl ₃	1.5(<i>J</i> 13)	3.55(<i>J</i> 7)	
c	H	H	C ₂ H ₅	71	103–105	CDCl ₃	0.9–2.1(<i>m</i>)	3.6(<i>J</i> 7)	48.47
d	H	H	CH ₃	70	166–168	CDCl ₃	1.63(<i>J</i> 13)	3.7(<i>J</i> 7)	40.1
h	H	3-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ - H ₃ CH ₂	CH ₃	43.3	161–165	CDCl ₃	1.5(2d, <i>J</i> 12)	2.8–4.0(<i>m</i>) (CH ₂ CHP)	



No.	R	X	Y	Yield %	m.p. °C	Solvent	P-CH ₃	P-CH ₂	³¹ P-NMR
e	CH ₃	H	CF ₃	41.2	180–181	CDCl ₃	1.2(<i>J</i> 12)	3.9(<i>m</i>)	
f	H	Cl	Cl	49.6	153–154	CDCl ₃	1.6(<i>J</i> 12.6)	3.65(<i>J</i> 8)	41.96
g	H	H	CF ₃	70.2	158–160	CDCl ₃	1.65(<i>J</i> 12.8)	3.7(<i>J</i> 7)	40.56

phenylaminoalkylphosphinates (Figure 3) to phenoxy-phenylaminoalkylphosphine oxides (Figure 4). Whereas pyridyloxy-phenylaminoalkylphosphonates (**2**) show no preemergent herbicidal activity, the preemergent activity of the compounds **1**, **3** and **4** goes in general parallel with the postemergent activity with the exception of the phosphonic acid derivatives **1k** to **1o**, which are inactive. This is probably due to the adsorption of the phosphonic acids in the soil. Much less difference exists in the phosphinate series (Figure 3). The phosphinic acids **3c** and **3d** have nearly the same activity pre- and postemergent as the esters **3a** and **3b**. And finally in the phosphine oxide series the preemergent activity of several derivatives (**4c–4f**, and **4h**) is higher than the postemergent activity. The dependence of the preemergent herbicidal activity of the most active compound in each series (**1b**, **3a**, **4a**; because of low activity the pyridyloxy-derivatives **2** have not been included) from the concentration against 4 monocotyledonous and 7 dicotyledonous weeds is shown in Figure 5. At all concentrations the phenoxy-phenylaminoethyl-dimethylphosphine oxide **4a** is the most active compound followed by **1b** and then **3a**. All three compounds show a high selectivity in rice.

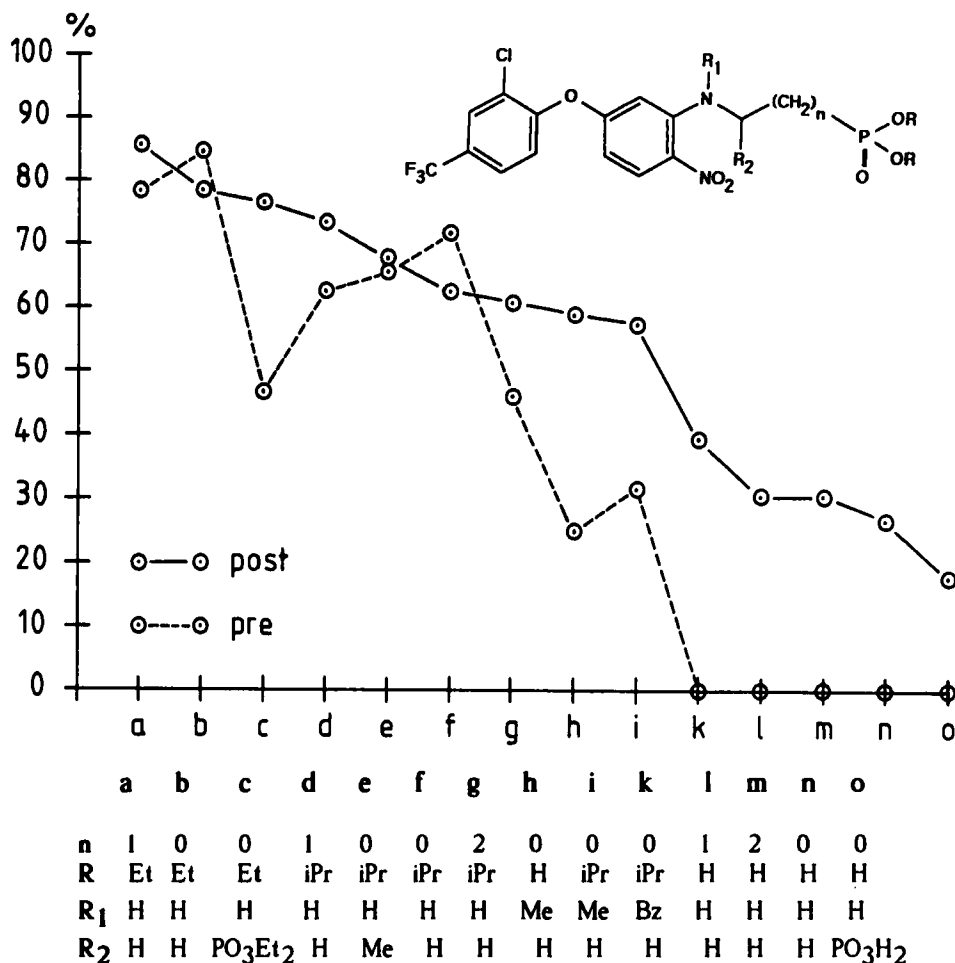


FIGURE 1 Herbicidal Activity of Phenoxy-phenylaminoalkylphosphonates at 4 kg/ha in the Greenhouse

EXPERIMENTAL

Phosphorus NMR-spectra were recorded using a Bruker WP 80 spectrometer at 32.28 MHz (Reference 85% H₃PO₄), and ¹H-NMR-spectra were recorded with a Varian EM 360 spectrometer at 60 MHz or a Bruker WM 250/250 MHz spectrometer [Reference (CH₃)₄Si]. The chemical shifts are reported in ppm with negative values being upfield of the standard, and positive downfield. The reactions with trivalent phosphorus compounds were run under argon.

The aminoalkylphosphonates, -phosphinates and -phosphine oxides, used as starting materials, have been prepared according to literature procedures.^{7,8,9} Dinitrodiphenylethers were available from a previous study.²

1. 2-Nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenylaminomethylphosphonic acid di-isopropyl ester, 1f. A mixture of 23.2 g (0.064 mol) of 3,4-dinitro-2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethyl-diphenylether¹⁰ and 25 g (0.128 mol) of 0,0-diisopropyl-aminomethylphosphonate, dissolved in 120 ml of toluene, is heated to reflux for 16 hours. Then the dark solution is treated with carbon black, filtered and the filtrate evaporated on a rotavapor to give 31.38 g (= 96%) of an orange oil which crystallizes on standing at room temperature, m.p. 82–84°C. Recrystallization from di-isopropyl ether gives 18.84 g (57.6%) pure **1f**, m.p. 94–94°C, yellow needle-like crystals.

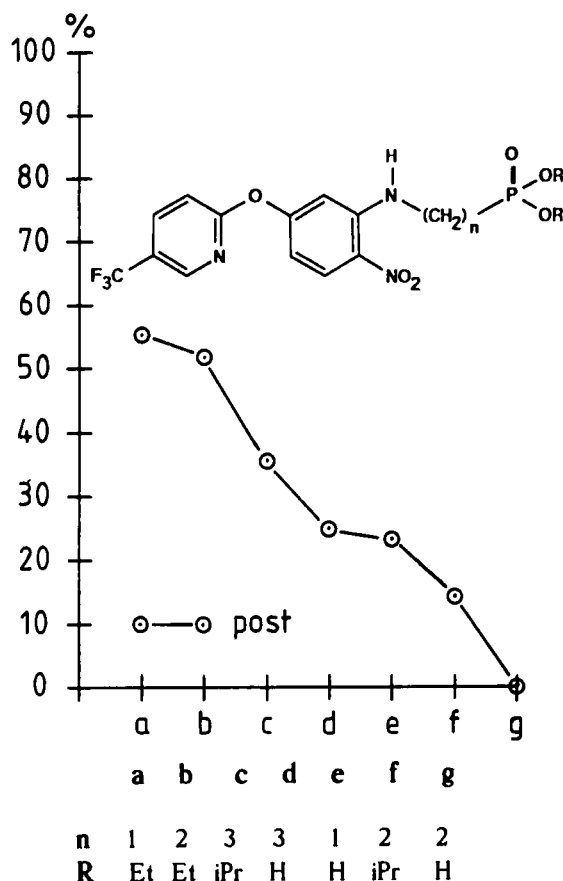


FIGURE 2 Herbicidal Activity of Pyridoxyphenylaminoalkylphosphonates at 4 kg/ha in the Greenhouse

$C_{20}H_{23}ClF_3N_2O_6P$ (510.8) calc: C 47.03, H 4.54, N 5.48, F 11.16, Cl 6.94%; found C 47.07, H 4.82, N 5.46, F 10.43, Cl 6.56%;

1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ = 1.23 (2d, CH_3), 12H; 3.43 (2d, J_{PCH} 14, P_{NCH} 5, CH_2P , 2H; 4.7(m, OCH, 2H); 6.17–8.3(m, C_6H_3 , 6H); 8–8.5(br, NH, 1H) [ppm].

^{31}P -NMR ($CDCl_3$) 18.7 ppm

2. 2-Nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenylaminomethylphosphonic acid, **1n**. A mixture of 3 g (5.9 mmol) of **1f** and 100 ml of 6N HCl is refluxed for 16 hours and then the solution evaporated on a rotavapor. As a residue is obtained 2.3 g (92%) of **1n**, yellow crystals, m.p. 148–150°C.

$C_{14}H_{11}ClF_3N_2O_6P$ (426.6) calc: C 39.41, H 2.60, N 6.57%; found: C 39.1, H 2.80, N 6.7%

1H -NMR (CD_3OD) δ = 3.37(d, J_{PCH} 13, CH_2P , 2H); 4.9(s, OH, NH); 5.8–8.0(m, C_6H_3 , 6H) [ppm]

3. 2-Nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenylaminomethylphosphonic acid diethyl ester, **1b**. To a refluxing solution of 20 g (0.055 mol) of 3,4-dinitro-2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethyl-diphenyl ether in 100 ml of toluene is dropwise added 18.43 g (0.11 mol) of 0,0-diethyl-aminomethyl-phosphonate. Then the mixture is refluxed for 18 hours, evaporated on a rotavapor and the residue, an orange oil, chromatographed (silica gel F60, eluent ethylacetate). There is obtained 14.38 g (58%) **1b**, m.p. 78–79°C, yellow needles from diisopropyl ether.

$C_{18}H_{19}ClF_3N_2O_6P$ (482.78) calc: C 44.78, H 3.96, N 5.80, Cl 7.34, P 6.4%; found C 44.71, H 4.03, N 5.78, Cl 7.35, P 6.39%;

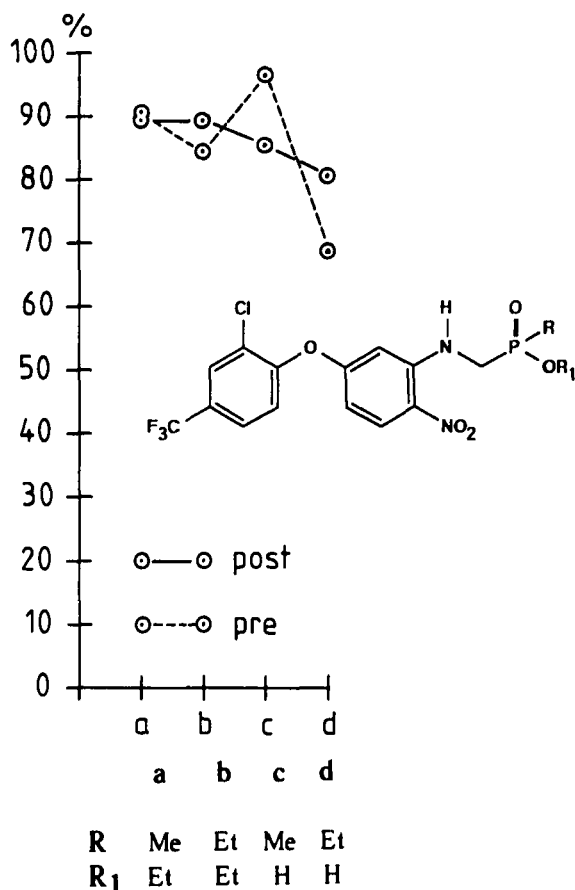


FIGURE 3 Herbicidal Activity of Phenoxyphenylaminomethylphosphinates at 4 kg/ha in the Greenhouse

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) δ = 1.4(*t*, CH_3 , 6H); 3.73(*2d*, J_{PCH} 13, J_{NHCH} 5, CH_2P , 2H); 4.27(*qui*, OCH_2 , 4H); 6.3(*2d*, CH-4, 1H); 6.57(*d*, CH-6, 1H); 7.35(*d*, CH-6', 1H); 7.7(*2d*, CH-5', 1H); 7.83(*d*, CH-3', 1H); 8.2(*d*, CH-3, 1H); 8.4(*qu*., J_{PCNH} 5, J_{NHCH} 5, NH, 1H) [ppm]

$^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) 20.93 ppm

The compounds listed in Table I were prepared in a similar way.

4. 2-Nitro-5-(5'-trifluoromethyl-2'-pyridyloxy)-phenylaminomethylphosphonic acid diethyl ester **2a**. To 15 g (0.045 mol) of (5'-trifluoromethyl-2'-pyridyloxy)-3,4-dinitrobenzene dissolved in 50 ml toluene is added dropwise under reflux 7.6 g (0.045 mol) of 0,0-diethyl-aminomethylphosphonate. Then the mixture is refluxed for 12 hours, evaporated on a rotavapor, and the residue chromatographed (silica gel, eluent hexane:ethylacetate 1:4). There is obtained 9.8 g (48.7%) **2a**, m.p. 74–76°C, slightly yellow crystals.

$\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{19}\text{F}_3\text{N}_3\text{O}_6$ (449.3) calc: C 45.44, H 4.26, N 9.35, P 6.89%; found C 44.2, H 4.2, N 10.1, P 6.8%
 $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3) δ = 1.37(*t*, CH_3 , 6H); 3.7(*2d*, J_{PCH} 14, J_{NHCH} 6, CH_2P , 2H), 4.2(*qui*, OCH_2 , 4H); 6.5(*2d*, CH-4, 1H); 6.78(*d*, CH-6, 1H); 7.15–8.5(*m*, aromat. CH + NH, 5H) [ppm]

The compounds listed in Table II were prepared in a similar way.

5. O-Ethyl-2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenylaminomethyl-methylphosphinate, **3a**. To a refluxing solution of 19.8 g (0.055 mol) of 3,4-dinitro-2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethyl-diphenylether in 100 ml of toluene is slowly added 15 g (0.1084 mol) of O-ethyl-aminomethyl-methyl-phosphinate and then the solution refluxed for a further 30 hours. The solution is evaporated on a rotavapor and the

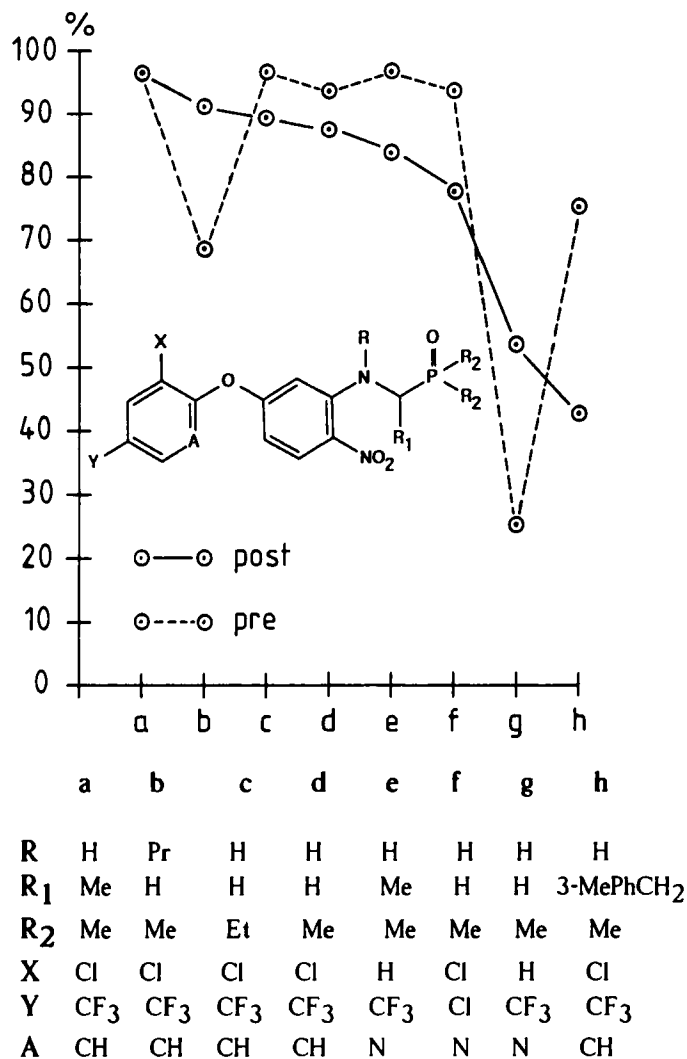


FIGURE 4 Herbicidal Activity of Phenoxy- and Pyridyloxyphenylaminoalkylphosphine oxides at 4 kg/ha in the Greenhouse

residue chromatographed (silica gel; eluent ethylacetate). There is obtained 19.07 g (76.6%) **3a**, m.p. 118.5–119.5°C.

$C_{17}H_{17}ClF_3N_2O_5P$ (452.7) calc: C 45.10, H 3.78, N 6.19, P 6.84%; found: C 44.94, H 3.89, N 6.34, P 6.79%;

1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ = 1.4(*t*, CH_3 , 3H); 1.6(*d*, J_{PCH} 13, PCH_3 , 3H); 3.6(*dd*, J_{PCH} 11, CH_2P , 2H); 4.13(*qui*, OCH_3 , 2H); 6.3(*2d*, CH-4, 1H); 6.5(*d*, CH-6, 1H); 7.25(*d*, CH-6', 1H); 7.6(*2d*, CH-5', 1H); 7.8(*d*, CH-3', 1H); 8.2(*d*, CH-3, 1H); 8.4(*br*, NH, 1H) [ppm]

6. 2-Nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenylaminomethyl-dimethylphosphine oxide, **4d**. To a refluxing solution of 18.13 g (0.05 mol) of 3,4-dinitro-2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethyl-diphenylether in 50 ml of toluene is dropwise added 10.71 g (0.1 mol) of molten aminomethyl-dimethylphosphine oxide. The solution is refluxed for a further 2 hours, then evaporated on a rotavapor. The residue is chromatographed on silica gel using ethylacetate/ethanol (4:1) as eluent. There are obtained two fractions. Fraction 1: 14.8 g (70%) **4d**, yellow crystals m.p. 166–168°C

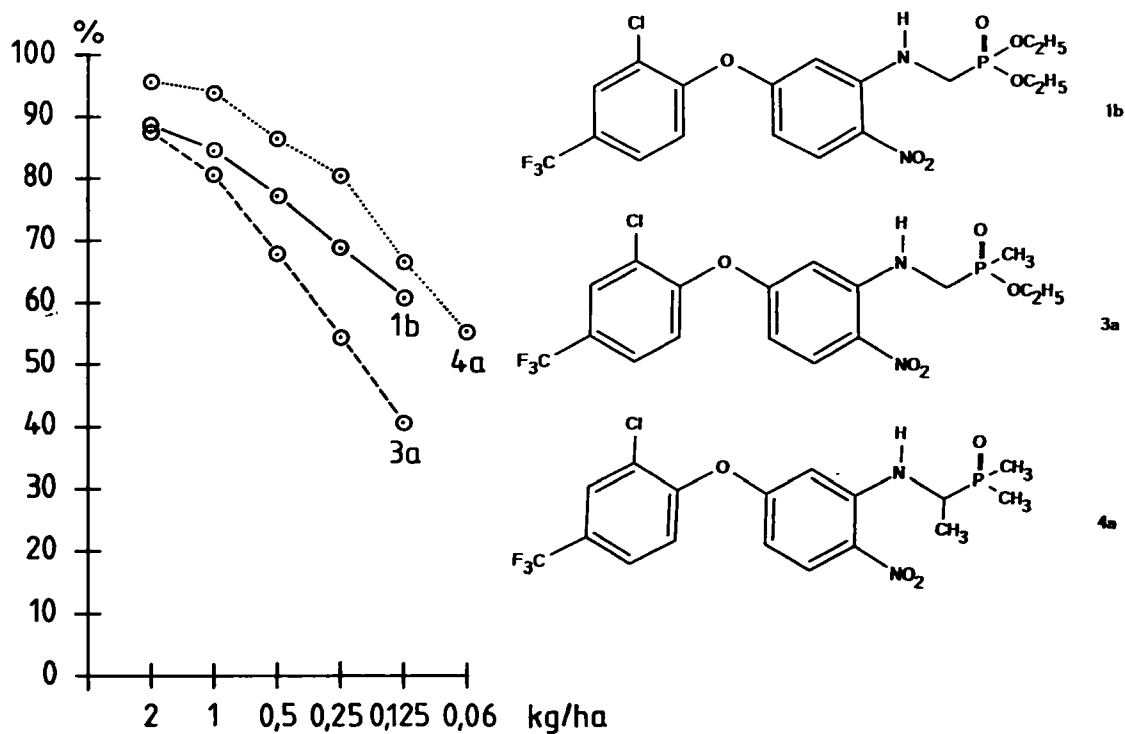


FIGURE 5 Dependence of the Premergent Herbicidal Activity of 1b, 3a, and 4a from the Concentration against four Monocotyledonous and seven Dicotyledonous Weeds

$C_{16}H_{15}ClF_3N_2O_2P$ (422.7) calc: C 46.46, H 3.58, N 6.63, F 13.48, Cl 8.39, P 7.33%; found C 45.5, H 3.6, N 6.9, F 13.4, Cl 8.3, P 7.5%;

1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ = 1.63(*d*, J_{PCH} 13, CH_3P , 3H); 3.7(*dd*, J_{PCH} 7, CH_2P , 2H); 6.25(*2d*, CH-4, 1H); 6.6(*d*, CH-6, 1H); 7.25(*d*, CH-6', 1H); 7.6(*2d*, CH-5', 1H); 7.8(*d*, CH-3', 1H); 8.2(*d*, CH-3, 1H); 8.5(*qu*, J5, NH, 1H) [ppm]

Fraction 2: 0.25 g (1.2%), 2-nitro-4-(2'-chloro-4'-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-phenylaminomethyl-dimethylphosphine oxide, **4d**, orange red crystals, m.p. 150–152°C (from ethylacetate/diisopropylether)

1H -NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ = 1.6(*d*, J_{PCH} 12, CH_3P , 3H); 3.73(*2d*, J_{PCH} 6, CH_2P , 2H); 6.93(*d*, CH-6, 1H); 7.2(*d*, CH-6', 1H); 7.35(*2d*, CH-5, 1H); 7.5(*2d*, CH-5', 1H); 7.75(*d*, CH-3', 1H); 7.9(*d*, CH-3, 1H) [ppm]

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