

absorptions in cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR spectra were determined on a JEOL PMX 60 SI spectrometer as CDCl_3 solutions. Chemical shifts are expressed in ppm downfield from internal tetramethylsilane. Mass spectra were recorded on a Finnigan MAT GC-MS spectrometer. Microanalyses were carried out on a Carlo-Erba 1106 instrument.

General procedure for the synthesis of Amidines 3.—A solution of nitro compound **1** (1 mmol) and nitrile **2** (1.2 mmol) in anhydrous THF (3 ml) was added dropwise to a solution of SmI_2 (6 mmol) in THF (40 ml) at room temperature under a dry nitrogen atmosphere and the reaction stirred under N_2 . At completion, the reaction mixture was poured into 10% K_2CO_3 (50 ml) and extracted with diethyl ether (3×30 ml). The combined extracts were washed with a saturated solution of $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ (15 ml) and a saturated solution of NaCl (15 ml), and dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . After evaporating the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by preparative TLC on silica gel using ethyl acetate-cyclohexane (1:3) as eluent.

N-Phenylbenzamidine **3a**. mp 115–117 °C (lit.,¹¹ 112 °C). ν/cm^{-1} 3500, 3380, 1630, 1600, 1580, 1490, 1450, 1380, 1240, 1170, 1080, 1020, 835, 770, 750, 700. δ_{H} 5.30 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.87–7.83 (10 H, m, ArH).

4-Methyl-*N*-phenylbenzamidine **3b**. mp 99–100 °C (lit.,¹² 100.5–101 °C) ν/cm^{-1} 3470, 3310, 1640, 1610, 1580, 1510, 1380, 1235, 860, 790. δ_{H} 2.30 (3 H, s, CH_3), 5.23 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.70–7.95 (9 H, m, ArH).

N-(2-methylphenyl)benzamidine **3c**. mp 102–104 °C (lit.,¹² 105 °C). ν/cm^{-1} 3470, 3320, 1640, 1575, 1490, 1390, 1240, 740, 720. δ_{H} 2.15 (3 H, s, CH_3), 4.90 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.68–7.90 (9 H, m, ArH). MS: m/z 211 ($M+1$, 45), 210 (M^+ , 100), 107 (78), 106 (88), 104 (88), 91 (36), 77 (86), 76 (22). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2$: C, 79.97, H, 6.71, N, 13.32; Found: C, 79.81, H, 6.83, N, 13.40%.

N-Phenylphenylacetamidine **3d**. mp 128–130 °C (lit.,¹² 127–130 °C). ν/cm^{-1} 3470, 3320, 1650, 1610, 1490, 1400, 1070, 860, 790. δ_{H} 3.63 (2 H, s, CH_2), 4.80 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.80–7.73 (10 H, m, ArH).

N-(*p*-Tolylphenyl)phenylacetamidine **3e**. mp 118–119 °C (lit.,¹² 119 °C). ν/cm^{-1} 3480, 3320, 1650, 1510, 1390, 1290, 1250, 850, 740, 700. δ_{H} 2.27 (3 H, s, CH_3), 3.60 (2 H, s, CH_2), 4.73 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.70–7.55 (9 H, m, ArH).

N-(*p*-Chlorophenyl)phenylacetamidine **3f**. mp 114–116 °C (lit.,¹³ 114–116 °C). ν/cm^{-1} 3450, 3320, 1650, 1590, 1490, 1430, 1400, 1300, 1230, 1090, 835, 750, 720, 700. δ_{H} 3.57 (2 H, s, CH_2), 4.70 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.67–7.50 (9 H, m, ArH).

4-Chloro-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamidine **3g**. mp 177–179 °C (lit.,¹⁴ 179 °C). ν/cm^{-1} 3530, 3430, 1650, 1590, 1495, 1410, 1380, 1240, 1085, 1010, 860, 840, 790. δ_{H} 5.17 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.80–7.73 (8 H, m, ArH).

4-Chloro-*N*-(4-methylphenyl)benzamidine **3h**. mp 129–131 °C. ν/cm^{-1} 3500, 3360, 1640, 1565, 1510, 1380, 1240, 1110, 1090, 1010, 840, 795. δ_{H} 2.30 (3 H, s, CH_3), 5.07 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.70–8.00 (8 H, m, ArH). MS m/z : 246 ($M+2$, 32), 245 ($M+1$, 21), 244 (M^+ , 100), 229 (15), 138 (88), 111 (44), 107 (94), 91 (36). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClN}_2$: C, 69.00, H, 4.96, N, 1.49; Found: C, 69.30, H, 4.81, N, 1.59%.

4-Chloro-*N*-phenylbenzamidine **3i**. mp 107–109 °C (lit.,¹⁵ 106–110 °C). ν/cm^{-1} 3480, 3350, 1640, 1600, 1565, 1500, 1440, 1380, 1230, 1180, 1090, 1010, 840, 825, 760. δ_{H} 5.10 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.80–7.90 (9 H, m, ArH).

N-(4-Chlorophenyl)benzamidine **3j**. mp 114–116 °C (lit.,¹⁶ 112–115 °C). ν/cm^{-1} 3500, 3380, 1630, 1610, 1575, 1490, 1450, 1380, 1240, 1100, 1010, 860, 755, 700. δ_{H} 5.00 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.70–8.00 (9 H, m, ArH).

3-Methyl-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamidine **3k**. mp 98–100 °C. ν/cm^{-1} 3490, 3340, 1630, 1590, 1495, 1380, 1250, 1100, 1010, 855, 810, 790, 760, 720. δ_{H} 2.33 (3 H, s, CH_3), 4.90 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.68–7.80 (8 H, m, ArH). MS m/z : 246 ($M+2$, 32), 245 ($M+1$, 35), 244 (M^+ , 100), 229 (9), 127 (97), 118 (60), 111 (35), 91 (58). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClN}_2$: C, 69.00, H, 4.96, N, 11.49; Found: C, 69.23, H, 5.12, N, 11.37%.

3-Methyl-*N*-(4-methylphenyl)benzamidine **3l**. mp 88–90 °C. ν/cm^{-1} 3490, 3300, 1650, 1580, 1510, 1380, 1240, 1100, 1020, 920,

860, 790, 710. δ_{H} 2.26 (3 H, s, CH_3), 2.33 (3 H, s, CH_3), 5.00 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.75–7.85 (8 H, m, ArH). MS m/z : 225 ($M+1$, 27), 224 (M^+ , 94), 209 (11), 133 (9), 118 (30), 107 (100), 106 (75), 91 (66), 77 (23). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2$: C, 80.32, H, 7.19, N, 12.49; Found: C, 80.54, H, 7.03, N, 12.52%.

3-Methyl-*N*-phenylbenzamidine **3m**. mp 104–106 °C. ν/cm^{-1} 3460, 3320, 1640, 1590, 1490, 1390, 1240, 1170, 1020, 840, 800, 770, 720, 695. δ_{H} 2.37 (3 H, s, CH_3), 5.20 (2 H, br s, NH, C=NH), 6.90–7.80 (9 H, m, ArH). MS m/z : 211 ($M+1$, 19), 210 (M^+ , 100), 195 (10), 194 (29), 118 (33), 93 (92), 91 (42), 77 (8). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2$: C, 79.97, H, 6.71, N, 13.32; Found: C, 79.86, H, 6.87, N, 13.38%.

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