REGIO- AND STEREO-SELECTIVE SYNTHESIS OF AMIDO-LACTONES BY ANODIC OXIDATION. THE APPLICATION FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF EBURNAMONINE AND VINCAMINE

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The anodic oxidation of amido-carboxylic acids(1, n=1,2) provided the corresponding amido-lactones(2, n=1,2), respectively. The cyclization took place regio- and stereo-selectively at the carbon-6 of lactone formation and was largely effected by the substituent at the angular carbon-5 of 2-piperidinones. In a similar manner, 1-methoxycarbonyl derivatives(3, n=1,2) gave the lactones (4, n=1,2), by anodic oxidation followed by the simultaneous cyclization. The resulting lactones (2, and 4) are the crucial intermediates for the syntheses of (+)-eburnamonine (5) and (+)-vincamine (6). The synthesis of these pharmacologically important alkaloids has been achieved by the present method.

1a: X=0,  $R^1=H$ ,  $R^2=Et$ , n=11b: X=0,  $R^1=H$ ,  $R^2=Et$ , n=23a:  $X=H_2$ ,  $R^1=COOMe$ ,  $R^2=Et$ , n=13b:  $X=H_2$ ,  $R^1=COOMe$ ,  $R^2=Et$ , n=2

 $2a: X=0, R^1=H, R^2=Et, n=1$ 

2b: X=0,  $R^1=H$ ,  $R^2=Et$ , n=2

COOMe

 $4a: X=H_2, R^1=COOMe, R^2=Et, n=1$   $4b: X=H_2, R^1=COOMe, R^2=Et, n=2$ 

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