1-ETHYL-OCTAHYDRO-INDOLOQUINOLIZINE-1-PYRUVIC ACID METHYLESTER OXIM A KEY INTERMEDIATE FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF EBURNANE ALKALOIDS

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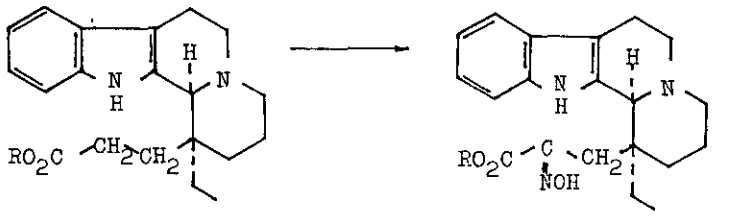
1S-12bS-1-Ethyl-1,2,3,4,6,7,12,12b-octahydro-indolo[2,3-a]quinolizine-1-pyruvic acid methylester oxim [2 a] was obtained from the corresponding 1-propionic acid methylester [1 a]



R = CH_3 1 a
R = C_2H_5 1 b

R = CH_3 2 a
R = C_2H_5 2 b

2 a Was converted in good yields to /+/-vincamine and /-/-epivincamine or /+/-apovincamine, as well as /-/-eburnamonine, depending on the conditions of deoximation.

Similar manner was synthesized /+/-ethyl vincaminate together with its 14-epimer or /+/-ethyl apovincaminate /Vinpocetine[R]/ from 1S-12bS-1-Ethyl-1,2,3,4,6,7,12,12b-octahydro-indolo[2,3-a]quinolizine-1-pyruvic acid ethyl ester oxim [2 b], prepared from [1 b].