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Synthesis and Herbicidal Activity of α -[2-(Fluoro-Substituted Phenoxy)Propionyloxy] Alkyl Phosphonates

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Synthesis and Herbicidal Activity of lpha-[2-(Fluoro-Substituted Phenoxy)Propionyloxy] **Alkyl Phosphonates**

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Eight of novel fluoro-substituted phosphonate derivatives were synthesized and the preliminary bioassay indicated that these compounds exhibited herbicidal

Keywords Fluoro-substituted; phosphonate; synthesis

The title compound was synthesized by the reaction of O,O-dimethyl 1-hydroxyalkylphosphonate and 2-(fluoro-substituted phenoxy) propionyl chloride according to a literature procedure. 1,2 O,O-dimethyl 1hydroxyalkylphosphonate could be prepared by the reaction of dimethyl phosphite and several types of aldehydes using potassium fluoride and alumina (mass ratio was 1:1) as a catalyst with a yield of 56%–88%.³⁻⁵ Adding triethylamine as catalyst and trap of acid, the synthesis of the title compounds could be completed with an isolated yield of 20%-70%.

All eight compounds were confirmed by ¹H NMR, IR, MS spectra and elemental analysis. The results of preliminary bioassay indicated that the title compounds exhibited significant herbicidal activities. It is worthy to note that the introduction of fluorine moiety to phosphonate's structure was useful for the improvement of herbicidal activity.

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