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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Shortcut Syntheses of Naturally Occuring 5-Alkylresorcinols with DNA Cleaving Properties

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Instrumentation and Spectra Formats. NMR: Spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC 200 spectrometer at 200.2 MHz (¹H) and 50.3 MHz (¹³C) in CDCl₃ unless stated otherwise. Chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm relative to TMS, coupling constants (J) in Hz. The multiplicity in the ¹³C NMR spectra refers to the geminal protons (DEPT). ¹¹B NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC 200 (64 MHz) with BF₃ Et₂O as external standard. MS: Finnigan MAT 8200 (70 eV). Melting points: Gallenkamp apparatus (uncorrected) or DSC (Mettler Toledo Star System). Elemental analyses: Dornis & Kolbe, Mülheim. Flash chromatography: Merck silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh).





6-Bromo-1-hexene. A three necked flask equipped with a gas inlet and a reflux condenser cooled to -78 °C is charged with 1,5-hexadiene (174.64 g, 2.1 mmol) and dibenzoyl peroxide (0.9 g). HBr gas (8 g) is bubbled into this mixture at -4° C - 0°C, with the HBr uptake being monitored by weighting the gas bomb. Another portion of dibenzoyl peroxide (0.45 g) is then added, followed by condensation of another 8 g of HBr. This portionwise process is repeated 4 times until a total amount of 42 g of HBr and 2.77 g of dibenzoyl peroxide have been introduced into the flask. The resulting solution is stirred at 0°C for 60 min. For work-up the reaction is quenched with water, the organic layer is washed twice with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and dried (Na₂SO₄), unreacted 1,5-hexadiene is distilled off (125.4 g) through a Vigreux column, followed by distillation of 6-bromo-1-hexene (54.12 g). bp = 41-42 °C (15 torr). The analytical data of the product were identical to that of a commercially available sample.

6-Heptenoic Acid. To a suspension of Mg turnings (8.75 g, 360 mmol) activated by a crystal of iodine in Et_2O (250 mL) is added 6-bromo-1-hexene (55.22 g, 339 mmol) at such a rate that the solvent is gently refluxing. Once the addition is complete, the mixture is stirred for

5 h at ambient temperature. Unreacted Mg is filtered off and the resulting solution of 5hexenylmagnesium bromide is slowly added at -20 °C under an atmosphere of CO₂ to Et₂O (500 mL) saturated with CO₂. The resulting suspension is allowed to warm to ambient temperature, carefully quenched by slowly adding HCl (250 mL, 15% w/w), the organic layer is separated and dried (Na₂SO₄), the solvent is evaporated and the residue purified by distillation using a concentric tube column to afford 6-heptenoic acid (26.2 g, 60%). bp = 95-96 °C/5 torr. The product was identical to a commercially available sample in all analytical respects.

6-Hepten-1-ol. A solution of 6-heptenoic acid (4.66 g, 36 mmol) in Et₂O (20 mL) is slowly added to a suspension of LiAlH₄ (1.656 g, 44 mmol) in Et₂O (100 mL) causing the solvent to boil. After complete addition the mixture was refluxed for another 4 h, carefully quenched with crushed ice, the organic layer was separated and dried (Na₂SO₄) and the solvent evaporated *in vacuo*. The resulting product (3.86 g, 93%) was pure enough (GC: 98%) for direct further use. ¹H NMR: $\delta = 5.81$ (ddt, 1H), 4.90-5.05 (m, 2H), 3.62 (t, 2H, J = 7), 2.07 (q, 2H, J = 7), 2.01 (br. s, -OH), 1.35-1.60 (m, 6H).- ¹³C NMR: $\delta = 138.8$, 114.3, 62.7, 33.5, 32.5, 28.6, 25.2.- MS, *m/z* (rel. intensity): 114 (< 1) [M⁺], 96 (7), 81 (42), 68 (65), 67 (72), 57 (26), 55 (91), 54 (100), 43 (40), 41 (84), 39 (51), 31 (67), 27 (44).

7-Iodo-1-heptene (10). To a rapidly stirred solution of 6-hepten-1-ol (2.75 g, 24 mmol) in toluene (200 mL) are successively added PPh₃ (6.63 g, 25 mmol), imidazole (4.92 g, 72 mmol) and iodine (6.73 g, 53 mmol). The mixture is stirred for 1.5 h at ambient temperature, the solvent is decanted, the residue is washed twice with toluene (50 mL each), the combined fractions are evaporated and the residue is purified by distillation affording the product as a colorless liquid (3.78 g, 70%). bp = 34-35 °C (10⁻² torr). ¹H NMR: δ = 5.80 (ddt, 1H, J = 7, 9, 15), 4.92-5.05 (m, 2H), 3.19 (t, 2H, J = 7), 2.06 (q, 2H, J = 7), 1.84 (quint., 2H, J = 7), 1.41 (m, 4H).- ¹³C NMR: δ = 138.5, 114.6, 33.5, 33.4, 29.9, 27.8, 7.0.- MS, m/z (rel. intensity): 224 (9) [M⁺], 155(3), 97 (40), 69 (8), 55 (100), 41 (27).



Scheme 6: [a] MeSO₂Cl, CH₂Cl₂, Et₃N, 1h, 0°C, 93%; [b] (i) 9-H-9-BBN, THF, 2h, r.t.; (ii) NaOMe, 0.5h, r.t.; (iii) 7, PdCl₂(dppf) (3 mol%), THF, 1h, reflux, 85%; [c] LiI, THF, 3h, r.t., 97%; [d] 1-propynyl lithium, THF, 20h, reflux, 76%; [e] Lindlar catalyst, H₂ (1 atm), hexane, 3h, r.t., 95% (inseparable mixture of isomers, see ¹H and ¹³C NMR).



Olefinic region in the ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **16** prepared (a) by the boron-reaction manifold according to Scheme 2, (b) by Lindlar hydrogenation according to Scheme 6.



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