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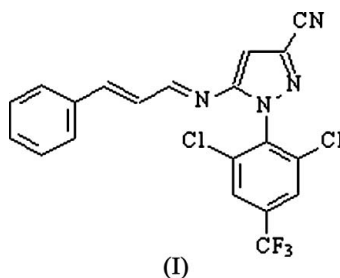
Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 273$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$ Å
 R factor = 0.052
 wR factor = 0.129
Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.3For details of how these key indicators were
automatically derived from the article, see
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

5-[(2-Benzylideneethylidene)amino]-1-[2,6-dichloro-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile

The title compound, $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{11}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_3\text{N}_4$, is a tricyclic imine with an overall curved conformation. The pyrazole ring and the N-bound aromatic ring form a dihedral angle of 119.7 (2)°.Received 18 April 2006
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Comment

The title compound, (I) (Fig. 1 and Table 1), is an important starting material for the synthesis of various pyrazole derivatives, all of which are good insecticides (Hatton *et al.*, 1993).As shown in Fig. 1, the molecule of (I) contains three planar groups forming an overall curved conformation, owing to substitution in the central pyrazole ring in adjacent positions. In the observed conformation, the pyrazole ring and the N-bound aromatic ring form a dihedral angle of 119.7 (2)°. The dihedral angle between the pyrazole and C2–C7 rings is 12.57 (1)°.

Experimental

According to the method of Hatton *et al.* (1993), reaction of 2,6-dichloro-4-(trifluoromethyl)aniline with a suspension of nitrosylsulfuric acid, followed by reaction with a solution of ethyl 2,3-dicyanopropionate in acetic acid, gave 5-amino-3-cyano-1-(2,6-dichloro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)pyrazole, which was then reacted with cinnamaldehyde and hydrochloric acid in anhydrous ethanol to give the title compound, (I). This method is similar to that employed by others (Zhong, Yang & Shi, 2005; Zhong, Yang, Shi *et al.*, 2005; Chen *et al.*, 2005). Colourless single crystals of (I) suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by slow evaporation of an anhydrous ethanol–acetone (3:1) solution (m.p. 433–433 K).

Crystal data

 $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{11}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_3\text{N}_4$
 $M_r = 435.23$
Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$
 $a = 7.708$ (5) Å
 $b = 9.503$ (6) Å
 $c = 14.016$ (9) Å
 $\alpha = 86.064$ (11)°
 $\beta = 84.310$ (12)°
 $\gamma = 81.410$ (12)° $V = 1008.6$ (11) Å³
 $Z = 2$
 $D_x = 1.433$ Mg m⁻³
Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\mu = 0.36$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 273$ (2) K
Block, colourless
 $0.31 \times 0.23 \times 0.17$ mm

Data collection

Bruker APEX area-detector diffractometer
 φ and ω scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2002)
 $T_{\min} = 0.896$, $T_{\max} = 0.941$

5268 measured reflections
 3490 independent reflections
 2859 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.013$
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.0^\circ$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.052$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.129$
 $S = 1.06$
 3490 reflections
 262 parameters
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0593P)^2 + 0.2867P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.34 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.27 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

N1—N2	1.352 (3)	N4—C10	1.377 (3)
N1—C5	1.421 (3)	N4—C12	1.273 (3)
N1—C10	1.364 (3)	C8—C9	1.384 (4)
N2—C8	1.335 (3)	C8—C11	1.436 (4)
N3—C11	1.132 (4)	C9—C10	1.376 (4)
N2—N1—C5	119.7 (2)	N1—N2—C8	102.7 (2)
N2—N1—C10	113.93 (19)	C10—N4—C12	119.9 (2)
C5—N1—C10	126.2 (2)		

All H atoms were placed in geometrically idealized positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with C—H distances set at 0.93 Å and with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2002); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2002); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Bruker, 2002); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

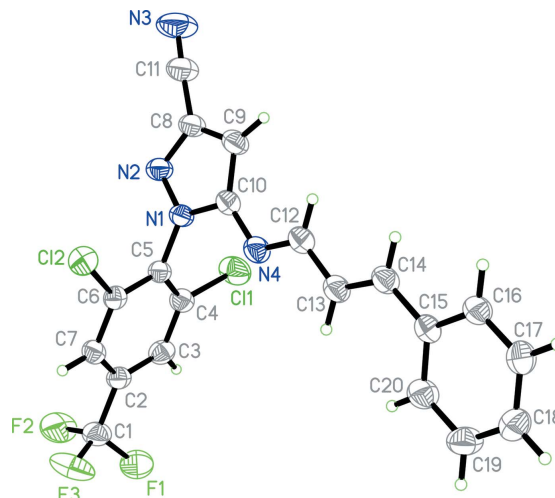


Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

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