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# $\alpha$ —Iminotrifluoroethyl Phosphonates: The First Representatives of C-Phosphorylated N-H Imines

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## $\alpha\text{--Iminotrifluoroethyl Phosphonates:}$ The First Representatives of C-Phosphorylated N-H Imines

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A convenient synthetic approach for previously unknown N-H imidoylphosphonates, based on addition of dialkyl phospites to trifluoroacetonitrile, was developed. Synthetic potentialities of imines 1 existing as equilibrium mixture of E/Z isomers, were demonstrated

Keywords Iminoalkyl phosphonates; N-H imines; trifluoromethyl; aminophosphates

#### INTRODUCTION

C-phosphorylated imines are new valuable building blocks for the synthesis of various functionalized aminophosphonic acid derivatives. Compounds with trifluoromethyl group are of particular interest when specific influence of  $\operatorname{CF}_3$  group on the chemical and biological properties of the compounds is taken into consideration. At the same time, imidoylphosphonates with a *free N-H group* were unknown so far although they were postulated as intermediates.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

The convenient approach to imines <u>1</u>—the first representatives of previously unknown N-H iminoalkyphosphonic acid derivatives was elaborated (Scheme 1).

$$CF_3CN + (RO)_2P$$
 $H$ 
 $Et_3N$ 
 $F_3C$ 
 $N-H$ 

1a:  $R = Et$ ; 1b:  $R = Pr$ 

#### SCHEME 1

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With a few exceptions, N-H imines have been reported as unstable compounds, leading to difficulties in their isolation<sup>1</sup>. Phosphorylated N-H imines  $\underline{\mathbf{1}}$  are quite stable at ordinary conditions and exist as Z/E mixture of stereoisomers; Z isomer (R = Et):  $\delta_{\rm P}$  -1.4 ppm,  $^3J_{\rm HP}$  37.2 Hz,  $\delta_{\rm F}$  -69.7 ppm,  $^3J_{\rm FP}$  1.9 Hz,  $^4J_{\rm FH}$  1.2 Hz; E isomer:  $\delta_{\rm P}$  0.7 ppm,  $^3J_{\rm HP}$  58.2 Hz,  $\delta_{\rm F}$  -72.4 ppm,  $^3J_{\rm FP}$  1.5 Hz,  $^4J_{\rm FH}$  0.6 Hz (Z/E = 10:1). Obviously Z-isomer is stabilized by intramolecular P=O · H-bonding. Synthetic potentiality of imines  $\underline{\mathbf{1}}$  was demonstrated by their easy reduction and functionalization with O- and P-centered nucleophiles to afford derivatives of  $\alpha$ -aminophosphonic acids containing

$$(EtO)_{2}P=O$$

$$F_{3}C$$

$$Ph_{2}P=O$$

$$(EtO)_{2}P=O$$

$$F_{3}C$$

$$NH_{2}$$

$$(EtO)_{2}P=O$$

$$F_{3}C$$

$$F_{3}C$$

$$F_{3}C$$

$$F_{3}C$$

$$F_{3}C$$

$$F_{3}C$$

$$F_{3}C$$

$$F_{3}C$$

#### **SCHEME 2**

trifluoromethyl group, while interaction with mercaptoacetic acid proceeds with intramolecular cyclization of the intermediate adduct to produce the novel 2-phosphorylated N-H thiazolidone (Scheme 2). Interaction between  $\underline{\mathbf{1}}$  and tricloroacetylisocyanate leads to novel reactive phosphorylated N-acylated imines.

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