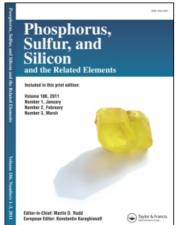
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FUSED PHOSPHONO SUBSTITUTED O-, AND N-HETEROCYCLES VIA CONDENSATIVE CYCLISATION REACTIONS OF α -PHOSPHONYL CARBANIONS WITH 4-THIAZOLIDINONES

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Phosphono substituted-thiazolones 5a,b together with fused phosphono-pyran-5-ones 9a,b and the diolefins 8a-d were regioselectively prepared in reasonable yields from the reactions of 5-arylidene-4-thiazolidinones 1a,b with phosphonoacetates 2a,b. Conversely, Michael addition products 11a,b ($\sim 30\%$) along with the phosphono substituted-thiazole derivatives 12a,b ($\sim 33\%$) were obtained from treating 1a,b with cyanomethylenephosphonates (2c). The reactions of 1a,b with vinylphosphonate 2d proceeded with phase-transfer catalysis, yielding the corresponding 2-thioalkyl-derivatives 14a,b and phosphonates 13a,b.

Keywords: 4-Thiazolidinones; condensative cyclization reaction; phosphonyl carbanions

Thiazolidinones have been recently exploited as herbicides, acaricides, and insecticides, in which many compounds have commercially been produced. The biological activity, to a large degree, is attributed to the nature of the substituent in the thiazolidine ring. In fact, it has been shown that the phosphonyl group could regulate important biological functions of the substrate. Thus, it is conceivable that molecular modification of thiazole rings by introducing organophosphorus functionality is likely to reveal potential pesticide activity. Although some synthetic approaches to phosphonyl thiazolidinones have been reported, there is still much active research in this area.

In a series of articles from this laboratory, we reported⁴ on the synthesis and reactions of new phosphono substituted-heterocycles starting from the inexpensive and easily accessible α -phosphonyl carbanions. This article describes the results of our studies on the

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preparation and reactions of novel phosphono substituted-heterocycles derived from the reactions of thioxothiazolidinones $\mathbf{1a}$, \mathbf{b} with different types of α -phosphonyl carbanion $\mathbf{2a}$ - \mathbf{d} . Similarities and differences in the reactivity of phosphonates $\mathbf{2}$ and phosphorane counterparts $\mathbf{3}$ toward 4-thiazolidinones $\mathbf{1}$ are also discussed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

When 5-arylmethylene-2-thioxo-4-thiazolidinone ${\bf 1a}$ (also known as 5-arylidine-rhodanines¹) was treated with an excess of diethyl phosphonoacetates ${\bf 2a,b}$ in alcoholic sodium methoxide solution at room temperature, the reaction was not complete even after 3 days. The product mixture was then subjected to column chromatography to give in each case, a colored solid (\sim 52%) together with an unchanged substrate ${\bf 1a}$ (\sim 20%). This product, for which the structure of diethyl [5-arylmethylene-3,4-dioxo-3, 4H-2,7-dihydrothiazolo[8,7-c]thiazol-2-yl] phosphonate ${\bf 5a}$ was proposed, was the only one produced regardless of the ratio of the reactants employed. Similar treatment of ${\bf 1b}$ with the phosphonates ${\bf 2a,b}$ afforded the phosphonate analog ${\bf 5b}$ (58%) and an unchanged ${\bf 1b}$ (18%). However, in all cases, ${\bf 2a,b}$ were utilized in three-fold molar excess, compared to the corresponding ${\bf 1a,b}$, in order to obtain reasonable yields. Similar fused-thiazole derivatives to ${\bf 5a}$ are, however, known in the literature. ${\bf 1b,5}$

Mass spectra and elemental analyses of ${\bf 5a,b}$ indicated that the reaction results in a 1:1 condensative cyclisation accompanied by extrusion of the appropriate alcohol molecule (Scheme 1). Structure ${\bf 5}$ ($\delta_p = \sim 19.3$ ppm) was, however, established on the basis of IR and NMR spectra. Thus, each of the products exhibited a carbonyl group, similar to that of the starting substrate ${\bf 1}$ ($\nu \sim 1698~{\rm cm}^{-1}$). The ${}^1{\rm H}$ NMR spectra showed a common one-proton singlet near δ 7.8 ppm assignable to the vinylic proton resonance. The starting thiazolidinones ${\bf 1}$ exhibited such a signal at $\delta_{\rm H} = \sim 7.83$ ppm. On the other hand, the ${}^{13}{\rm C}$ NMR 6 spectra of ${\bf 5}$ (in CDCl $_3$) showed the absence of a thiocarbonyl carbon atom (C=S) at ~ 195 ppm. Instead, the two carbonyl-carbon atoms in ${\bf 5}$ gave two

SCHEME 1

signals around \sim 160 ppm. The phosphonate-carbon atom (C–P) signal was observed at \sim 48 ppm (d, $^1J_{c-p}=\sim$ 187 Hz) in the $^{13}{\rm C}$ NMR of **5**. These values coincide with the chemical shift expected for a ring sp^3 -carbon atom bearing a phosphonyl moiety as indicated by the large coupling constant.

The foregoing results confirm the assigned structure **5** and rule out the alternative structure **9** (Scheme 2). Consequently, the studied reaction is site selective leading, under the prevailing experimental conditions, to the exclusive formation of **5a,b**. Similar thiophilic addition by carbanions at the =S are known. ^{7,8} Furthermore, considering the interesting parallel between the chemistry of phosphonyl and phosphonium ylides, similar observation were previously reported for the reaction of alkylidenephosphoranes with thiocarbonyl compounds, ^{7,8} as well as for the reactions of alkyl phosphites with thiobenzophenones and others. ⁹

When the above reaction (1a,b+2a,b) was carried out at reflux temperatures, we observed that the diolefins 8a-d and the phosphonates 9a,b were isolated in almost equal yields ($\sim 30\%$) together with a low yield of 5 ($\sim 12\%$). The oxidation of 9a,b with N-bromosuccinimide (NBS), in carbon tetrachloride containing a catalytic amount of dibenzoyl peroxide, led to the formation of the dehydrogenated products 10a,b ($\sim 62\%$) (Scheme 2). Elemental analyses, molecular weight measurement (MS), IR and NMR spectroscopy (see Experimental section) all have confirmed the structures of the new products.

The reaction mechanisms illustrated in Schemes 1 and 2 are postulated as follows: thiophilic addition of the phosphonyl carbanion 2 to thiazolidinone 1 yields the intermediate 4. At low temperature, the latter undergoes intramolecular cyclisation giving the fused thiazolone 5 via elimination of the appropriate alcohol molecule and protonation from the solvent (Scheme 1). However, at relatively high temperature,

SCHEME 2

thiocarbonyl olefination of ${\bf 1a,b}$ has occurred by one mole of Wittig-Horner reagents ${\bf 2a,b}$ to give the olefin ${\bf 6}$. Michael addition of a second carbanion species ${\bf 2a}$ or ${\bf 2b}$ followed by rearrangement affords the product ${\bf 8}$ via ${\bf 8A}$ with concomitant Hofmann type elimination of phosphorus group [(RO)₂PO] as dialkyl phosphonate. A similar result was reported for the reaction of 2-thiono-1,2,4-oxodiazole with ${\bf 2a,b}$. Furthermore, the high temperature allows the formation of the Michael addition

SCHEME 3

intermediate **7**, which can readily lactonizes to give **9** upon alkylation and displacement of an ROH molecule (Scheme 2). *N*-Alkylation process meets a well documented analogy in the reaction of Horner reagent with quinonimines, ¹¹ pyrroles, ^{12a} nitrosonaphthols, ^{12b} and oximes. ^{4b}

It was reported^{3a} that phosphite esters attack 4-thiazolidinones 1, preferably, at the exocyclic ethylene bond by 1:2 addition to give the corresponding phosphorylated compounds. On the other hand, the formation of a fused pyrone as described in Scheme 2 parallel the reactions of 5-alkylidene thiazolidine-2,4-thiones with alkenes. ^{13a} Furthermore, we have reported ^{13b} an analogous mechanism for the reaction of 5-arylidinerhodanines **1b**,**c** with alkylidenephosphorane counterparts **3a**,**b** (Scheme 3).

Thus, by applying alkoxycarbonylmethylenetriphenylphosphoranes $\bf 3a,b$ on $\bf 1b,c$ in refluxing ethyl acetate, and in the presence of triethylamine (TEA), conjugated dihydrofuro[2,3-d]-thiazole-2H-thiones $\bf A$ (\sim 46%) together with the diolefins $\bf B$ (\sim 18%) were isolated. Carrying out the reaction in refluxing toluene, and also in the presence of TEA, led to the formation of the fused pyrone derivative $\bf C$ (\sim 52%) and $\bf B$ (\sim 11%).

Obviously, the mechanisms outlined in Schemes 2 and 3 show a similar initial attack for the phosphonyl and phosphorane ylides $\bf 2$ and $\bf 3$. However, the transformations are quite different. The main difference between the present reaction and the corresponding one of the Wittig reagents with the same substrate $\bf 1b^{13c}$ is that, in the latter case, the formation of the products is accompanied by elimination of the phosphorus moiety. The contrasting behavior of the initial intermediate through elimination "of the phosphorus moiety" is because Ph_3P is a much better leaving group than $[(EtO)_2PO^-]$. There is much precedence for this difference. The results also showed the activated

carbon-carbon double bond is a preferable site of attack by the phosphorane ylides, whereas the thiocarbonyl group is the preferable one with phosphonyl carbanions.

Next, we investigated the reaction of $\mathbf{1a,b}$ with diethyl cyanomethylenephosphonate $(\mathbf{2c})$. In contrast to the transformations described above, when $\mathbf{1a,b}$ and $\mathbf{2c}$ (three-fold molar excess compared to $\mathbf{1}$) reacted in boiling dimethylformamide (DMF) containing LiH (2 equiv., compared to $\mathbf{2c}$), conjugated products $\mathbf{11a,b}$ ($\sim 27\%$ yield) and the fused-thiazole derivatives $\mathbf{12a,b}$ ($\sim 40\%$ yield) were obtained.

Elemental analyses and spectral data substantiated the chemical structures of **11** and **12**. The $^1\mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra of the compounds **11a,b** showed a sharp singlet of the NH proton at $\sim\!9.44$. There were still three types of CH protons [δ (Ha) \sim 2.8 ppm (dd (m), 1H), δ (Hb) $\sim\!3.5$ ppm (dd (m), 1H) and δ (Hc) ~ 4.5 (dd, (m), 1H)]. The C(O) carbon signal in the $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra was observed at δ c 161–163 ppm, while the carbon atom of the CN group was shown at about 117 ppm. The 1-C atom gave a doublet at about 44 ppm ($^1J_{C.P}\sim 136~\mathrm{Hz}$). The C(S)-carbon signal in the $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra was observed by 192–194 ppm. In the IR spectra of **11**, the CN-group was located at 2220, 2218 as a weak band and the thione-function was given at $\sim\!1190~\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ as a strong sharp band.

The ^1H NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{12a}$ ($\delta_p=24.16$ ppm) showed two types of the NH₂-protons [$\delta(H^a)=6.55$ (sbr, 1H) and $\delta(H^b)=9.71$ (s br., 1H)]. The different chemical shifts of the NH₂-protons are the spectroscopic evidence for the presence of intramolecular hydrogen bonds between one of the hydrogens of the NH₂-protons and the oxygen atom of the P=O bonding in the phosphonate group. The 2-C atom in the ^{13}C NMR appeared as a doublet at 97.2 ($^{1}J_{C,P}=196.3$ Hz). Compounds 12 were presumably formed through the attack of sulfur on 2c to generate the intermediate B via the intermediate A. Subsequent cyclisation and transformation of the cyano group led directly to the formation of fused thiazole derivative 12 (Scheme 4). Obviously, the driving force for the latter step can be attributed to the substitution on the methine carbon atom with electron withdrawing thiol-, cyano- and phosphonato-groups, which results in an increased acidity of the corresponding methine proton. Similar observation has been previously reported. 14

Treatment of **1** with diethyl vinylphosphonate (**2d**) in DMF, in the presence of LiH, yielded the phosphonates **13** (~43% yield) and the S-alkylated products **14a,b** (~26 yield) (Scheme 5). The product **14b** is, however, identical, in all aspects, to the known¹⁵ 5-benzylidine-2-(ethylthio)thiazolidin-4-one. Obviously, compound **13** is the product of addition of the electron rich thioxo S-atom of either **1a,b** or its conjugate base on the electrophilic beta position of O,O-diethyl vinylphosphonate

2d (which behaves like an unsaturated carboxylic ester), as has been previously discussed. ^{1b,16} On the other hand, **14a**,**b** resulted from direct alkylation (using the ethyl phosphonate as the alkylating agent) on the

alkylation (using the ethyl phosphonate as the alkylating agent) on the sulfide anion intermediate $-S^-\mathbf{1A}$ that resulted from treatment of $\mathbf{1a}$, \mathbf{b} with LiH. This type of alkylation is well known in organophosphorus chemistry. 8,9

SCHEME 4

1a,b LiH O CH₃- CH₂-O O P-CH=CH

ArHC S S CH₃- CH₂-O O P-CH=CH

1Aa,b 2d

ArHC S SCH₂CH

ArHC S SCH₂CH

14a, Ar =
$$C_6H_4$$
-NMe₂-p

14b, Ar = C_6H_5

SCHEME 5

CONCLUSION

The results of the present and the previous work 13b point out the variety of reaction pathways, which can follow an initial attack of phosphorus ylides **2** and **3** to C=S and the exocyclic-C=C groups in 5-arylidine-2-thioxothiazolidin-4-ones **1a-b**. Desulfuration process is also observed in some products (see **8**, Scheme 2 and **B**, Scheme 3). Finally, the present work describes an efficient and simple approach to the synthesis of a variety of condensed phosphono substituted O-, N-, and S-heterocycles in reasonable yields. This general method consists of suitable applications of the appropriate phosphonyl carbanion to thiazolidinones. Data on the pharmaceutical potency of the new compounds **5**, **8–10**, and **11–13** will be published elsewhere.

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were measured with a Perkin-Elmer IR-spectrometer Model 597 using KBr discs. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker Model WH-270 MHz spectrometer. The ³¹P NMR spectra were run on a Varian CFT-20 relative to external H₃PO₄. Mass spectra were performed at 70 eV on a Schimadzu GCS-QPEX spectrometer provided with a data system. All reactions were carried out under strictly moisture and oxygen free conditions. Light petroleum refers to the fraction 40–60°C.

I. Treatment of 5-Arylmethylene-2-thioxothiazolidinones 1a,b with Diethyl Phosphonoacetates (2a,b)

(A) Preparation of 5a

A 6 molar solution of sodium ethoxide (NaOEt) in absolute ethyl alcohol solution (25 mL) was treated with a 3 molar solution of methyl diethyl phosphonoacetate (**2a**) and then 4-thiazolidinone **1a**¹⁸ (0.8 g, 3 mmol, 1 molar amount) was added. The resulting reaction mixture was kept stirring for 3 days at room temperature. The product mixture was concentrated and diluted with a small amount of distilled water followed by solvent extraction (CHCl₃) and drying. Then the solvent was evaporated in the presence of 7 g (Kieselgel 60, particle size 0.2–0.5 mm; E. Merck, Darmstadt) and packed with n-hexane. Elution with hexane/CHCl₃ (8:2, v/v) afforded red crystals of diethyl [5-(4'-dimethylaminophenylmethylene)-3,4-dioxo-3,4H-6,8-thiazolo-[8,7-c]-2,7-dihydro-1,8-thiazol]-2-yl-phosphonate (**5a**) (0.7 g, 52%), m.p. 168–170°C (from MeCN). (Found: C, 48.74; H, 5.18;

N, 6.25; P, 7.12; S 14.41. C₁₈H₂₃N₂O₅PS₂ requires C, 48.85; H, 5.24; N, 6.33; P, 7.00; S, 14.49%); $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1698, 1690 (3-C=O & 4-C=O), $1622 (C=C, exocyclic), 1245 (P=O), 1100 (P-O-C); \delta_H(270 MHz; CDCl_3):$ 1.08, 1.32 (6H, 2dt, J_{H-H} 6.6, ${}^{4}J_{H-P}$ 3.8, $H_{3}C-C-O$), 3.06, 3.08 [6H, 2s, $(H_3C)_2N$], 4.16, 4.24 (4H, 2dq, J_{H-H} 6.6, ${}^3J_{H-P}$ 4.6, 2 × H_2CO), 4.48 $(1H, dd, J_{H-P} 17.5, 2-CHP), 5.13 (1H, dd, J_{H-H} 2.7, J_{H-P} 4.4, 7-C-H),$ 7.36 (2H, m, $H-C_6H_4$), 7.61 (2H, m, $H-C_6H_4$), 7.79 (1H, s, 5-C=CH); $\delta_{\rm C}(270~{\rm MHz};{\rm CDCl_3}): 14.6, 15.2 (2{\rm CH_3-C-O}), 31.2, 35.4 [({\rm CH_3})_2{\rm N}], 48.8$ $(d, J_{C-P} 187.8, 2-C-P), 55.7 (7-C), 61.2, 62.5 (2 \times CH_2O), 120.9, 122.4,$ 126.4, 131.7 (6C, C_6H_4), 158.2, 161.5 (2 × C=O); $\delta_P(CDCl_3)$ 19.4 ppm; m/z (EI) (%): 442 (M⁺ (36), requires 442.5), 427 (13), 414 (10), 398 (22), 386 (30), 305 (55), 252 (100). The second fraction (1:1, v/v) afforded red leaflets of unchanged substrate 1a (180 mg, 22%), m.p. 285–288°C (EtOH) (Lit., 17 m.p. 285°C); m/z (%) found 264 (100) $C_{12}H_{12}N_2OS_2$ requires 264.36. Similarly, the reaction of triethyl phosphonoacetate (2b) with thiazolidinone **1a** was performed at r.t. for 3 days in ethanol containing NaOEt, whereby the procedure was the same with 2a using the same amounts. After the usual workup, phosphonate **5a** (660 mg, 50%), m.p. 168–170°C (MeCN) was isolated and was shown to be identical to material prepared above on using 2a.

(B) Preparation of 5b

A mixture of 1b¹⁸ (0.8 g, 3.62 mmol) and the appropriate Wittig-Horner synthon 2a or 2b (~10 mmol) in absolute EtOH (25 mL) containing NaOEt (~20 mmol) was stirred for 3 days at r.t. After the usual workup, the product residue was column chromatographed (silica gel/hexane with increasing amounts of CHCl₃ to give, in each case, only **5b** along with unchanged **1b** (\sim 20%). *Diethyl* (5-benzylidene-3,4-dioxo-3,4H-6,8-thiazolo[8,7-c]-2,7-dihydro-1,3-thiazol-2-yl-phosphonate (5b) was obtained (8:2, v/v) as yellow crystals (830 mg, 58%), m.p. 146-148°C (from benzene). (Found: C, 48.18; H, 4.46; N, 3.43; P, 7.87; S, 16.12. C₁₆H₁₈NO₅PS₂ requires C, 48.11; H, 4.54; N, 3.51; P, 7.75; S, 16.05%); $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1700, 1687 (3-C=O & 4-C=O), 1628 (C=C, exocyclic), 1240 (P=O), 1105 (P-O-C); $\delta_{H}(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_{3})$: 1.09, 1.32 $(6H, 2dt, J_{H-H}, 6.6, J_{H-P}, 3.6, 2 \times H_3 C-C-O), 4.17, 4.24 (4H, 2dq, J_{H-H})$ 6.6, J_{H-P} 4.4, 2 × H_2 CO), 4.58 (1H, dd, J_{H-H} 2.4, J_{H-P} 15.8, 2-CH-P), $5.16 (1H, dd, J_{H-H} 2.4, J_{H-P} 4.4, 7-C-H), 7.36 (3H, m, H-C_6H_5), 7.61$ (2H, m, $H-C_6H_5$), 7.78 (1H, s, 5-C=CH); $\delta_C(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_3)$: 14.3, 15.7 (2CH₃-C-O), 48.4 (d, J_{C-P} 187.8, 2-C-P), 56.5 (7-C), 61.3, 62.4 (2 $\times CH_2O$), 120.3, 121.8, 124.6, 131.8 (6C, C₆H₅), 159.1, 160. (2 $\times C$ =O); $\delta_{\rm P}$ (CDCl₃) 20.1 ppm; m/z (EI) (%): 399 (M⁺(36), requires 399.43), 397 (44), 371 (18), 343 (32), 262 (100).

(C) Preparation of 8a,b, 9a, and 5a

A mixture of **1a** (0.8 g, 3 mmol) and **2a** or **2b** (9 mmol) in absolute EtOH containing NaOEt (\sim 20 mmol) was refluxed for 24 h. After the usual workup, the residue was chromatographed with hexane/CHCl₃ to give **8a**, **5a**, and **9a** or **8b**, **5a**, and **9a** respectively.

i. With 2a. Dimethyl 2-[(5-(4-dimethylaminophenylmethylene)-4-oxo-4H-1,3-thiazole]-1,2-ethylenedicarboxylate (**8a**) was obtained (9:1, v/v) as red crystals (400 mg, 30%), m.p. $110-112^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$ (from diethyl ether). (Found: C 57.82, H 4.07, N 7.43, S 8.67. $\mathrm{C_{18}H_{18}N_2O_5S}$ requires C 57.74, H 4.85, N 7.48, S 8.56%); $\nu_{\mathrm{max}}(\mathrm{KBr})/\mathrm{cm}^{-1}1705-1692_{\mathrm{w}}$ (3 × C=O), 1618, 1634 (2 × C=C, exocyclic); $\delta_{\mathrm{H}}(270~\mathrm{MHz};~\mathrm{CDCl_3})$: 2.99, 3.01 [6H, 2s, $(H_3\mathrm{C})_2\mathrm{N}$], 3.84, 3.92 (2 × 3H, 2s, 2 × $H_3\mathrm{CO}_2\mathrm{C}$), 6.97 (s, 1H, $H\mathrm{C}$ =CO₂Me), 7.39 (2 × 2H, 2m, H-C₆H₄), 7.56 (2H, m, H-Ar), 7.78 (1H, s, = $H\mathrm{C}$ -Ar); $\delta_{\mathrm{C}}(270~\mathrm{MHz};~\mathrm{CDCl_3})$: 30.8, 35.8 [($C\mathrm{H_3})_2\mathrm{N}$], 53.4, 55.1 (2 × $C\mathrm{H_3}\mathrm{O}$, esters), 98.7 (= $C\mathrm{HCO}_2\mathrm{Me}$), 120.6, 122.8, 126.8, 131.7 (6C, C₆H₄), 135.3 (2-C),141.2 (= $C\mathrm{HAr}$), 159.3, 160.1, 162.6 (3 × C=O); m/z (EI) (%): 374 (M⁺,(22), requires 374.42), 359 (11), 344 (18), 331 (50), 330 (68), 316 (9), 288 (33), 232 (100), 77 (10). The next fraction (8:2, v/v) afforded red crystals of **5a** (170 mg, 13%), m.p. 168–170°C (from MeCN), identical with the material prepared as described above.

The third fraction (7:3, v/v) yielded orange needles of 2-thioxo-2, H-N-ethyl-1,3-thiazolo-[8,9-b]-7-(4'-dimethylaminophenyl)-5-oxo-5H-6,7-dihydropyran-6-yl)phosphonic acid diethyl ester (9a) (410 mg, 29%), m.p. 144–146°C (from cyclohexane). (Found: C 51.13, H 5.72, N 5.83, P 6.64, S 13.57. C₂₀H₂₇N₂O₅PS₂ C, 51.05; H, 5.78; N, 5.95; P, 6.58; S, 13.62 %); $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1738 (C=O, pyrone), 1180 (C=S), 1066 (P-O-C); $\delta_{\rm H}(270~{\rm MHz};~{\rm CDCl_3})$: 1.48 (3H, t, J_{H-H} 6.9, $H_3{\rm C-C-N}$), 1.12,1.27 (6H, 2t, J_{H-H} 6.5, J_{H-P} 4.82, H_3 C-C-O-P), 2.98, 3.01 [6H, 2s, $(H_3C)_2N$], 4.13, 4.24 (4H, 2dq, J_{H-H} 6.6, J_{H-P} 5.2 Hz, 2 × H_2 CO), 4.56 (2H, q, J_{H-H} 6.9, H_2 CN), 5.15 (1H, d, J_{H-P} 4.6, J_{H-P} 16.6, 6-CH-P), 5.36 (1H, dd, J_{H-H} 4.6, J_{H-P} 4.8, 7-CH-Ar), 7.24, 7.67 (2) \times 2H, 2m, H–C₆H₄); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (270 MHz; CDCl₃): 11.6, 15.5, 16.2 (CH₃-C.N, $CH_3-C-O-P$, 30.2, 34.8 [$(CH_3)_2N$], 46.8 (7-C), 51.2 ($CH_2.N$), 62.5 (CH_2O) , 73.1 (d, $J_{C-P}196.3$, 6-CH-P), 112.9, 118.6,126.4, 131.7 (6C, C_6H_4), 128.5 (8-C), 155.2 (9-C), 175.4 (C=O, pyrone), 193.2 (C=S); $\delta_{\rm P}({\rm CDCl_3})$ 21.3 ppm; m/z (EI) (%): 470 (M⁺(16), requires 470.55) 468 (38), 440 (8), 439 (21), 436 (15), 424 (66), 331 (100), 287 (73).

ii. With 2b. Diethyl 2-[(5-(4'-dimethylaminophenylmethylene)-4-oxo-4H-1,3-thiazole]-1,2-ethylenedicarboxylate (**8b**) was obtained (9:1, v/v) as red crystals (460 mg, 28%), m.p. $102-104^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$ (from pentane). (Found: C 59.77, H 5.57, N 6.88, S 7.98. $\mathrm{C}_{20}\mathrm{H}_{22}\mathrm{N}_{2}\mathrm{O}_{5}\mathrm{S}$ requires C 59.69, H 5.51, N 6.96, S 7.96%]; $\nu_{\mathrm{max}}(\mathrm{KBr})/\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ 1700–1696 (3 × C=O), 1628, 1632

 $\begin{array}{l} (2\times \text{C=CHAr}); \delta_{\text{H}} \ (270 \ \text{MHz}; \text{CDCl}_3); 0.85, 0.88 \ (2t, 6H, J_{H-H} = 6.5 \ \text{Hz}, H_3\text{C-C-O}, \text{ esters}), 2.97, 3.02 \ [6H, 2s, (H_3\text{C})_2\text{N}], 3.82, 3.96 \ (2\times 2\text{H}, 2q, J_{H-H} \ 7.2, H_3\text{CO}, \text{ esters}), 7.0 \ (s, 1\text{H}, H\text{C=CO}_2\text{Et}), 7.29 \ (2\text{H}, \text{m}, H-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4), 7.56 \ (2\text{H}, \text{m}, H-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4), \delta_{\text{C}} (270 \ \text{MHz}; \text{CDCl}_3); 13.8, 15.2 \ (C\text{H}_3\text{-C-O}, \text{ esters}), 31.3, 36.2 \ [(C\text{H}_3)_2\text{N}], 55.3, 57.6, (2\times C\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{ esters}), 103.7 \ (=C\text{HCO}_2\text{Et}), 121.3, 124.2, 126.4, 131.4 \ (6C, \text{C}_6\text{H}_4), 136.3 \ (2\text{--}C), 138.7 \ (=C\text{HAr}), 158.7, 160.4, 162.3 \ (3\times C=\text{O}); m/z \ (\text{EI}) \ (\%): 402 \ (\text{M}^+ \ (45), \text{requires} \ 402.47), 383 \ (13), 359 \ (42), 354 \ (20), 292 \ (60), 232 \ (100), 77 \ (17). \end{array}$

The second fraction (8:2, v/v) yielded red crystals of $\bf 5a$ (180 mg, 14%), m.p. 168–170°C (MeCN), and shown to be identical with the material that obtained before. The third fraction (7:3, v/v) gave orange needles, which shown to be $\bf 9a$ (425 mg, 30%), m.p. 144–146°C (from cyclohexane).

(D) Preparation of 8c,d, 9b, and 5b

In the same manner, the reaction mixture of the appropriate carbanion $\bf 2a$ or $\bf 2b$ and $\bf 1b$ (0.8 g, 3.6 mmol) was heated at reflux temperature for 24 h; the procedure and the workup were the same (with $\bf 1a$) using the same amounts. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel using hexane-CHCl₃ to give compounds $\bf 8c$, $\bf 5b$, and $\bf 9b$ or $\bf 8d$, $\bf 5b$, and $\bf 9b$ respectively.

i. With 2a. Dimethyl 2-[(5-(phenylmethylene)-4-oxo-4H-1,3-thiazole]-1,2-ethylene-dicarboxylate (**8c**) was obtained (9:1, v/v) as yellow crystals (560 mg, 33%), m.p. 103–105°C (from light petroleum). (Found: C 58.16, H 3.89, N 4.11, S 9.69. $C_{16}H_{13}NO_5S$ requires C 58.00, H 3.95, N 4.23, S 9.67%]; $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1715, 1705, 1695 (3 × C=O), 1616, 1630 (2 × C=C, exocyclic); $\delta_{\text{H}}(270~\text{MHz};\text{CDCl}_3)$: 3.61, 3.64 (2 × 3H, 2s, 2 × $H_3\text{CO}$, esters), 7.07 (s, 1H, HC=CO₂Me), 7.32 (3H, m, $H\text{-}C_6H_5$), 7.64 (2H, m, $H\text{-}C_6H_5$), 7.79 (1H, s, =HC-Ph); $\delta_{\text{C}}(270~\text{MHz};\text{CDCl}_3)$: 53.4, 55.1 (2 × $C\text{H}_3\text{O}$, esters), 112.3 (= $C\text{HCO}_2\text{Et}$), 120.6, 122.8, 126.8, 131.7 (6C, C_6H_5), 136.8 (2-C), 141.5 (=CHAr), 159.3, 160.1, 162.2 (3 × C=O); m/z (EI) (%): 331 (M⁺(28), requires 331.35), 316 (12), 301 (25), 273 (19), 254 (48), 245 (16), 189 (100). The second fraction (8:2, v/v) yielded yellow crystals of **5b** (145 mg, 10%), m.p. 146–148°C (from benzene).

The third fraction (7:3, v/v) gave yellow crystals of 2-thioxo-2,H-N-ethyl-1,3-thiazolo-[8,9-b]-7-phenyl)-5-oxo-5H-6,7-dihydropyran-6-yl) phosphonic acid diethyl ester (**9b**) (420 mg, 27%), m.p. 118–120°C (from cyclohexane). (Found: C, 50.63; H, 5.11; N, 3.16; P, 7.29; S, 15.07. $C_{18}H_{22}NO_5PS_2$ requires C, 50.57; H, 5.19; N, 3.27; P, 7.25; S, 15.0%]; $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1735 (C=O, pyrone), 1245 (P=O), 1190 (C=S), 1080 (P-O-C); $\delta_{\text{H}}(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_3)$: 0.89 (3H, t, J_{H-H} 6.9, $H_3\text{C-C-N}$),

1.12, 1.26 (6H, 2t, J_{H-H} 6.5, ${}^4J_{H-P}$ 4.1, $H_3\mathrm{C-C-O-P}$), 4.12, 4.23 (4H, 2q, J_{H-P} 10.2, $H_2\mathrm{C-O-P}$), 4.75 (q, 2H, J_{H-H} 6.9, $H_2\mathrm{C-N}$), 5.23 (1H, d, J_{H-P} 4.6, J_{H-P} 16.6, 6-CH-P), 5.39 (1H, dd, J_{H-H} 4.6, J_{H-P} 4.8, 7-CH-Ar), 7.38 (3H, m, H-C₆ H_5), 7.64 (2H, m, H-C₆ H_5); δ_P (CDCl₃) 16.8 ppm; m/z (EI) (%): 427 (M⁺(15), requires 427.48), 425 (41), 397 (8), 496 (23), 393 (13), 288 (100), 259 (61).

ii. With 2b. Diethyl 2-[(5'-(phenylmethylene)-4-oxo-4H-1,3-thiazole]-1,2-ethylene-diacetate (8d) was obtained (9:1, v/v) as yellow crystals (540 mg, 30%), m.p. 98–100°C (from pentane). (Found: C 60.21, H 3.95, N 3.81, S 6.44. $C_{18}H_{17}NO_5S$ requires C 60.15, H 4.76, N 3.90, S 8.92%); $\nu_{\rm max}({\rm KBr})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 1717, 1710, 1700 (3 × C=O), 1616, 1624 (2 × C=C, exocyclic); $\delta_{\rm H}(270~{\rm MHz};~{\rm CDCl_3})$: 0.86, 0.92 (6H, 2t, J_{H-H} 6.9, $H_3{\rm C}$ -C-O, esters), 3.85, 3.87 (4H, 2q, J_{H-H} 6.9, $H_2{\rm CO}$ esters), 7.12 (s, 1H, $H{\rm C}$ =CO₂Et), 7.36 (3H, m, $H{\rm C}_6{\rm H_5}$), 7.6 (2H, m, $H{\rm C}_6{\rm H_5}$), 7.78 (1H, s,= $H{\rm CPh}$); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (270 MHz; CDCl₃): 14.3, 15.2 (CH₃-CO, esters), 54.6, 56.2 (2 × $C{\rm H_2O}$, esters), 112.3 (= $C{\rm HCO_2Et}$), 121.3, 124.4. 126.4, 131.7 (6C, C₆H₅), 137.1 (2-C), 139.3 (= $C{\rm HAr}$), 158.6, 159.4, 162.5 (3 × $C{\rm C}$ -O); m/z (EI) (%): 359 [M⁺ (20), requires 359.4), 330 (27), 301 (14), 272 (21), 254 (18), 245 (41), 189 (100), 77 (14).

The second fraction (8:2, v/v) afforded yellow crystals of $\bf 5b$ (216 mg, 15%), m.p. 146–148°C (MeCN), identical with the material prepared as described above, on using $\bf 2a$.

The third fraction (7:3, v/v) gave yellow leaflets, which shown to be **9b** (430 mg, 28%), m.p. 118–120°C (from cyclohexane).

Conversion of 9a,b to 10a,b

N-Bromosuccinimide (NBS) (54 mg, 0.3 mmol) and benzoyl peroxide (7 mg, 0.04 mmol) were added to a solution of 9a (100 mg, 0.21 mmol) or **9b** (100 mg, 0.23 mmol) in 20 mL of dry CCl₄. The mixture was refluxed for ~3h (TLC) and filtered while hot. Evaporation of the solvent left a residue, which was triturated with a small amount of light petroleum to give the corresponding dehydrogenated derivative, **10a** or **10b**. 2-thioxo-2,H-N-ethyl-1,3-thiazolo-[9,8-b]-7-(4'dimethylaminophenyl)-5-oxo-5H-pyran-6-yl) phosphonic acid diethyl ester (10a) (62 mg, 62%), m.p. 128–130°C (from cyclohexane). (Found: C, 51.36; H, 5.31; N, 5.88; P, 6.69; S, 13.73. C₂₀H₂₅N₂O₅PS₂ C, 51.27; H, 5.38; N, 5.98; P, 6.61; S, 13.69%); $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1742 (C=O, pyrone), 1265 (P=O), 1185 (C=S), 1068 (P-O-C); $\delta_{\rm H}(270~{\rm MHz};~{\rm CDCl_3})$: 0.86 $(3H, t, J_{H-H} 6.9, H_3C-C-N), 1.13, 1.27 (6H, 2t.br, J_{H-H}6.9, J_{H-P} 4.5,$ H_3 C-C-O-P), 2.97, 3.02 [6H, 2s, $(H_3$ C)₂N], 4.13, 4.24 (4H, 2dq, J_{H-P} 11.5, H_2 C-O-P), 4.66 (2H, q, J_{H-H} 6.9, H_2 C-N), 7.26, 7.65 (2 × 2H, 2m, H–C₆H₄); δ_P (CDCl₃) 22.5 ppm; m/z (EI) (%): 468 (M⁺ (34), requires 468.54), 440 (9), 439 (23), 436 (14), 424 (61), 331 (100), 287 (76).

2-Thioxo-2,H-N-ethyl-1,3-thiazolo-[8,9-b]-7-phenyl-5-oxo-5H-pyran-6-yl) phosphonic acid diethyl ester (**10b**) (60 mg, 60%), m.p. 112–114°C (light petroleum). (Found: C, 50.72; H, 4.66; N, 3.14; P, 7.34; S, 15.13. $C_{18}H_{20}NO_5PS_2$ requires C, 50.81; H, 4.74; N, 3.29; P, 7.28; S, 15.07%]; $\nu_{\rm max}({\rm KBr})/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 1748 (C=O, pyrone), 1247 (P=O), 1185 (C=S), 1090 (P=O=C); $\delta_{\rm H}(270~{\rm MHz};~{\rm CDCl_3})$: 0.87 (3H, t, J_{H-H} 6.9, $H_3{\rm C}-{\rm C}-{\rm N}$), 1.12, 1.27 (6H, 2t, J_{H-H} 6.5, J_{H-P} 4.5, $H_3{\rm C}-{\rm C}-{\rm O}-{\rm P}$), 4.12, 4.23 (4H, 2q, J_{H-P} 11.5, $H_2{\rm COP}$), 4.74 (2H, q, J_{H-H} 6.9, $H_2{\rm C}-{\rm N}$), 7.38 (3H, m, $H-{\rm C_6H_5}$), 7.64 (2H, m, $H-{\rm C_6H_5}$); $\delta_{\rm P}({\rm CDCl_3})$ 17.3 ppm; m/z (EI) (%): 425 (M+(44), requires 425.47), 397 (10), 396 (30), 393 (18), 288 (100), 259 (58).

II. Reaction of 4-Thiazolidinones 1a,b with Diethyl α -cyanomethylphosphonate (2c)

General Procedure

To a slurry of ~ 1 g of LiH (60% in mineral oil, washed with pentane) in a stirred solution of DMF (20 mL) was added dropwise a solution of the phosphonate 2c (1.8 g, ~ 10 mmol) in 10 mL of DMF. After the evolution of H_2 had ceased, the suspension was stirred at r.t. for further 20 min and then refluxed for 1 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to r.t., and the substrate 1a (0.8 g, 3 mmol) or 1b (0.8 g, 3.62 mmol) was introduced all at once and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 24–36 h. The product mixture was then concentrated and the excess of LiH was quenched carefully with ice water (30 mL) followed by acidification with conc. HCl, solvent extraction (CHCl₃), drying and evaporation. Column chromatography (silica gel/hexane with increasing amounts of CHCl₃ and then recrystallization of the crude product mixture gave the pure products 11a and 12a or 11b and 12b respectively.

2-[5-(4-oxo-2-thioxo-2,4H-1,3-thiazolo)]-1-cyano-2-(dimethylamino-phenyl)-ethylen-1-yl-phosphonic acid diethyl ester (11a) was obtained (7:3, v/v) as yellow crystals (400 mg, 30%), m.p. 170–172°C (CH₂Cl₂). (Found: C, 48.86; H, 5.42; N, 9.47; P, 7.08; S, 14.47. $C_{18}H_{24}N_3O_4PS_2$ requires C, 48.97; H, 5.48; N, 9.52; P, 7.02; S, 14.52%]; $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3200 (NH), 2222 (CN), 1700 (C=O), 1255 (P=O), 1192 (C=S), 1085 (P=O-C); $\delta_{\text{H}}(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{ CDCl}_3)$: 1.11, 1.24 (6H, 2dt, J_{H-P} 10.2, $H_3\text{C}$ -C-O), 2.82 (1H, dd(m), J 7, 12, $H^a\text{C}$ -P), 2.96, 2.99 [6H, 2s, ($H_3\text{C})_2\text{N}$], 3.42 (1H, dd(m), J 7, 4, $H^b\text{C}$ -Ar), 4.08, 4.13 (4H, 2q, J_{H-P} 11.8, J_{H-P} 10.9, 4.63 (1H, m, -C J_{C}), 7.36 (2H, m, J_{C}), 7.61 (2H, m, J_{C}), 4.63 (1H, s_w, J_{C}), 4.64 (d, J_{C}), 18.5, (CH₃(CN)-P), 46.2 (CH^b-Ar), 48.9 (CH^c), 108.2 [C(CN)], 117.6 [(CN)C], 120.7, 122.2, 127.6, 131.9 (6C, $C_6\text{H}_4$),160.3 (4-C=O), 190.8 (C=S); δ_{P}

 $(CDCl_3) = 22.7 \text{ ppm}; m/z \text{ (EI) (\%): } 441 \text{ (M}^+ \text{ (14), requires } 441.51), } 414 \text{ (51), } 412 \text{ (33), } 397 \text{ (53), } 370 \text{ (62), } 277 \text{ (51), } 275 \text{ (100), } 231 \text{ (67).}$

2-[(4''-dimethylaminophenyl)methylene]-3-oxo-1,3-thiazolo-[5,4-b]-3'-amino-1', 3'-thiazol-2'-yl phosphonic acid diethyl ester (12a) was obtained (6:4, v/v) as orange crystals (440 mg, 33%), m.p. 212–214°C (from cyclohexane). (Found: C, 48.99; H, 5.38; N, 9.47; P, 7.08; S, 14.58. $C_{18}H_{24}N_3O_4PS_2$ requires C, 48.97; H, 5.48; N, 9.52; P, 7.02; S, 14.52%]; $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3240_w (NH₂), 1700 (C=O), 1628 (=CH, exocyclic), 1225 (P=O), 1126 (P-O-C); $\delta_{\rm H}(270~{\rm MHz};~{\rm CDCl_3})$: 1.14, 1.31 (6H, dt, J_{H-H} 6.2, J_{H-p} 4.2, H_3 C-CC-O), 2.97, 3.05 [6H, 2s, $(H_3$ C)₂N], 4.05, 4.27 (4H, 2q, J_{H-p} 11.2, H_2 CO), 4.88 (1H, d, ${}^4J_{H-P}$ 2.8, 7-CH), 6.55 $(1H, brs, H^aN, NH_2), 7.39 (2H, m, H-C_6H_4), 7.56 (2H, m, H-C_6H_4),$ 7.82 (1H, s, =CHAr), 9.71 (1H, brs, H^bN,NH_2); $\delta_C(270 \text{ MHz}; CDCl_3)$: 14.8 (CH_3C-O) , 30.4, 34.6 $[(CH_3)_2N]$, 52.6 (7-C), 63.5 (CH_2O) , 97.2 $(d, {}^{1}J_{C-P}, 196.3, 2'-C-P), 120.9, 122.1, 126.7, 133.2, (6C, C_{6}H_{4}), 156.4$ (3'-C-NH₂), 162.9 (4-C=O); $\delta_P(CDCl_3)$ 24.16 ppm; m/z (EI) (%): 441 (M⁺ (42), requires 441.51), 435 (9), 413 (13), 397 (40), 304 (100), 260 (61).

 $2\text{-}[5\text{-}(4\text{-}oxo\text{-}2\text{-}thioxo\text{-}2\text{-}4H\text{-}1\text{,}3\text{-}thiazolo)}]\text{-}1\text{-}cyano\text{-}2\text{-}phenylethylen\text{-}1\text{-}yl\text{-}phosphonic} \ acid \ diethyl \ ester \ (\mathbf{11b}) \ was \ obtained \ (8:2, v/v) \ as \ pale \ yellow \ crystals \ (360 \ \text{mg}, 25\%), \ \text{m.p.} \ 152\text{-}154^{\circ}\text{C} \ (from \ light \ petroleum)}. \ (Found: C, 48.31; H, 4.75; N, 6.97; P, 7.66; S, 16.13. C_{16}H_{19}N_2O_4PS_2 \ requires C, 48.23; H, 4.81; N, 7.03; P, 7.77; S, 16.09\%]; \ \nu_{\text{max}} (KBr)/\text{cm}^{-1} \ 3230 \ (NH), 2218 \ (CN), 1696 \ (C=O), 1256 \ (P=O), 1100 \ (P=O-C); \ \delta_{\text{H}} (270 \ \text{MHz}; \ CDCl_3): 1.09, 1.2 \ (6H, 2dt, J_{H-P} \ 10.5, H_3\text{C}-C-O-P), 2.78 \ (1H, dd, J 7, 12, H^a\text{C}-P), 3.64 \ (1H, dd, J 7, 4, H^b\text{C}-Ar), 4.12, 4.22 \ (4H, 2q, J_{H-P} \ 11.8, H_2\text{C}-O-P), 4.82 \ (1H, m, -CH^c), 7.36 \ (3H, m, H-C_6H_5), 7.61 \ (2H, m, H-C_6H_5), 9.44 \ (1H, s_w, HN); \ \delta_{\text{P}} (\text{CDCl}_3) \ 22.1 \ \text{ppm}; \ m/z \ (EI)(\%): 398 \ (M^+ \ (18), \text{requires} \ 398.44), 371 \ (48), 369 \ (40), 261 \ (100), 234 \ (64), 233 \ (68).$

 $\begin{array}{l} 2\text{-}[(4''\text{-}dimethylaminophenyl)\,methylene}]\text{-}3\text{-}oxo\text{-}1,3\text{-}thiazolo\text{-}[5,4\text{-}b]\text{-}3'\text{-}amino\text{-}1',\ 3'\text{-}thiazol\text{-}2'\text{-}yl\ phosphonic\ acid\ diethyl\ ester\ (\mathbf{12b})\ was\ obtained\ (7:3,\ v/v)\ as\ yellow\ needles\ (575\ mg,\ 40\%),\ m.p.\ 178\text{-}180^{\circ}\text{C}\ (from\ cyclohexane).\ (Found:\ C,\ 48.14;\ H,\ 4.73;\ N,\ 7.12;\ P,\ 7.63;\ S,\ 16.02.\ C_{16}H_{19}N_2O_4PS_2\ requires\ C,\ 48.23;\ H,\ 4.81;\ N,\ 7.03;\ P,\ 7.77;\ S,\ 16.09\%];\ \nu_{max}(KBr)/cm^{-1}\ 3240_w\ (NH_2),\ 1698\ (C=O),\ 1620\ (C=C,\ exocyclic),\ 1235\ (P=O),\ 1050\ (P=O-C);\ \delta_H(270\ MHz;\ CDCl_3):\ 1.12,\ 1.25\ (6H,\ dt,\ J_{H-H}\ 6.5,\ J_{H-P}\ 4.3,\ H_3C-C-O),\ 4.13,\ 4.24\ (4H,\ 2q,\ J_{H-P}\ 11.8,\ H_2CO),\ 4.79\ (1H,\ d,\ ^4J_{H-P}\ 2.7,\ 7\text{-}CH),\ 6.64\ (1H,\ brs,\ H^aN,\ NH_2),\ 7.36\ (3H,\ m,\ H-C_6H_5),\ 7.61\ (2H,\ m,\ H-C_6H_5),\ 9.72\ (1H,\ s_w,\ H^bN,\ NH_2);\ \delta_P(CDCl_3)\ 23.7\ ppm;\ m/z\ (EI)\ (\%):\ 398\ (M^+\ (28),\ requires\ 398.44),\ 382\ (13),\ 370\ (19),\ 261\ (100),\ 244\ (22). \end{array}$

III. Reaction of 4-Thiazolidinones 1a,b with Diethyl Vinylphosphonate (2d)

A solution of the Wittig-Horner reagent 2d (1.1 g, \sim 7 mmol) and 1a (0.6 g, 2.3 mmol) or 1b (0.5 g, 2.3 mmol) in DMF (30 mL) was treated with LiH (500 mg) at r.t., and the system was further refluxed for 12 h. The reaction mixture was worked up as described for the reaction with 2c and separated by column chromatography using hexane/CHCl₃ as the eluents to give the products 13a and 14a or 13b and 14b respectively.

 $5 \cdot (4'\text{-}Dimethylamino\text{-}phenylmethylene) \cdot 2 \cdot (ethylthio) \cdot 1,3 \cdot thiazol \cdot 4$ -one (14a) was obtained (9:1, v/v) as orange crystals (155 mg, 28%), m.p. 98–100°C (from cyclohexane) (Lit. 14 m.p. 98°C), m/z (EI) (%): 292 (M⁺ (68), requires 292.42), 264 (100), 221 (67).

The phosphonate **13a** was obtained as yellow crystals (350 mg, 44%), m.p. 198–200°C (from acetone). (Found: C, 50.52; H, 5.82; N, 6.47; P, 7.35; S, 14.56. $C_{18}H_{25}N_2O_4PS_2$ requires C, 50.45; H, 5.88; N, 6.54; P, 7.23; S, 14.96%]; $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1700 (C=O), 1628 (C=C), 1350 (-S-C), 1255 (P=O), 1100 (P-O-C); $\delta_{\text{H}}(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_3)$: 1.09, 1.22 (6H, 2dt, J_{H-H} 7.2, J_{H-P} 3.5, $H_3\text{C}-\text{C}-\text{OP}$), 2.26 (2H, dt, $^1J_{H-P}$ 18.5, $H_2\text{CP}$), 3.05, 3.58 [6H, 2s, $(H_3\text{C})_2\text{N}$], 3.37 (2H, dt, $^3J_{H-P}$ 12, $H_2\text{C.S}$), 4.15, 4.22 (4H, 2dq, J_{H-H} 7.2, J_{H-P} 4.8, $H_2\text{COP}$), 7.37 (2H, d, J_{H-H} 7.2, $H-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$), 7.41 (2H, d, J_{H-H} 7.2, $H-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$), 7.82 (1H, s, =HCAr); $\delta_{\text{C}}(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_3)$: 15.3, 16.1 (2 × $C\text{H}_3\text{C}-\text{O}$), 22.8 (d, J_{C-P} 142.5, $C\text{H}_2-\text{P}$), 29.2 ($C\text{H}_2\text{S}$), 31.4, 33.7 [($C\text{H}_3)_2\text{N}$], 60.4, 61.2 ($C\text{H}_2\text{O.P}$), 120.6, 124.9, 126.7, 128.7 (6C, $C_6\text{H}_4$), 139.7 (=CHAr), 143.8 (5-C, Het), 151.3 (2-C, Het), 159.7 (C=O); $\delta_{\text{P}}(\text{CDCl}_3)$ 15.8 ppm; m/z(EI) (%): 428 (M⁺ (27), requires 428.51), 291 (55), 247 (32), 264 (100), 220 (60).

5-Benzylidene-2-(ethylthio)-1,3-thiazol-4-one (14b) was obtained (9:1, v/v) as pale yellow needles (130 mg, 23%), m.p. 55–57°C (from pentane) (lit. 15 m.p. 55°C), m/z (EI) (%): 249 (M⁺ (56), requires 249.35), 221 (100), 199 (18).

The phosphonate **13b** was obtained as pale yellow crystals (380 mg, 41%), m.p.155–157°C (from benzene). (Found: C, 49.92; H, 5.29; N, 3.57; P, 8.14; S, 16.34. $C_{16}H_{20}NO_4PS_2$ requires C, 49.86; H, 5.23; N, 3.63; P, 8.04; S 16.63%); $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{KBr})/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1705 (C=O), 1622 (C=C), 1342 (S=C), 1256 (P=O), 1105 (P=O=C); $\delta_{\text{H}}(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_3)$: 1.11, 1.32 (6H, 2dt, J_{H-P} 10.5, $H_3\text{C}$ –C=O), 2.31 (2H, dt, $^3J_{H-P}$ 18.5, $H_2\text{C}$ –P), 3.34 (2H, dt, J_{H-P} 12, $H_2\text{C}$ –S), 4.17, 4.23 (4H, 2dq, J_{H-P} = 11.7, $H_2\text{C}$ –O=P), 7.35 (3H, m, H–C₆H₅), 7.64 (2H, m, H–C₆H₅), 7.80 (1H, s, =CHAr); $\delta_{\text{C}}(270 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_3)$: 15.5, 16.1 (2 × CH₃-C=O), 24.3 (d, $^1J_{C-P}$ 143.4, CH₂-P), 28.8 (CH₂-S), 60.4, 61.2 (CH₂OP), 125.6, 129.2, 130.0, 137.7 (C–C₆H₅), 141.7 (=CHPh), 152.2 (2'-C,Het), 160.3 (C=O, Het.); $\delta_{\text{P}}(\text{CDCl}_3)$ 15.7 ppm; m/z (EI) (%): 385 (M⁺ (30), requires 385.44), 248 (50), 221 (100).

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