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The pyridine and quinoline derivatives **2**, **3**, and **6** with an activated methylene group at α -position in respect to the ring nitrogen atom were converted with **1**, **8**, or **9** into fused pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyridine derivatives **4**, **5**, **7**, and **10**. In an analogous manner were the aminopyridines **16** and **17** transformed with thiazolone **9** into pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidine derivatives **20**, **21**, **25**, and **26**.

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The chemistry of pyridozines with a bridgehead nitrogen atom, such as quinolizines and azaquinolizines has been extensively reviewed in recent years [1-7].

In connection with our studies of heteroaryl substituted α -amino acids and their derivatives [8-10] and heterocyclic systems, in which an amino acid structural element is incorporated in the heterocyclic system [11,12] we have reported, recently, the transformation of nitrogen containing heterocyclic compounds, in which an active methyl group is attached at the α -position with respect to the ring nitrogen atom. They have been converted into the corresponding enamines, followed by treatment with 2-phenyl-5(4*H*)-oxazolone and cyclization into fused pyridinones [13,14].

An analogous reaction sequence has been used for the synthesis of fused pyrimidinones from α -amino heterocycles [15-16].

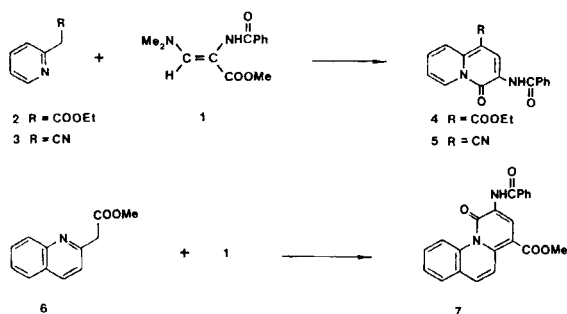
2-Methyl substituted nitrogen containing six-membered heterocycles generally do not react with methyl 2-benzoylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoate to give the corresponding pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyridine derivatives. Therefore, the corresponding enamines have been prepared with either DMFDMA or *t*-butoxy-bis(dimethylamino)methane. They have been transformed further with 2-phenyl-5(4*H*)-oxazolone into bicyclic systems [14].

When the methylene group at the α -position with respect to the ring nitrogen atom is activated with an ester group, it reacts smoothly with methyl 2-benzoylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoate to give the corresponding pyrido-

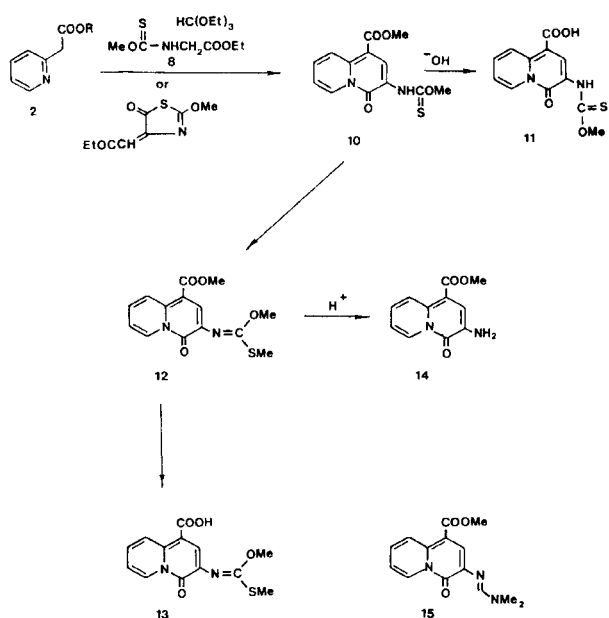
[1,2-*a*]pyridine derivatives. In this connection, methyl 2-pyridinylacetate (**2**) or 2-cyanomethylpyridine (**3**) were transformed with methyl 2-benzoylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoate (**1**) into 3-benzoylamino-1-methoxycarbonyl-4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyridin-4-one (**4**) and 3-benzoylamino-1-cyano-4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyridin-4-one (**5**). Methyl 2-quinolylacetate (**6**) gave the corresponding pyrido[1,2-*a*]quinoline derivative **7** in low yield (Scheme 1).

By heating methyl 2-pyridinylacetate (**2**) with a mixture of triethyl orthoformate and *N*-methoxythiocarbonylglycine (**8**) in acetic anhydride the corresponding 1-methoxycarbonyl-3-methoxythiocarbonylamino-4*H*-quinolizin-4-one (**10**) was formed. The hydrolysis of **10** with sodium hydroxide in ethanol gave the corresponding carboxylic acid derivative **11**. The methylation of the compound **10** with methyl iodide took place at the sulfur atom of the thiocarbonyl group at position 3 to give *O,S*-dimethyl (1-methoxycarbonyl-4-oxo-4*H*-quinolizinyl-1)isocyanato *O,S*-dimethyl acetal **12**. This is stable in basic media, so that selective

Scheme 1



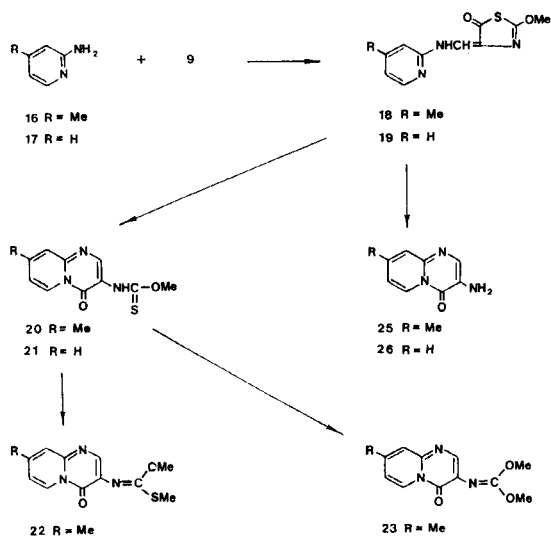
Scheme 2



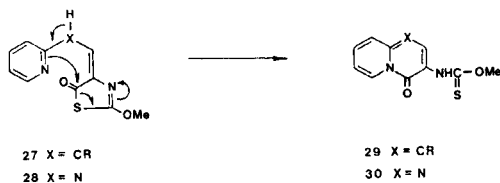
hydrolysis of the ester group gave the carboxylic acid **13**. On the other hand, the selective hydrolysis of *O,S*-dimethyl acetal group in acidic media afforded 3-amino-1-methoxycarbonyl-4*H*-quinolizin-4-one **14**. The amino group of **14** reacts with DMFDMA to give the corresponding *N,N*-dimethylformamide derivative **15** (Scheme 2).

2-Methoxy-4-ethoxymethylene-5(4*H*)-thiazolone (**9**) reacts with a heterocyclic amine, such as pyridine derivatives **16** and **17** to give 4-heteroarylaminomethylene-2-methoxy-5(4*H*)-thiazolones **18a** and **19**. They are transformed in the presence of a base or a nucleophile into the corresponding pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidines **20** and **21**. Compound **20** reacts with methyl iodide to form the corresponding *O,S*-dimethyl acetal **22**. This is transformed by prolonged heating into the corresponding *O,O*-dimethyl acetal **23**. The hydrolysis of *O,S*-dimethyl acetal **22** in ethanolic solution of hydrogen chloride gives the amino compound **24** in the form of the hydrogen chloride salt, which gives, after neutralization, the free 3-aminopyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidine **23** (Scheme 3).

Scheme 3



Scheme 4



final products, dependent on the reaction conditions (Scheme 4).

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were taken on a Kofler micro hot stage. The ¹H nmr spectra were recorded on a Varian E-360 and JEOL JNM FT90QFT Spectrometers and microanalyses for C, H, and N on a Perkin-Elmer Analyser 2400.

The following compounds were prepared according to the procedures described in the literature: methyl 2-benzoylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoate (**1**) [10] and 4-ethoxymethylene-2-methoxy-5(4*H*)-thiazolone (**9**) from methoxythiocarbonylglycine (**8**) and triethyl orthoformate in acetic anhydride [17].

3-Benzoylamino-1-methoxycarbonyl-4*H*-quinolizin-4-one (**4**).

A mixture of equimolar amounts of methyl 2-pyridinylacetate and methyl 2-benzoylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoate (**1**) in acetic acid (2 ml of acetic acid/mole of substrate) was heated under reflux for 4 hours. The crystalline material, formed after cooling, was collected by filtration to give **4** in 55% yield, mp 189-190° (from ethanol); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 4.0 (s, 5H, COOMe), 7.22 (ddd, 1H, H₇), 7.4-7.75 (m, 4H, H₈, Ph), 7.95-8.2 (m, 2H, Ph), 9.1-9.45 (m, H₆, H₉, NHCO), 9.82 (s, 1H, H₂), J_{H₆,H₇} = J_{H₇,H₈} = 6.5 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₈H₁₄N₂O₄: C, 67.08; H, 4.38; N, 8.69. Found: C, 66.98; H, 4.35; N, 8.73.

In the same manner the following compounds were prepared:

3-Benzoylamino-2-cyano-4*H*-quinolizin-4-one (**5**).

This compound was prepared from 2-pyridylacetonitrile and **1** in 99% yield, mp 227-229° (from acetic acid); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 7.22 (ddd, 1H, H₇), 7.4-7.74 (m, 4H, H₈, Ph), 7.9-8.15 (m, 3H, Ph, NHCO), 9.0-9.25 (m, 2H, H₆, H₉), J_{H₆,H₇} = J_{H₇,H₈} = 6.5 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₁N₃O₂: C, 70.58; H, 3.83; N, 14.52. Found: C, 70.40; H, 3.78; N, 14.46.

3-Benzoylamino-1-methoxycarbonyl-4*H*-benzo[*f*]quinolizine (**7**).

This compound was prepared from methyl 2-quinolinacetate and **1**. The crude product was separated into two fractions by chromatography using diisopropyl ether as the eluent. The first fraction is **7** in 22% yield, mp 120° (from ethanol); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 4.0 (s, 3H, COOMe), 7.4-7.8 (m, 8H, Ph, H₇, H₈, H₉), 7.9-8.2 (m, 2H, Ph), 8.9 (d, 1H, H₁₀), 9.52 (s, 1H, H₃), 9.45 (m, 1H, H₆), 9.75 (br s, 1H, NHCO), J_{H₁₀,H₁₁} = 10.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₂₂H₁₆N₂O₄: C, 70.96; H, 4.33; N, 7.52. Found: C, 70.64; H, 4.45; N, 7.51.

1-Methoxycarbonyl-3-methoxythiocarbonylamino-4-quinolizin-4-one (**10**).

A mixture of equimolar amounts of methyl 2-pyridinylacetate (**2**), triethyl orthoformate and *N*-methoxythiocarbonylglycine (**8**) in acetic anhydride (2 ml/mole) was heated in an oil bath at 100° for 6 hours. The precipitate was, after cooling, collected by filtration to give **10** in 38% yield, mp 192-194° (from ethanol); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 3.95 (s, 3H, COOMe), 4.15 (s, 3H, CSOMe), 7.17 (ddd, 1H, H₇), 7.76 (ddd, 1H, H₈), 9.1-9.4 (m, 3H, H₆, H₉, H₂), 9.55 (br s, 1H, NHCS), J_{H₆,H₇} = 7.0 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.0 Hz, J_{H₈,H₉} = 6.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₂N₂O₄S: C, 53.42; H, 4.14; N, 9.58. Found: C, 53.42; H, 4.11; N, 9.85.

The formation of pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyridine derivative **10** and pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidine derivatives **20**, **21**, **25**, and **26** can be explained by cyclization of the corresponding thiazolone intermediates **27** and **28** into derivatives of bicyclic systems **29** and **30**. They are further converted into the

1-Carboxy-3-methoxythiocarbonylamino-4*H*-quinolizin-4-one (**11**).

A mixture of **10** (100 mg) in methanol (4 ml) and sodium hydroxide (5*N*, 1 ml) was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, water (5 ml) was added to the residue and neutralized with hydrochloric acid (10%). The precipitate was collected by filtration to give **11**, in 63% yield, mp 235-239° (from ethanol); ¹H nmr (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 4.05 (s, 3H, OMe), 7.50 (ddd, 1H, H₇), 7.95 (ddd, 1H, H₈), 8.72 (br s, 1H, H₂), 9.3 (dd, 2H, H₆, H₉), 10.58 (br s, 1H, NHCS), 12.9-13.9 (br s, 1H, COOH), J_{H₆,H₇} = J_{H₇,H₈} = 6.5 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = J_{H₆,H₈} = 1.0 Hz, J_{H₈,H₉} = 8.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₀N₂O₄S: C, 51.79; H, 3.62; N, 10.07. Found: C, 51.28; H, 3.65; N, 9.90.

1-Methoxycarbonyl-3-(1-methylthio-1-methoxymethylene)amino-4*H*-quinolizin-4-one (**12**).

A mixture of **10** (150 mg), sodium methoxide, prepared from sodium (25 mg) and methanol (5 ml) and methyl iodide (0.1 ml) was left at room temperature for one hour. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, the residue was suspended in water (5 ml) and extracted with chloroform (3 times, 5 ml each time). The crude product was purified by chromatography with a mixture of chloroform and methanol, 25:1, as eluent, to give **12**, yield 65%, mp 118-120° (from a mixture of toluene and *n*-hexane); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 2.38 (s, 3H, SMe), 3.92 (s, 3H, COOMe), 4.1 (s, 3H, OMe), 7.15 (ddd, 1H, H₇), 7.58 (ddd, 1H, H₈), 8.13 (s, 1H, H₂), 9.18-9.45 (m, 2H, H₆, H₉), J_{H₆,H₇} = J_{H₇,H₈} = 6.5 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.0 Hz, J_{H₈,H₉} = 8.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄N₂O₄S: C, 54.89; H, 4.61; N, 9.14. Found: C, 55.03; H, 4.66; N, 9.08.

1-Carboxy-3-(1-methylthio-1-methoxymethylene)amino-4-quinolizin-4-one (**13**).

To a suspension of **12** (85 mg) in methanol (2 ml), aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide (1*N*, 2 ml) was added and the mixture was heated under reflux for 45 minutes. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, water (5 ml) was added to the residue, and the solution was adjusted with hydrochloric acid (10%) to pH = 3. The precipitate was collected by filtration to give **13** in 61% yield, mp 225-229° (from ethanol); ¹H nmr (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 2.37 (s, 3H, SMe), 4.03 (s, 3H, OMe), 7.4 (dd, 1H, H₇), 7.82 (ddd, 1H, H₈), 7.97 (s, 1H, H₂), 9.25 (m, 2H, H₆, H₉), 11.9-13.2 (br s, 1H, COOH), J_{H₆,H₇} = J_{H₇,H₈} = 6.5 Hz, J_{H₆,H₈} = J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.0 Hz, J_{H₈,H₉} = 8.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₂N₂O₄S: C, 53.42; H, 4.14; N, 9.58. Found: C, 53.04; H, 4.20; N, 9.66.

3-Amino-1-methoxycarbonyl-4*H*-quinolizin-4-one Hydrochloride (**14**).

To a solution of **12** (150 mg) in ethanol (5 ml) hydrochloric acid (37%, 0.5 ml) was added and the mixture was stirred for 2 hours at room temperature. The precipitate was collected by filtration to give **14** in 86% yield, mp 210° dec (from DMF); ¹H nmr (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 3.9 (s, 3H, COOMe), 5.5-6.2 (b s, 3H, NH₃⁺), 7.52 (ddd, 1H, H₇), 7.75-8.15 (br s, 1H, H₈), 8.3-8.7 (br s, 1H, H₂), 8.95-9.3 (m, 2H, H₆, H₉), J_{H₆,H₇} = J_{H₇,H₈} = 6.5 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₁ClN₂O₃: C, 51.87; H, 4.35; N, 11.00. Found: C, 51.73; H, 4.47; N, 11.00.

1-Methoxycarbonyl-3-(*N,N*-dimethylaminomethylene)amino-4*H*-quinolizin-4-one (**15**).

To a solution of **14** (30 mg) in toluene (5 ml) DMFDMA (0.1 ml) was added and the mixture was heated under reflux for 5 hours. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the solid residue recrystallized from a mixture of toluene and *n*-hexane to give **15** in 60% yield, mp 157-158°; ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 3.1 (s, 6H, NMe₂), 3.93 (s, 3H, COOMe), 7.07 (ddd, 1H, H₇), 7.42 (d, 1H, H₈), 8.22 (s, 1H, CH=), 9.05-9.38 (m, 2H, H₆, H₉), J_{H₆,H₇} = J_{H₆,H₉} = 7.0 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.5 Hz, J_{H₈,H₉} = 8.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₅N₃O₃: C, 61.53; H, 5.53; N, 15.38. Found: C, 61.28; H, 5.62; N, 15.67.

4-(4-Methyl-2-pyridinylamino)methylene-5(4*H*)-thiazolone (**18**).

A mixture of equivalent amounts of **9**, 2-amino-4-methylpyridine (**16**) and triethylamine in ethanol (5 ml/mole) was left at room temperature for 24 hours. The precipitate was collected by filtration to give **18** in 37% yield, mp 184-186° (from ethanol); ¹H nmr (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 2.3 (s, 3H, 4'-Me), 4.15 (s, 3H, OMe), 6.98 (d, 1H, 5'-H), 7.2 (s, 1H, 3'-H), 8.25 (d, 1H, 6'-H), 8.35 (br s, 1H, NHCH), 10.55 (br s, 1H, NHCH), J_{5'-H,6'-H} = 5.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₁N₃O₂S: C, 53.00; H, 4.45; N, 16.86. Found: C, 53.02; H, 4.46; N, 17.17.

In the same manner the following compound was prepared:

2-Methoxy-4(2-pyridinylamino)methylene-5(4*H*)-thiazolone (**19**).

This compound was prepared from **9** and 2-aminopyridine (**17**) in 40% yield, mp 168-169° (from toluene); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 4.1 (s, 3H, OMe), 6.80-7.15 (m, 2H, 3'-H, 5'-H), 7.7 (ddd, 1H, 4'-H), 8.0-8.17 (br s, 2H, NHCH), 8.37 (dd, 1H, 6'-H), J_{3'H,4'-H} = J_{4'-H,5'-H} = 7.7 Hz, J_{4'-H,6'-H} = 2.0 Hz, J_{5'-H,6'-H} = 5.0 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₀H₉N₃O₂S: C, 51.05; H, 3.86; N, 17.86. Found: C, 51.01; H, 3.91; N, 18.17.

8-Methyl-3-methoxythiocarbonylamino-4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one (**20**).

A suspension of **18** (230 mg) in sodium methoxide, prepared from sodium (40 mg) in methanol (4 ml) was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. Methanol was evaporated *in vacuo*, water (5 ml) was added to the solid residue and the solution was adjusted with hydrochloric acid (10%) to pH = 5. The precipitate was collected by filtration to give **20**, yield 60%, mp 200-204° (from a mixture of chloroform and ethanol, 1:1); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 2.5 (s, 3H, 8-Me), 4.18 (s, 3H, OMe), 7.02 (dd, 1H, H₇), 7.5 (d, 1H, H₉), 8.65 (br s, 1H, NHCS), 8.8 (s, 1H, H₂), 8.95 (d, 1H, H₆), J_{H₆,H₇} = 7.5 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.5 Hz, ms: m/e 249 (66%) (M⁺).

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₁N₃O₂S: C, 53.00; H, 4.45; N, 16.86. Found: C, 52.89; H, 4.39; N, 17.03.

3-Methoxythiocarbonylamino-4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one (**21**).

A mixture of *N*-methoxythiocarbonylglycine (**19**) (0.15 g, 0.001 mole) and triethylorthoformate (0.18 g) in acetic anhydride (2 ml) was heated at 100° for 1 hour. The volatile components were evaporated *in vacuo* and the oily residue was dissolved in ethanol (7 ml). A mixture of 2-aminopyridine (**17**, 94 mg, 0.001 mole) and triethylamine (112 mg, 0.0011 mole) was added and the mixture was left at room temperature for one week. The precipitate was collected by filtration to give **21**, yield 23%, mp 207-210° (from ethanol); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 4.03 (s, 3H, OMe), 7.5

(ddd, 1H, H₇), 7.82 (dd, 1H, H₉), 8.1 (s, 1H, H₂), 9.12 (dd, 1H, H₆), 10.65 (br s, 1H, NHCS), J_{H₆,H₇} = J_{H₇,H₈} = 7.0 Hz, J_{H₆,H₈} = J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.5 Hz, J_{H₈,H₉} = 8 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₀H₉N₃O₂S: C, 51.05; H, 3.86; N, 17.86. Found: C, 50.72; H, 3.95; N, 18.22.

3-Dimethoxymethyleneamino-8-methyl-4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one (**23**) and 8-Methyl-3-(1-methylthio-1-methoxymethylene)amino-4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one (**22**).

A mixture of **21** (180 mg) and sodium methoxide, prepared from sodium (40 mg) in methanol (5 ml) and methyl iodide (0.1 ml) was stirred at room temperature for 3 hours. The volatile components were evaporated *in vacuo*, water (5 ml) was added to the residue and neutralized with hydrochloric acid (10%). The product was extracted with chloroform (3 times, 10 ml each time) and dried with sodium sulphate. The product was purified by chromatography, using chloroform as eluent to give, after evaporation of the solvent, **22**, yield 60 mg (23%), mp 158-160° (from a mixture of toluene and *n*-hexane); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 2.37 (s, 3H, SMe), 2.24 (s, 3H, OMe), 6.95 (dd, 1H, H₇), 7.42 (d, 1H, H₉), 8.05 (s, 1H, H₂), 9.0 (d, 1H, H₆), J_{H₆,H₇} = 7.5 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.5 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₃N₃O₂S: C, 54.74; H, 4.98; N, 15.96. Found: C, 54.90; H, 5.00; N, 16.32.

The second fraction gave **23**, yield 8 mg (3%), mp 169-171° (from a mixture of toluene and *n*-hexane); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 2.42 (s, 3H, 8-Me), 3.90 (s, 6H, 2 x OMe), 6.90 (dd, 1H, H₇), 7.38 (d, 1H, H₉), 8.15 (s, 1H, H₂), 9.0 (d, 1H, H₆), J_{H₆,H₇} = 7.5 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.5 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₃N₃O₃: C, 58.29; H, 5.30; N, 16.99. Found: C, 58.20; H, 5.31; N, 17.30.

3-Amino-4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one (**26**).

A mixture of **19** and sodium methoxide, prepared from sodium (35 mg) and methanol (5 ml), was left at room temperature for 24 hours. Methyl iodide (0.1 ml) was then added and the mixture was stirred for another 3 hours. The volatile components were evaporated, ethanol (5 ml) and hydrochloric acid (37%, 0.5 ml) were added to the residue. The precipitate was collected by filtration, suspended in water, the solution was neutralized with sodium hydroxide (1 *N*) and extracted with chloroform (3 times, 10 ml each time) to give, after evaporation of chloroform, **26** in 61% yield, mp 178-179° (from toluene); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 3.9-4.3 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 7.02 (ddd, 1H, H₇), 7.2-7.7 (m, 2H, H₈, H₉), 8.05 (s, 1H, H₂), 9.03 (ddd, 1H, H₆), J_{H₆,H₇} = J_{H₇,H₈} = 8.0 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.5 Hz, J_{H₈,H₉} = 7.5 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₈H₇N₃O: C, 59.62; H, 4.38; N, 26.07. Found: C, 59.66; H, 4.52; N, 25.81.

In the same manner the following compound was prepared:

3-Amino-8-methyl-4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one (**25**).

This compound was prepared from **18** in 34% yield, mp

215-225° (from toluene); ¹H nmr (deuteriochloroform): δ 2.4 (s, 3H, 8-Me), 3.7-4.2 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 6.88 (dd, 2H, H₇), 7.35 (d, 1H, H₉), 8.05 (s, 1H, H₂), 8.88 (d, 1H, H₆), J_{H₆,H₇} = 7.5 Hz, J_{H₇,H₉} = 1.8 Hz.

Anal. Calcd. for C₉H₉N₃O: C, 61.70; H, 5.18; N, 23.99. Found: C, 61.72; H, 5.19; N, 23.62.

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