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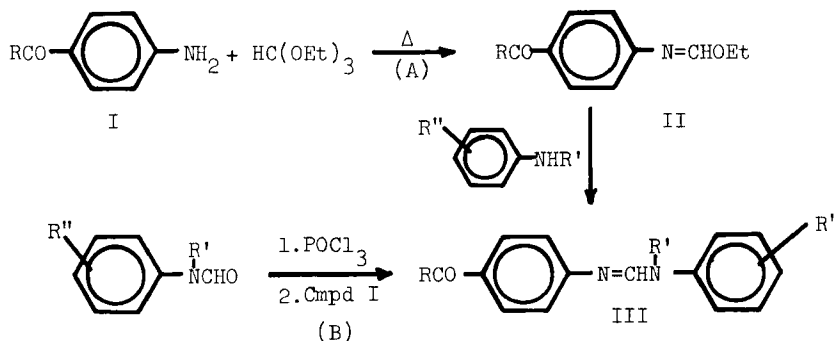
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## SYNTHESIS AND PHOTOSTABILITY OF SOME N-ALKYL-N,N'-DIARYLFORMAMIDINES

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(10/31/77)

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In recent years there has been great interest in trisubstituted formamides due to the range of their biological activity.<sup>1-6</sup> Formamides of general structure III having outstanding UV absorbing and photostability properties, may be synthesized by routes A or B.



These formamides III were ideal UV absorbers in that they were thermally stable compounds which had a broad intense spectrum between 290 and 400 nm and were stable to UV radiation in this region. They protect plastics, dyes and juvenile hormones against UV degradation by sunlight.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Method A

Ethyl(4-ethoxycarbonylphenyl)formimidate (II, R = EtO).- Ethyl 4-aminobenzoate (82.6 g, 0.50 mole) and triethyl orthoformate (148.2 g, 1.0 mole) were heated at 145° until 56 ml of ethanol had been collected by distillation. The excess triethyl orthoformate was removed by vacuum distillation. The residue was distilled to yield 91.5 g (83%) of product, bp. 142°/1.0 mm;

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mp. 41-42°.

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: C, 65.14; H, 6.83; N, 6.33.

Found: C, 65.01; H, 6.77; N, 6.54.

TABLE 1. Physical Data for III

	R	R'	R''	Yield <sup>a</sup>	bp °C(mm)	Elemental Analysis % Calculated (% Found)		
						C	H	N
IIIa	EtO	Me	H	56 <sup>b</sup>	188(0.1)	72.33 (72.22)	6.41 (6.34)	9.92 (9.89)
IIIb	EtO	Me	4-MeO	80	200(0.01)	69.21 (69.38)	6.47 (6.29)	8.96 (9.24)
IIIc	EtO	Me	4-EtO <sub>2</sub> C	50	89-91 <sup>c</sup>	67.78 (67.71)	6.26 (6.34)	7.90 (7.80)
III d	EtO	Me	4-Me <sub>2</sub> N	93	230(0.1)	70.13 (69.95)	7.13 (7.08)	12.91 (13.12)
III e	EtO	Me	3,4-Cl <sub>2</sub>	65	78-80 <sup>d</sup>	58.14 (58.10)	4.68 (4.50)	7.97 (8.12)
III f	EtO	Me	2-MeO	70	200(0.05)	69.21 (69.47)	6.47 (6.49)	8.96 (9.01)
III g	EtO	Me	4- <u>n</u> -BuO <sub>2</sub> C	61	89-90 <sup>c</sup>			7.32 (7.23)
III h	<u>n</u> -BuO	Me	H	68	204(0.08)	73.52 (73.70)	7.15 (7.15)	9.02 (8.95)
III i	EtO	<u>n</u> -Bu	H	45	190(.1)	74.04 (73.96)	7.46 (7.20)	8.63 (8.78)
III j	EtO	<u>n</u> -octyl	H	42	235(.1)	75.74 (75.47)	8.49 (8.51)	7.36 (7.33)
III k	EtO	Et	H	85 <sup>e</sup>	225(1.0)	72.94 (73.05)	6.80 (6.75)	9.45 (9.41)
III l	NH <sub>2</sub>	Me	H	25 <sup>e</sup>	139-142 <sup>c</sup>	71.14 (71.22)	5.96 (5.90)	16.58 (16.18)

a) Method A unless otherwise noted. b) 95% yield by Method B. c) mp (°C), recrystallized from benzene/hexane. d) mp. (°C), recrystallized from hexane. e) Method B.

Ethyl(4-*n*-butoxycarbonylphenyl)formimidate (II, R = *n*-BuO).— The same procedure as above with *n*-butyl 4-aminobenzoate (97 g, 0.5 mole) yielded 85.9 g (69%) of pure product, bp. 136°/0.1 mm.

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: C, 67.46; H, 7.66; N, 5.62.

Found: C, 67.51; H, 7.73; N, 5.92.

Equimolar quantities of the formimidate II and the appropriate *n*-alkyl aniline were mixed and heated at 190°. Ethanol was removed from the reaction mixture through a short distillation column. When the ethanol had ceased distilling, the viscous oils were distilled in vacuo (see Table 1 for physical properties).

#### Method B

Phosphorus oxychloride (0.5 mole) was added dropwise to a solution of *N*-alkylformanilide (0.5 mole) in 400 ml of ethylene dichloride. The mixture was heated at 40° for 15 min. The appropriate aminophenylcarboxylate (0.5 mole) was added in portions and the solution was refluxed 2 hrs. The solution was poured into 300 ml of 30% sodium hydroxide and 800 g of ice. The ethylene dichloride was separated, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The viscous oils were distilled in vacuo and the solids recrystallized (see Table 1).

Photostability Testing.— Since one of the most important characteristics of a UV absorber is its stability to solar exposure (radiation of 290 nm and above), a method had to be selected to rapidly evaluate this property. The test method of choice was the irradiation of a solution (isopropanol) of the UV absorber in a pyrex flask under an Hanovia lamp 679 A (450 watts). The pyrex flask filters out UV radiation of 290 nm and below. Samples were withdrawn from the flask at various intervals and their spectra taken to determine if any degradation had occurred. In a typical run, eight different solutions were irradiated including one or two commercial absorbers as controls. Stability was measured by the number of hours which were required for the solution to lose 25% of its UV absorbing property. The results are presented in Table 2. To insure that results of the accelerated test meth-

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od were reliably predicting use conditions, replicate solutions were exposed outdoors to solar radiation and to radiation from 4 GE fluorescent lamps (black light). Results of the balck light, solar exposure and accelerated (Hanovia lamp) tests rated the UV absorbers in the same order of photostability.

TABLE 2. UV Properties of III

Compound	$\lambda^c$	$\epsilon$	Photostability (hrs)
IIIa	313	26,200	>32
IIIb	312	26,300	>32
IIIc	323	32,800	>32
IIId	324	22,100	12-16
IIIe	312	29,500	>32
IIIf	312	27,500	>32
IIIg	323	36,800	>32
IIIh	312	27,100	>32
IIIi	312	26,700	>32
IIIj	314	28,300	>32
IIIk	313	27,700	>32
IIIl	316	22,700	16-32
Tinuvin P <sup>a</sup>	337	13,800	>32
Cyasorb UV 9 <sup>b</sup>	325	8,500	16-32

- a) 2-(2-Hydroxy-5-methylphenylbenzotriazole (Tinuvin P,<sup>®</sup> Ciba-Geigy)  
 b) 2-Hydroxy-4-methoxybenzophenone (Cyasorb UV 9,<sup>®</sup> American Cyanamid)  
 c) In isopropanol

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