# PYRIMIDINE DERIVATIVES STARTING FROM DICYANOKETENE ETHYLENE ACETAL

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**Abstract** - Dicyanoketene ethylene acetal (**1**) reacted with substituted guanidines to yield *o*-aminocyanopyrimidines, which reacted with *N,N*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal to afford *N,N*-dimethylamino-methyleneaminopyrimidine derivatives. A new approach to pyrimido[4,5-*d*]pyrimidines from *o*-aminocyanopyrimidine and *N*-dichloromethylenedialkyliminum chorides followed by cyclization with ammonium hydroxide was reported.

## INTRODUCTION

In 1988, we reported a convenient method for the preparation of by that time unknown 2-alkyloxycarbonylcyanomethylene-1,3-dioxolane.[1] From then on, we have succeeded to synthesize a series of heterocyclic compounds starting from 2-alkyloxycarbonyl-cyanomethylene- and dicyanomethylene-1,3-dioxolanes, such as substituted pyrazoles,[2,4,5] isoxazoles,[2,5] pyrimidones[2,3] and pyrimidines.[5]

Because of their high reactivity, amide acetals are used for organic synthesis. Using amide acetals Stanovnik *et al.* prepared a variety of heterocycles.[6]

Phosgeneiminium chlorides are valuble strong electrophilic one carbon reagents. Recently from *N,N*-dichloromethylenedialkyliminium chlorides and dicyano compounds, we have synthesized a series of new heterocycles.[7]

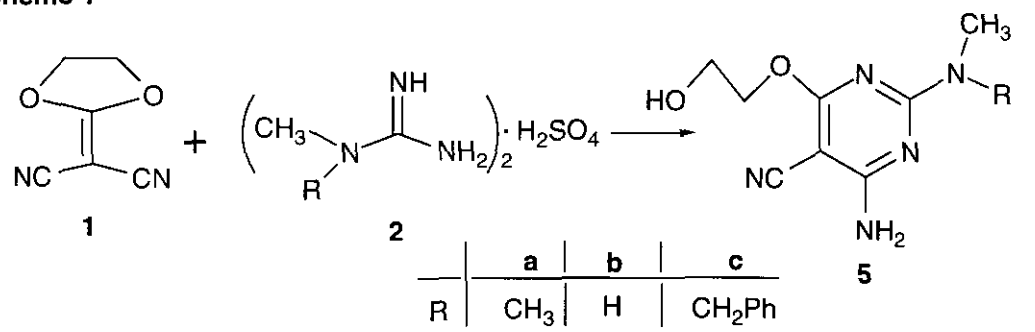
This paper describes our attempts to synthesize several pyrimidine and pyrimido[4,5-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives using dicyanoketene ethylene acetal (**1**), *N*-substituted guanidine salts (**2**), *N,N*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (**3**) and *N*-dichloromethylenedialkyliminium chlorides (**4**).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

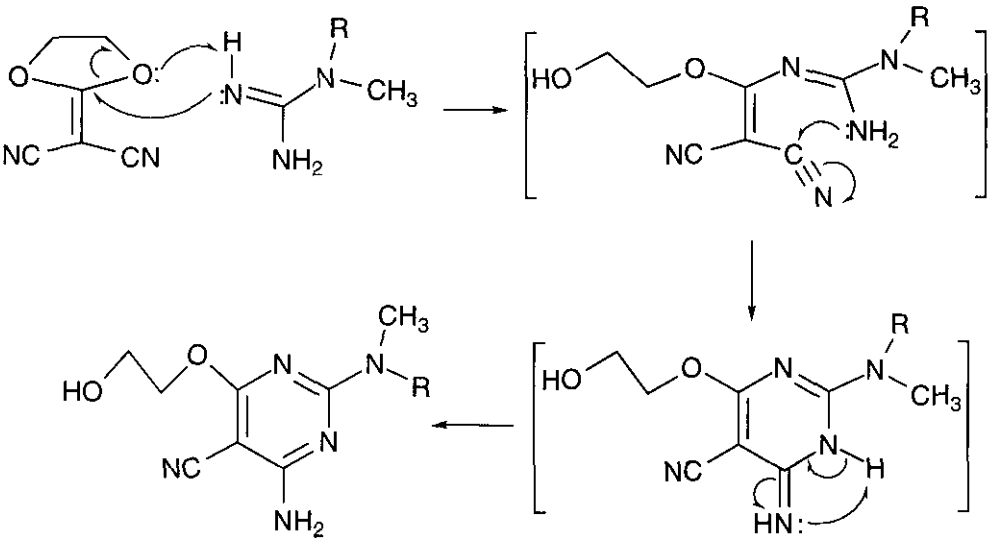
As an extention of our preparation of pyrimidine derivatives, we treated dicyano ketene ethylene acetal (**1**) with *N*-substituted guanidine salts (**2a-c**), which are easily available by

the method of Phillips and Clarke,[8] to yield pyrimidines (**5a-c**) (Scheme 1). Their IR, MS, $^1$H- and $^{13}$C-NMR spectra as well as elemental analyses data are consistent with their structures. The mechanism of these reactions may probably be described as shown in Scheme 2.

**Scheme 1**

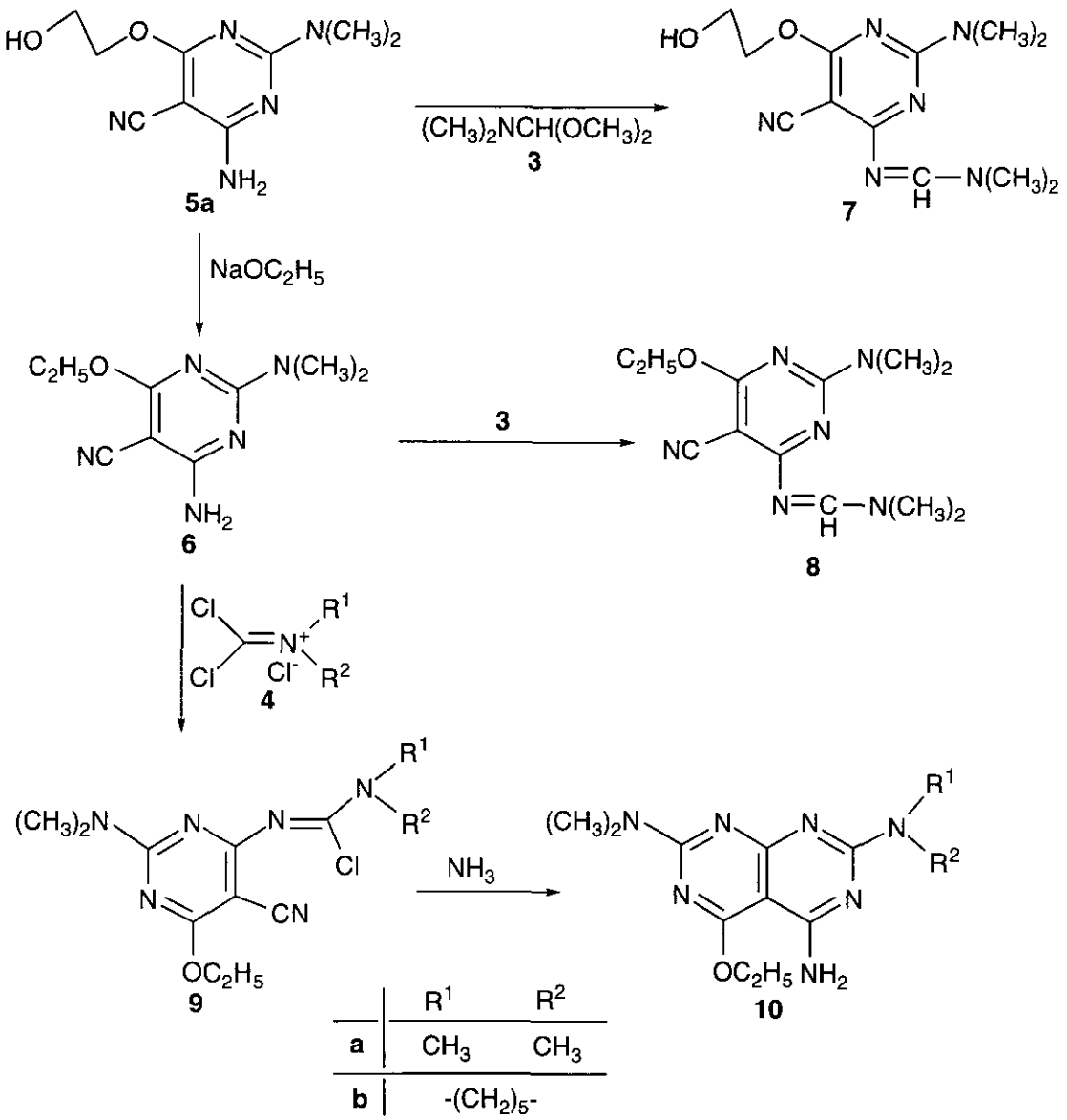



**Scheme 2**




Treatment of **5a** with sodium ethoxide in ethanol under reflux afforded 4-amino-5-cyano-2-dimethylamino-6-ethoxypyrimidine (**6**) in good yield. The $^1$H-NMR spectrum of **6** shows that the signals of $CH_2OH$ [3.71 ppm (q, J= 5.4 Hz, 2H, C**H**$_2$OH); 4.85 ppm (t, J= 5.1 Hz, 1H, $CH_2O$**H**)] disappeared, and it has a new $CH_3$ signal [at 1.30 ppm (t, J= 6.9 Hz, 3H, $OCH_2C$**H**$_3$)]. **5a** and **6** reacted with *N,N*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (**3**) in toluene under reflux to yield 4-(dimetylaminomethyleneamino)pyrimidines (**7**) and (**8**), respectively (see Scheme 3). In their $^1$H-NMR spectra, the signals of $NH_2$ group at 6.99 and 7.01 ppm vanished, in the meanwhile a signal of azomethino proton at 8.61 ppm emerged. Unfortunately, **7** and **8** did not react with α-bromo ketone such as phenacyl bromide as well

**Scheme 3**




as hydrazine and hydroxylamine to the expected bicyclic heterocycles, even though Stanovnik *et al.* reported preparations of a series of bicyclic heterocyclic compounds from *reactants containing N,N-dimethylaminomethyleneamino substitutent under similar* conditions.[6]

Since the synthesis of pyrimido[4,5-*d*]pyrimidine was described in 1958,[10] only few papers have been reported about this bicyclic system. Now we present another approach to this system.

It is known, that α-amino nitriles react with phosgeneiminium chloride under reflux giving

(dimethylamino-chloro)azomethino group-containing intermediates, which undergo cyclization to the formation of pyrimidine derivatives *via* reaction with dry hydrogen chloride.[11] But the treatment of **6** with *N*-dichloromethylenedialkyliminium chlorides (**4**) afforded only **9**, although enough hydrogen chloride gas was passed under reflux, no cyclized products were observed. The absorption of CN (2214 $cm^{-1}$) in IR spectra, and signals of C-atom in (chloro-dimethylamino)azomethino group (about 140 ppm) in $^{13}$C-NMR spectra confirm the structures. Otherwise we had the similar observation in our early work.[7c] **9** reacted consequently with ammonium hydroxide to yield substituted 4-aminopyrimido[4,5-*d*]pyrimidines (**10**) (see Scheme 3). In their $^{1}$H-NMR spectra the $NH_2$ signals appeared and in $^{13}$C-NMR spectra the signals of C-atom at about 140 ppm and CN at 116 ppm in azomethino group vanished.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined on a Reichert hot microscope and are uncorrected. IR spectra were measured with a Perkin-Elmer spectrophotometer 283 using potassium bromide and are given as $cm^{-1}$. $^{1}$H- and $^{13}$C-NMR spectra were recorded on either a Bruker WM-250 ($^{1}$H-NMR: 250.13 MHz, $^{13}$C-NMR: 62.89 MHz), Bruker WM-360 ($^{1}$H-NMR: 360 MHz, $^{13}$C-NMR: 90.56 MHz) or a Varian XL 300 ($^{1}$H-NMR: 299.95 MHz, $^{13}$C-NMR: 75.43 MHz) spectrometer in DMSO-$d_6$ or $CDCl_3$. The chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm) downfield from internal tetramethylsilane. Electron impact MS spetra were obtained on a Varian MAT 311A instrument. Element analyses were performed on a Heraeus Vario EL CHNS apparatus.

**General procedure for preparation of 5a-c:**

To a stirred solution of sodium methoxide in methanol, prepared by dissolving sodium (0.115 g, 5 mmol) in methanol (20 mL), **2** (2.5 mmol) was added. After 5 min, **1** (0.68 g, 5 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture. The mixture was refluxed for 5 h, then cooled to -20°C overnight, the precipitates were collected by filtration and recrystallized from water/methanol to give the corresponding products.

**4-Amino-5-cyano-2-dimethylamino-6-(2-hydroxyethoxy)pyrimidine (5a)** 78%. mp 185-188°C. IR (KBr): 3404, 3336, 3245 (NH, OH); 2212 (CN); 1656, 1601, 1569, 1544 (C=C, C=N); 1140, 1069 (C-O). $^{1}$H-NHR (300 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): δ= 3.08 (s, 6H, N(**C**$H_3$)$_2$); 3.71 (q, J= 5.4 Hz, 2H, HO**C**$H_2$CH$_2$); 4.34 (t, J= 5.4 Hz, 2H, **C**$H_2$CH$_2$OH); 4.85 (t, J= 5.1 Hz, 1H, **OH**); 6.99 (s, 2H, N**H**$_2$). $^{13}$C-NMR (75.43 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): δ= 38.9 (-, N(**C**$H_3$)$_2$); 59.1 (+, **C**$H_2$OH); 62.1 (+, C-5); 67.7 (+, O**C**$H_2$CH$_2$OH); 116.0 (+, **C**N); 160.6 (+, C-2); 165.1 (+, C-4); 170.0 (+, C-6). MS m/z (%): $[M+1]^+$: 224 (7.4); $M^+$: 223 (56.7); 180 (40); 179 (70); 164 (48); 150 (41); 71 (29); 44 (100). HRMS: Calcd for $C_9H_{13}N_5O_2$: 223.1069. Found: 223.1069. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_9H_{13}N_5O_2$: C, 48.42; H, 5.87; N, 31.37. Found: C, 48.28; H, 5.90; N, 30.91.

**4-Amino-5-cyano-6-(2-hydroxyethoxy)-2-methylaminopyrimidine (5b)** 62.2%. mp 215-217°C. IR (KBr): 3387, 3133 (NH, OH); 2204 (CN); 1669, 1615, 1564 (C=N, C=C); 1464, 1433; 1335; 1191; 1108, 1075 (C-O). $^1$H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): δ= 3.18 (s, 3H, NC**H**$_3$); 3.65 (t, J= 5.1 Hz, 2H, C**H**$_2$); 4.27 (t, J= 5.4 Hz, 2H, C**H**$_2$); 4.85 (br s, 1H, N**H**CH$_3$); 7.94 (br s, 2H, N**H**$_2$). $^{13}$C-NMR (75.43 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): δ= 29.6 (-, N**C**H$_3$); 59.2 (+, **C**H$_2$); 64.7 (+, C-5), 67.9 (+, **C**H$_2$); 117.0 (+, **C**N); 156.4 (+, C-4); 157.2 (+, C-2); 168.2 (+, C-6). MS m/z (%): [M+1]$^+$: 210 (9.6); M$^+$: 209 (88); 166 (44); 165 (100); 124 (86); 123 (50); 57 (86); 43 (43). HRMS: Calcd for $C_8H_{11}N_5O_2$: 209.0912. Found: 209.0911. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_8H_{11}N_5O_2$: C, 45.93; H, 5.30; N, 33.48. Found: C, 46.14; H, 5.39; N, 33.01.

**4-Amino-2-benzylmethylamino-5-cyano-6-(2-hydroxyethoxy)pyrimidine (5c)** 57.5%. mp 167-170°C. IR (KBr): 3377, 3336 (NH); 3230(OH); 2216(CN); 1659, 1595, 1540 (C=C, C=N); 1494, 1471, 1450, 1423, 1403; 1139, 1070 (C-O); 921, 784, 726, 695 (arom.). $^1$H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): δ= 3.05 (s, 3H, NC**H**$_3$); 3.67 (q, J= 4.8 Hz, 2H, C**H**$_2$OH); 4.33 (m, 2H, C**H**$_2$O); 4.82 (d, J= 6.6 Hz, 2H, NC**H**$_2$Ph); 4.86 (d, J= 6.3 Hz, 1H, O**H**); 7.12 (s, 2H, N**H**$_2$); 7.24-7.36 (m, 5H, Harom.). $^{13}$C-NMR (75.43 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): δ= 34.4 (-, N**C**H$_3$); 51.3 (+, N**C**H$_2$Ph); 58.9 (+, **C**H$_2$OH); 62.5 (+, C-5), 67.7 (+, **C**H$_2$O); 115.7 (+, **C**N); 126.8, 127.1, 128.2 (-, C-2′,3′,4′); 137.7 (+, C-1′); 160.6 (+, C-2); 165.1 (+, C-4); 170.1 (+, C-6). MS m/z (%): [M+1]$^+$: 300 (12); M$^+$: 299 (68); 255 (20); 240 (65); 164 (49); 120 (47); 106 (24); 91 (100); 65 (26); 42 (15). *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{15}H_{17}N_5O_2$: C, 60.19; H, 5.73; N, 23.40. Found: C, 60.08; H, 5.71; N, 23.34.

**4-Amino-5-cyano-2-dimethylamino-6-ethoxypyrimidine (6):**

To a stirred solution of sodium ethoxide, prepared by dissolving sodium (46 mg, 2 mmol) in ethanol (20 mL), **5a** (0.45 g, 2 mmol) was added. After heating and refluxing for 18 h, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was washed with water to give 0.41 g (99%) of **6**. mp >300°C. IR (KBr): 3406, 3346, 3237 (NH); 2210 (CN); 1653, 1602, 1563, 1528 (C=N, C=C); 1345, 1288, 1257 (C-N); 1139 (C-O). $^1$H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): δ= 1.30 (t, J= 6.9 Hz, 3H, CH$_2$C**H**$_3$); 3.09 (s, 6H, N(C**H**$_3$)$_2$); 4.36 (q, J= 6.9 Hz, 2H, C**H**$_2$CH$_3$); 7.01 (s, 2H, N**H**$_2$). $^{13}$C-NMR (75.43 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): δ= 14.27 (-, CH$_2$**C**H$_3$); 36.19 (-, N**C**H$_3$); 36.20 (-, N**C**H$_3$); 59.0 (+, C-5); 61.8 (+, **C**H$_2$CH$_3$); 115.9 (+,**C**N); 160.5 (+, C-2); 164.9 (+, C-4); 169.7 (+, C-6). MS m/z (%): [M+1]$^+$: 208 (12); M$^+$: 207 (99.7); 192 (43); 179 (42); 164 (63); 150 (54); 135 (27); 71 (29); 44 (100). HRMS: Calcd for $C_9H_{13}N_5O$: 207.1121. Found: 207.1122. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_9H_{13}N_5O$: C, 52.16; H, 6.32; N, 33.79. Found: C, 51.93; H, 6.28; N, 33.56.

**General procedure for preparation of 7 and 8:**

A solution of **5a** or **6** (5 mmol) and *N,N*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (**3**) (0.60 g, 5

mmol) in toluene (10 mL) was refluxed for 6 h. After removement of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residues were recrystallized from chloroform/petroleum ether to give the corresponding products.

**5-Cyano-2-dimethylamino-4-(dimethylamino)azomethino-6-(2-hydroxyethoxy)-pyrimidine (7)** 74.8%. mp 148-151°C. IR (KBr): 3447 (OH); 2203 (CN); 1627, 1579, 1507 (C=C, C=N); 1452, 1420; 1289 (C-N); 1105, 1082 (C-O). $^1$H-NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 3.16 (s, 12H, 2xN($CH_3$)$_2$); 3.94 (m, 2H, $CH_2$OH); 4.51 (m, 2H, $CH_2$O); 8.63 (s, 1H, N=C**H**-N). $^{13}$C-NMR (75.43 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 35.0, 37.0, 41.1 (-, 3s, 2xN($CH_3$)$_2$); 61.5 (+, $CH_2$OH); 68.5 (+, $CH_2$O); 74.0 (+, C-5); 116.8 (+, **C**N); 156.6 (-, N=**C**H-N); 160.4 (+, C-2); 170.4 (+, C-4). MS m/z (%): [M+1]$^+$: 279 (14); M$^+$: 278 (93); 234 (27); 219 (51); 205 (18); 190 (15); 178 (13); 122 (15); 98 (13); 71 (32); 57 (17); 44 (100). HRMS: Calcd for $C_{12}H_{18}N_6O_2$: 278.1491. Found: 278.1491. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{12}H_{18}N_6O_2$: C, 51.79; H, 6.52; N, 30.20. Found: C, 51.65; H, 6.61; N, 29.62.

**5-Cyano-2-dimethylamino-4-(dimethylamino)azomethino-6-ethoxypyrimidine (8)** 59.8%. mp 178-182°C. IR (KBr): 2205 (CN); 1630, 1580, 1511 (C=C, C=N); 1487, 1418, 1359; 1320 (C-N); 1081 (C-O). $^1$H-NMR (250 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 1.39 (t, J= 7.1 Hz, 3H, $CH_2CH_3$); 3.14 (d, J= 4.4 Hz, 6H, CHN($CH_3$)$_2$); 3.16 (s, 6H, N($CH_3$)$_2$); 4.42 (q, J= 7.1 Hz, 2H, $CH_2$O); 8.61 (s, 1H, N=C**H**-N). $^{13}$C-NMR (90.56 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 14.45 (-, $CH_2CH_3$); 34.99 (-, N($CH_3$)$_2$); 36.87 (-, N$CH_3$); 41.09 (-, N$CH_3$); 62.47 (+, O$CH_2$); 117.2 (+, **C**N); 156.6 (-, N=**C**H-N); 161.0 (+, C-2); 170.7 (+, C-4); 170.9 (+, C-6). MS m/z (%): [M+1]$^+$: 263 (17); M$^+$: 262 (100); 247 (35); 219 (61); 190 (23); 122 (14), 71 (32); 44 (74). HRMS: Calcd for $C_{12}H_{18}N_6O$: 262.1542. Found: 262.1542. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{12}H_{18}N_6O$: C, 54.95; H, 6.92; N, 32.04. Found: C, 54.78; H, 6.59; N, 30.57.

**General procedure for preparation of 9a-b:**

A solution of **6** (0.31 g, 1.5 mmol) and phosgeneiminium salts (**4**) (3 mmol) in 1,2-dichlorethane (20 mL) was refluxed for 4 h. A stream of dry hydrogen chloride was passed the mixture for 3 h under reflux. After cooled to rt, the reaction mixture was allowed to stand overnight. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was chromatographed on a silica column (70-230 mesh) using ethyl acetate as eluent to give the products.

**5-Cynao-2-dimethylamino-4-(dimethylamino-chloro)azomethino-6-ethoxy-pyrimidine (9a)** 42.6%. mp 135°C (ethyl acetate). IR (KBr): 2214 (CN), 1680, 1653, 1593, 1513 (C=C, C=N); 1349, 1255 (C-N); 1077 (C-O). $^1$H-NMR (360 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 1.42 (t, J= 7.1 Hz, 3H, $CH_2CH_3$); 3.19 (s, 6H, N($CH_3$)$_2$); 3.22 (s, 6H, CClN($CH_3$)$_2$); 4.45 (q, J =7.1 Hz, 2H, O$CH_2CH_3$). $^{13}$C-NMR (90.56 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 14.4 (-, $CH_2CH_3$); 37.1 (-, N($CH_3$)$_2$); 40.3 (-, CClN($CH_3$)$_2$); 62.9 (+, O$CH_2$); 74.7 (+, C-5); 116.3 (+, **C**N); 141.2 (+, N=**C**ClN); 161.5 (+, C-2); 169.6 (+, C-4); 170.5 (+, C-6). MS m/z (%): [M+2]$^+$: 298 (35); M$^+$: 296 (100); 261 (47);

260 (20); 245 (52); 217 (76); 173 (18); 71 (96); 44 (48). *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{12}H_{17}N_6OCl$: C, 48.57; H, 5.77; N, 28.32. Found: C, 48.80; H, 5.97; N, 28.16.

**4-(Chloropiperidino)azomethino-5-cyano-2-dimethylamino-6-ethoxyprimidine (9b)** 19.8%. mp 134-135°C (ethyl acetate). IR (KBr): 2213 (CN); 1669, 1593, 1565, 1512 (C=C, C=N); 1087 (C-O). $^1$H-NMR (250 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 1.40 (t, J= 7.1 Hz, 3H, $CH_2CH_3$); 1.68 (s, 6H, -$(CH_2)_3$-); 3.19 (s, 6H, $N(CH_3)_2$); 3.73 (s, 4H, $N(CH_2)_2$); 4.43 (m, J= 7.1 Hz, 2H, $OCH_2CH_3$). $^{13}$C-NMR (90.56 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 14.1 (-, $CH_2CH_3$); 24.3 (+, C-3´); 25.5 (+, C-1´, 2´); 37.0 (-, d, $N(CH_3)_2$); 62.7 (+, d, $CH_2CH_3$); 74.9 (+, C-5); 116.2 (+, CN); 140.3 (+, N=CCl N); 161.5 (+, C-4); 169.7 (+, C-2); 170.5 (+, C-6). MS m/z (%): $[M+2]^+$: 338 (33); $M^+$: 336 (99); 301 (100); 300 (70); 285 (24); 271 (51); 257 (34); 205 (28); 93 (22); 84 (50); 71 (98); 55 (33); 44 (25); 41 (53). HRMS: Calcd for $C_{15}H_{21}N_6OCl$:336.1465. Found: 336.1465. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{15}H_{21}N_6OCl$: C, 53.49; H, 6.28; N, 24.95. Found: C, 53.11; H, 6.20; N, 25.42.

**General procedure for preparation of 10a-b:**

A solution of **9** (0.5 mmol) and ammonium hydroxide (30% aq., 6 mL) in ethanol (20 mL) was heated and refluxed for 2 d. After removment of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was chromatographed on a silica column (70-230 mesh) using ethyl acetate as eluent to give the products.

**4-Amino-2,7-bis(dimethylamino)-5-ethoxypyrimido[4,5-*d*]pyrimidine (10a)** 57.2%. mp 205-207°C (acetone/petroleum ether). IR (KBr): 3455, 3327, 3225 (NH); 1597, 1525 (C=N, C=C); 1377, 1336; 1276 (C-N); 1091 (C-O). $^1$H-NMR (250 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 1.46 (t, J= 7.2 Hz, 3H, $CH_2CH_3$); 3.21 (s, 6H, $N(CH_3)_2$); 3.23 (s, 6H, $N(CH_3)_2$); 4.53 (q, J= 7.2 Hz, 2H, $OCH_2CH_3$); 5.6-6.8 (2H, $NH_2$). $^{13}$C-NMR (62.89 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 14.5 (-, $CH_2CH_3$); 37.0 (-, $N(CH_3)_2$); 83.3 (+, C-4a); 161.3 (+, C-4); 162.3 (+, C-8a); 163.4 (+, C-2); 166.9 (+, C-7); 168.9 (+, C-5). MS m/z (%): $[M+1]^+$: 278 (16); $M^+$: 277 (100); 262 (51); 248 (22); 234 (77); 205 (23); 125 (12); 71 (41); 44 (17). HRMS: Calcd for $C_{12}H_{19}N_7O$: 227.1652. Found: 277.1653. *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{12}H_{19}N_7O$: C, 51.97; H, 6.91; N, 35.36. Found: C, 51.72; H, 7.15; N, 34.78.

**4-Amino-7-dimethylamino-5-ethoxy-2-piperidinopyrimidino[4,5-*d*]pyrimidine (10b)** 33.8%. mp 215-218°C (acetone/petroleum ether). IR (KBr): 3467, 3436, 3286 (NH); 1584, 1554, 1517 (C=C, C=N); 1287, 1257 (C-N); 1100 (C-O). $^1$H-NMR (250 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 1.48 (m, 9H, $OCH_2CH_3$, -$(CH_2)_3$-); 3.22 (s, 6H, $N(CH_3)_2$); 3.86 (t, J= 5.7 Hz, 4H, -$CH_2NCH_2$-); 4.54 (m, 2H, $OCH_2CH_3$); 5.7-6.8 (2H, $NH_2$). $^{13}$C-NMR (62.89 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ= 14.5 (-, $CH_2CH_3$); 25.0 (+, C-3´); 26.2 (+, C-2´); 37.1 (-, $N(CH_3)_2$); 44.7 (+, $N(CH_2)_2$); 62.6 (+, $OCH_2$); 83.4 (+, C-4a); 161.4 (+, C-4); 162.4 (+, C-8a); 163.0 (+, C-2); 166.8 (+, C-7); 169.1 (+, C-5). MS m/z (%): $[M+1]^+$: 318 (19); $M^+$: 317 (100); 288 (51); 262 (31); 234 (93); 190 (15); 71 (31); 55 (15); 44 (22); 43 (20). HRMS: Calcd for $C_{15}H_{23}N_7O$: 317.1964. Found: 317.1964.

*Anal.* Calcd for $C_{15}H_{23}N_7O$: C, 56.76; H, 7.30; N, 30.89. Found: C, 55.88; H, 7.39; N, 30.06.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Generous support of this work by BASF AG, BAYER AG, HOECHST AG, Verband der Chemischen Industrie-Fond der Chemie-, and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinshaft is gratefully acknowledged. We are indebted to Dr. W. Kramer and Mrs. U. Hertle for carring out and discussing NMR spectra, to Mr. H. Rudy and Mr. P. Weyrich for mass spectra and elemental analysis.

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Received, 25th May, 1998