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Publisher *Taylor & Francis*

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Organic Preparations and Procedures International

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t902189982>

PREPARATION OF 2-HYDRAZINOBENZOTHAZOLES BY EXCHANGE AMINATION

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To cite this Article Barnett, C. J. and Smirz, J. C. (1974) 'PREPARATION OF 2-HYDRAZINOBENZOTHAZOLES BY EXCHANGE AMINATION', *Organic Preparations and Procedures International*, 6: 4, 179 – 182

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/00304947409355098

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00304947409355098>

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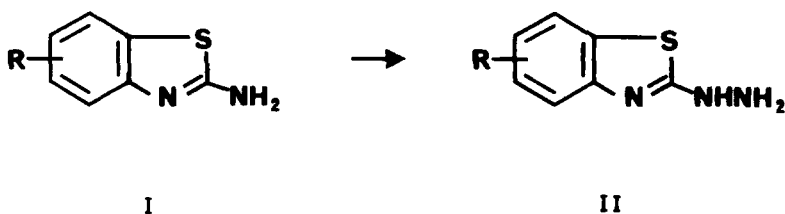
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PREPARATION OF 2-HYDRAZINOBENZOTHAZOLES
BY EXCHANGE AMINATION

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We required a general method for the preparation of substituted 2-hydrazinobenzothiazoles II. Direct conversion of 2-aminobenzothiazoles I to II by exchange amination with hydrazine was an attractive approach in view of the general availability of 2-aminobenzothiazoles from oxidative cyclization of thioureas (Hugershoff reaction).¹ Such an exchange process had previously been reported,² but the procedure described gave poor yields of II unless the starting 2-aminobenzothiazole possessed a carboxyl sub-



stituent in the benzenoid moiety.

We have found that reaction of 2-aminobenzothiazoles with a hydrazine-hydrazine hydrochloride mixture in ethylene glycol solution (130-140°) affords the corresponding 2-hydrazinobenzothiazoles in excellent yields. Results for several examples are shown in Table I.

TABLE I

R	Yield (%) ^a	mp (crude)	mp ^b
H	90	194-198°	196-198° ^c
4-CH ₃	93	165-168°	167.5-169°
5,6-(CH ₃) ₂	82	223-229°	235-240°(dec.)
4-OCH ₃	89.6	215-220°	224-226.5°
6-OCH ₃	90	---	176-178° ^d
6-SCH ₃	92.5	173-176°	178-180°
4-Cl	90.5	226-229°	239-241°

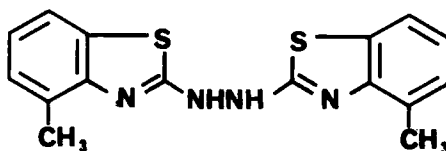
a) Based on weight of isolated crude product.

b) Recrystallized from ethanol.

c) Lit⁶ mp 195°.

d) Lit⁷ mp 168-169°.

The crude products were 90-95% pure (vpc analysis) and should generally be suitable for further processing without purification. Impurities included 2-4% starting material and lesser amounts of other by-products. The bis-hydrazobenzothiazole III was identified as a minor impurity in 2-hydrazino-4-methylbenzothiazole (II, R = 4-CH₃). Reaction of the desired



III

product II with a second molecule of starting material accounts for the formation of products of the type III.³ Purification could easily be carried out by recrystallization from alcohol.

It should be noted that heterocyclic hydrazines are unstable to oxygen, particularly in the presence of base.⁴ Reactions should be

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carried out in an oxygen-free atmosphere and the products protected from direct exposure to air. The hydrazinobenzothiazoles described herein have been found to be stable for several months in tightly capped brown bottles.

EXPERIMENTAL

General Procedure for the Preparation of 2-Hydrazinobenzothiazoles. To a suspension of 0.1 mole of the 2-aminobenzothiazole in 80 ml ethylene glycol is added 0.2 mole 85% hydrazine hydrate and 0.1 mole hydrazine monohydrochloride. The mixture is heated to 140° for 2 hr⁵ in an atmosphere of nitrogen. The mixture is cooled to room temperature, water (80 ml) is added to complete precipitation, and the product filtered, washed with water, and dried. Yield and melting point data for specific examples are reported in Table I.

TABLE II
Elemental Analyses

II,R	<u>Calculated</u>				<u>Found</u>			
	C,	H,	N,	S	C,	H,	N,	S
4-CH ₃	53.61	5.06	23.44	17.89	53.84	4.98	23.17	17.68
5,6-(CH ₃) ₂	55.93	5.74	21.74	16.59	55.96	5.78	21.55	16.72
4-OCH ₃	49.21	4.65	21.52	16.42	49.25	4.54	21.67	16.40
6-SCH ₃	45.47	4.29	19.89	30.35	45.63	4.21	19.66	30.12
4-Cl	42.11	3.03	21.05	16.06	42.30	3.13	20.82	16.11

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4. See, for example: A. Albert and G. Catterall, *J. Chem. Soc. (C)*, 1967, 1533.
5. The progress of the reaction may be monitored by removal of small aliquots of the reaction mixture, dilution with water, extraction with ethyl acetate and thin layer chromatography of the extract. Reactions at lower temperatures require longer heating periods.
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(Received March 4, 1974)