

**HIGHLY REGIO- AND *syn*-DIASTEREOSELECTIVE SYNTHESIS OF  
 4-HYDROXY-1,2-ALKADIENYL CARBAMATES FROM  $\alpha$ -TITANATED  
 2-ALKYNYL CARBAMATES AND ALDEHYDES<sup>1,2</sup>**

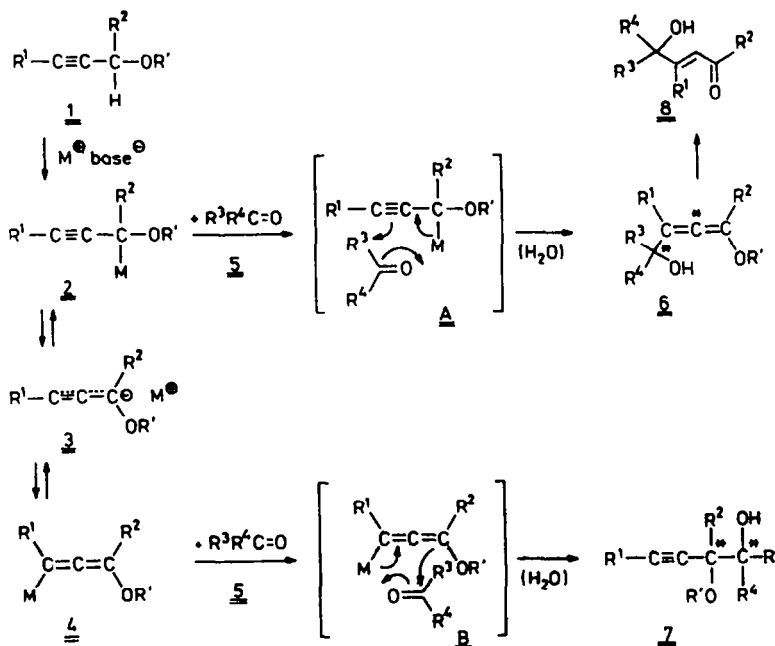
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**Abstract.** *N,N*-Diisopropyl 2-alkynyl carbamates **9** are deprotonated by *n*-butyllithium to form lithium compounds **10**. After exchange of the cation, titanium reagents **13** add highly diastereoselective to aldehydes with formation of the title compounds **14**. In contrast to metallated 2-alkynyl ethers, the reagents **10** and **13** exhibit high  $\gamma$ -regioselectivity in carbonyl addition reactions, due to the chelating carbamoyl group. The *syn*-configuration of **14** was deduced from the crystal structure of the urethane derivative **21**.

Functionalized allenes demand growing interest in organic synthesis<sup>3</sup>. Among them, 1,4-bis-oxysubstituted 1,2-alkadienes of type **6** are of importance because they represent masked 4-hydroxy-2-alkenals<sup>2a</sup> (**8**, R<sup>2</sup> = H) or -alkenones (**8**, R<sup>2</sup> = alkyl, aryl) and also offer a versatile synthetic approach to furans, 2,5-dihydrofurans, and related compounds<sup>3b</sup>. For the synthesis of **6**, coupling of a 2-alkynylmetal **2** with a carbonyl compound **5** by formation of the C-3-C-4 bond is the most forwarding strategy.



R<sup>1</sup> - R<sup>4</sup> = H, alkyl or aryl; R' = alkyl, THP.

Despite many efforts<sup>4</sup>, the main challenge remained unsolved, as there are:

1.  $\gamma$ -Regioselectivity<sup>4</sup>. Propargylmetals 2 and allenylmetals 4, obtained by deprotonation of propargylic ethers<sup>5,4</sup> 1 are in rapid equilibrium (for M = K, Na or Li) via the mesomeric ion pair 3, giving rise to isomeric mixtures of 6 and 7. In principle, both tautomers 2 or 4 can be kinetically stabilized by introduction of more covalently bound "cations" M<sup>+</sup>, e.g. R<sub>2</sub>B<sup>6</sup>, or X<sub>3</sub>Ti<sup>7</sup>, but now the problem of regioselectivity is shifted to the metal exchange step. Generally, and also true for M<sup>+</sup> = MgX or ZnX<sup>4,7</sup>, enhanced  $\alpha$ -selectivity is observed under these conditions yielding predominantly 3-alkynols 7 in kinetically controlled addition reactions. There is some evidence that allenylmetals 4 are favored<sup>7</sup>; they add carbonyl compounds in a six-membered pericyclic process<sup>4,7</sup> (transition state B), causing acetylene allene rearrangement, which is seen in product 7. For the predominant formation of 2-alkynylmetals 2, which are expected to form allenes 6 via transition state A, apparently, no reliable method was known.

2. Diastereoselectivity. Allenes of type 6 (R<sup>2</sup>  $\neq$  R<sup>3</sup>) exist in two diastereomers; usually, selective formation of only one is desired. Although high non-induced diastereoselectivity<sup>8</sup> nowadays is common in allylmetal addition reactions<sup>9,10</sup>, to our knowledge, no example was reported for 2-alkynylmetals which accomplishes the diastereoselective addition of a pro-axial- onto a pro-central-chiral unit<sup>11</sup>.

We expected that propargylmetal tautomers 2, needed for  $\gamma$ -regioselective formation of 4-hydroxy-1,2-alkadienes 6, should be stabilized at the cost of 4 by a chelating ligand at the 1-oxygen atom. According to H. Yamamoto<sup>7</sup>, the tetrahydropyranyl group (THP) does not suffice. In our recent work, the *N,N*-diisopropylcarbamoyloxy group and its powerful complexing ability towards cations had proven to be the key in the achievement of the first general method for homoaldol additions<sup>10,12</sup>, exhibiting high regio- and stereoselectivities, when  $\alpha$ -metallated 2-alkenyl carbamates are utilized for homoenolate reagents. Hence, we investigated the scope of metallated 2-alkynyl carbamates<sup>1,2</sup> 10 and 13.

Addition of metallated 2-alkynyl carbamates to carbonyl compounds. The alkynyl carbamates 9a<sup>12</sup>, d, and e were prepared by acylation of the appropriate 2-alkynols with *N,N*-diisopropylcarbamoyl chloride<sup>12,13</sup>. 9b and c were obtained by silylation or methylation of the propargyl carbamates 9d or 9e via the acetylenic anions (subsequent addition of *n*-butyllithium and chlorotrimethylsilane, 89%, or methyl iodide, 77%).

The deprotonation of 9a or b proceeds smoothly within 30 min by adding a slight excess of *n*-butyllithium to the diethyl ether solution below -70 °C, affording the lithium derivatives 10a or 10b. For complete metallation of  $\alpha$ -alkylated alkynyl carbamates, e.g. 9c, activation by *N,N,N',N'*-tetramethyl ethylene diamine (TMEDA) and prolonged reaction times (1 h) are essential. On addition of acetaldehyde (5a), practically without any regio- and diastereoselectivity, a racemic mixture of the  $\gamma$ -adducts 14aa (*syn*)<sup>14,15</sup> and 15aa (*anti*)<sup>14,15</sup> together with two diastereomeric  $\alpha$ -adducts 16aa are formed (Table 1). Better  $\gamma$ -selectivity is observed if less reactive carbonyl compounds like 2-methylbutanal (5b),  $\gamma : \alpha = 86 : 14$ , or acetone (5g; 95 : 5) are used. Both selectivities are dramatically enhanced to essentially complete formation<sup>16</sup> of 14 if lithium is exchanged by adding tetra(isopropoxy)titanium<sup>17</sup> (11) to the solution of 10, forming tentative intermediate 13, prior to aldehyde addition. In few cases where the  $\gamma$ -regioselectivity is still incomplete, the use of the stronger oxophilic chloro-tris(diethylamino)titanium<sup>17</sup> 12 results in further improvement. Reagents 10 or 13 also add to ketones (Table 1).

From the predominant formation of *syn*-adducts<sup>16</sup> 14, we conclude that transition state C is passed. Evidently, both prochiral units approach in this particu-

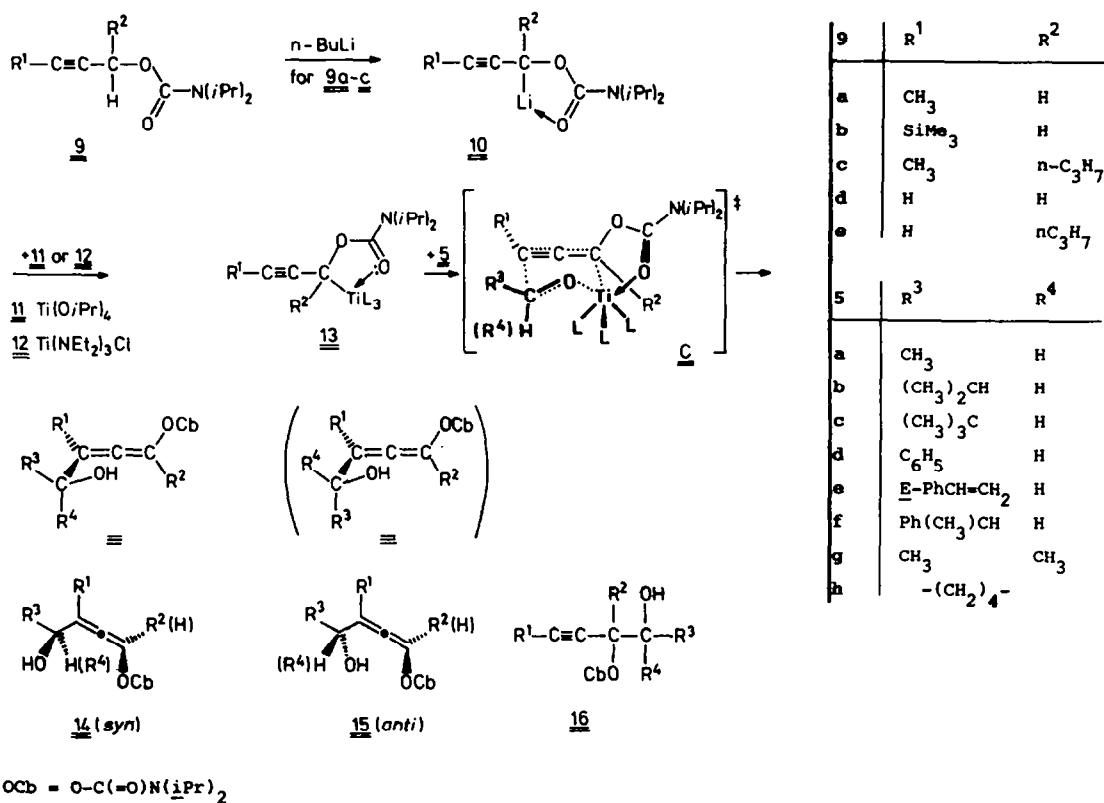


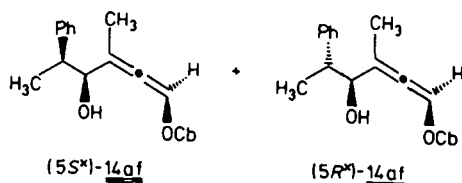
Table 1. Reaction of 2-alkynyl carbamates 9 with aldehydes and ketones 5

| Compounds 9 and 5  | Reagent (Procedure) | Products          | Yield [%] <sup>a</sup> | R <sup>1</sup>    | R <sup>2</sup> | R <sup>3</sup>                     | R <sup>4</sup>                  | (14+15):16<br>γ:α <sup>b</sup> | 14:15 <sup>b</sup><br>syn:anti | Config. of 14                    |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9a,5a              | 10a(A) <sup>c</sup> | 14,15,16aa        | 90                     | CH <sub>3</sub>   | H              | CH <sub>3</sub>                    | H                               | 65:35                          | 50:50                          | aR <sup>+</sup> ,4S <sup>+</sup> |
|                    | 13a(B) <sup>d</sup> | 14aa              | 89                     |                   |                |                                    |                                 | >95:<5                         | >95:<5                         |                                  |
| 9a,5b              | 10b(A)              | 14,15,16ab        | 87                     | CH <sub>3</sub>   | H              | (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CH | H                               | 86:14                          | 57:43                          | aR <sup>+</sup> ,4S <sup>+</sup> |
|                    | 13a(B)              | 14ab              | 87                     |                   |                |                                    |                                 | >95:<5                         | >95:<5                         |                                  |
| 9a,5c              | 13a(B)              | 14ac              | 59                     | CH <sub>3</sub>   | H              | (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C  | H                               | >95:<5                         | >95:<5                         | aR <sup>+</sup> ,4R <sup>+</sup> |
| 9a,5d              | 13a(B)              | 14,15,16ad        | 86                     | CH <sub>3</sub>   | H              | C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>      | H                               | 71:29                          | 80:20                          | aR <sup>+</sup> ,4S <sup>+</sup> |
|                    | 13a(C) <sup>e</sup> | 14,15ad           | 97                     |                   |                |                                    |                                 | >95:<5                         | 85:15                          |                                  |
| 9a,5e              | 13a(C)              | 14,15ae           | 65                     | CH <sub>3</sub>   | H              | <u>E</u> -PhCH=CH                  | H                               | >95:<5                         | 80:20                          | aR <sup>+</sup> ,4S <sup>+</sup> |
| 9a,5f <sup>f</sup> | 13a(B)              | 14af <sup>g</sup> | 57                     | CH <sub>3</sub>   | H              | Ph(CH <sub>3</sub> )CH             | H                               | 97:3                           | >95:<5 <sup>g</sup>            | aR <sup>+</sup> ,4S <sup>+</sup> |
| 9a,5g              | 10a(A)              | 14ag              | 76                     | CH <sub>3</sub>   | H              | CH <sub>3</sub>                    | CH <sub>3</sub>                 | >95:<5                         | -                              |                                  |
|                    | 13a(B)              |                   | 76                     |                   |                |                                    |                                 | >95:<5                         | -                              |                                  |
| 9a,5h              | 13a(B)              | 14,16ah           | 63                     | CH <sub>3</sub>   | H              | -(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> - |                                 | 82:18                          | -                              |                                  |
|                    | 13a(C)              | 14ah              | 47                     |                   |                |                                    |                                 | >95:<5                         | -                              |                                  |
| 9b,5a              | 13b(B)              | 14ba              | 89                     | SiMe <sub>3</sub> | H              | CH <sub>3</sub>                    | H                               | >95:<5                         | >95:<5                         | aR <sup>+</sup> ,4R <sup>+</sup> |
| 9c,5a              | 13c(C)              | 14,16ca           | 83                     | CH <sub>3</sub>   | H              | CH <sub>3</sub>                    | n-C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> | >95:5                          | 82:18                          | aR <sup>+</sup> ,4S <sup>+</sup> |

a) Combined yield after LC purification. b) Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR or <sup>13</sup>C NMR. c) Procedure A, counter ion Li. d) Procedure B, metal exchange with Ti(OiPr)<sub>4</sub> (11). e) Procedure C, metal exchange with ClTi(NEt<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (12). f) Racemic 5f was used. g) Two syn-diastereomers, (5S<sup>+</sup>)- and (5R<sup>+</sup>)-14af, 82:18, were isolated.

lar arrangement, which minimizes repulsive interactions between the alkyl residue  $R^3$  and the ligands at titanium.

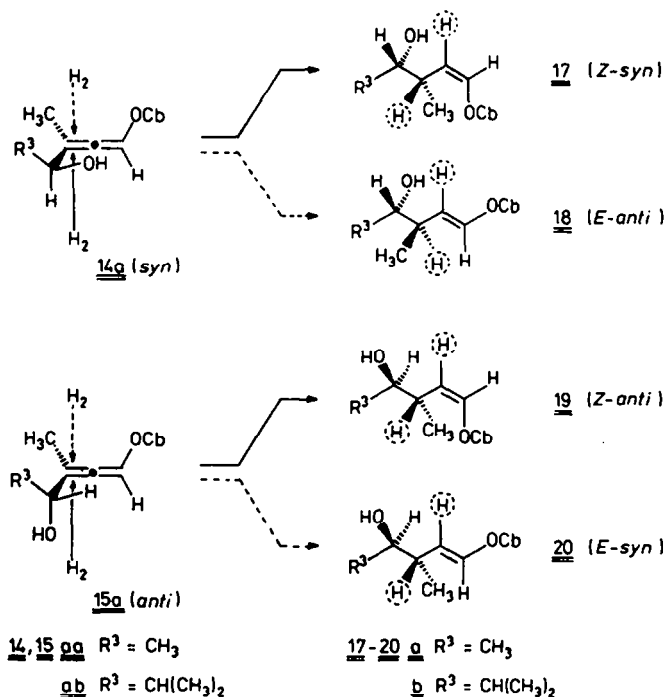
From addition of the 2-butynyl titanium reagent **13a** to racemic 2-phenylpropanal (**5f**), two separable diastereomeric *syn*-adducts **14af** in a ratio 82 : 18 were isolated. We assume that these are a result of the attack of **13a** to both diastereotopic faces of the chiral aldehyde **5f**, forming the product of steric approach control ( $5S^*$ )-**14af** in excess over ( $5R^*$ )-**14af**. A very similar ratio of induced diastereoselectivity<sup>8</sup> is observed in the reaction of **5f** with titanated 2-(*E*)-butenyl carbamates<sup>23,10</sup>, in which the relative configurations of adducts had been rigorously established by chemical transformation to known compounds.



**Structure elucidation.** Allenes **14** and **15** are recognized in their NMR spectra by the downfield absorption of C-2 ( $\delta = 188$ -190 ppm), and (for  $R^2 = H$ ) of H-1 (7.3-7.4 ppm) as well as by an IR band around  $1975\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The isomeric alkynes **16** show  $\delta = 5.3$ -5.5 ppm for the propargylic proton and a triple bond absorption between  $2200$ - $2250\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in IR. In TLC analysis, alkyne **16** usually is the more polar isomer, which is also stained more slowly by iodine-vapour than allenes **14** and **15**.

We were not able to determine the relative configurations of  $\gamma$ -adducts **14** or **15** spectroscopically, because their  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra are very similar without significant differences in chemical shifts or coupling constants.

Since catalytic hydrogenations of some allenes are reported to proceed *cis*-stereospecifically<sup>18</sup>, partial hydrogenation of the central double bond of **14** (*syn*) is expected to deliver the 4-hydroxy-enol carbamates **17** (*Z-syn*) and **18** (*E-anti*), whereas from **15** (*anti*) the alkenes **19** (*Z-anti*) and **20** (*E-syn*) should derive; these four diastereomers are well known from our studies on homoaldol reactions<sup>12,10</sup>.



The acetaldehyde adduct **14aa**, obtained by the titanium-mediated procedure, yielded on treatment with  $H_2/P2$  nickel/ethylene diamine<sup>19</sup> both the (*Z*)-alkenes **17a** and **19a** (46%) in a ratio 90 : 10 (GC); with  $H_2$ / Lindlar catalyst the yield was 36% (81 : 19). **14ab** gave a similar result ( $P2 Ni$ , 41%, **17b** : **19b** = 73 : 27). Together with the reasonable assumption that the minor isomer **19** originates from a rapid<sup>20</sup> metal-catalyzed isomerization of the (*E*)-double bond in primarily formed **18** to give the more stable (*Z*)-enol carbamate **19**, these experiments can be taken as arguments for the *syn*-configuration of **14**. The *anti*-diastereomers **15** are expected to deliver **19** in excess by *cis*-addition of  $H_2$  from the less shielded face.

Final evidence for the *syn*-configuration<sup>21</sup> was obtained from an X-ray crystal structure analysis<sup>22,23</sup> of the *p*-chlorophenyl urethane **21**, prepared from **14aa** and *p*-chlorophenyl isocyanate (Figure 1).

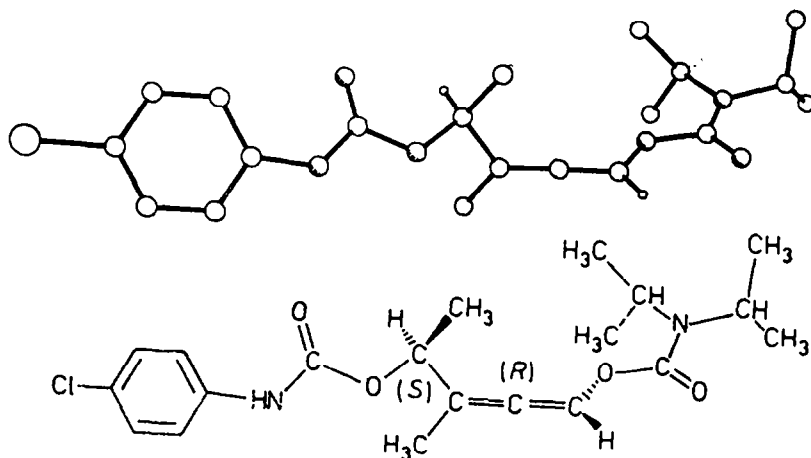
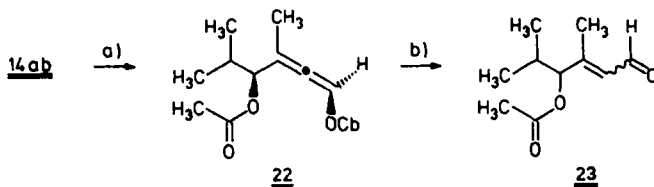


Figure 1. The conformation of **21** in the crystal<sup>22</sup>. H atoms (except for those at C-1 and C-4) are omitted.

**Synthetic use of allenes 14.** The allenes **14** (or **15**),  $R^2 = H$  are masked 4-hydroxy-2-alkenals<sup>3b</sup>. For demonstration, **14ab** was acetylated to give the acetate **22**, which was treated with methanol and methanesulfonic acid to yield after hydrolysis the unstable enal **23** (54%, *E* : *Z* = 80 : 20).



a)  $Ac_2O$ ,  $Et_3N$ , 4-(*N,N*-dimethylamino)pyridine,  $CH_2Cl_2$ ; 72%. b)  $CH_3OH$ ,  $CH_3SO_3H$  (1.0 equiv.),  $Hg(OAc)_2$ ,  $-10 - 20^\circ C$ ;  $H_2O$ ; 54%.

In hydrolysis, the benefit of homogenous configuration in diastereomerically pure allenes **14** is wasted. Studies for its utilization in the synthesis of highly substituted 1,3-alkadienes by Claisen rearrangement, whose stereochemical course has been exploited<sup>2b</sup>, are in progress.<sup>24</sup> Furthermore, stereospecific 1,4-eliminations lead to interesting, very reactive alk-3-en-1-ynyl carbamates<sup>24</sup>.

## EXPERIMENTAL

All organometallic reactions were performed under  $N_2$  or Ar with exclusion of air and moisture. Diethyl ether and 1,2-dimethoxyethane were distilled over  $LiAlH_4$ , TMEDA and pyridine over  $CaH_2$ , prior to use. Tetra(isopropoxy)titanium was used after distillation under Ar. LC separations (>1 g) were carried out with "MN-Kieselgel 60", 0.05-0.2 mm, (Macherey-Nagel GmbH & Co KG, Düren), or (<1 g) at 1-3 bar on "Silica Woelm 32-63", 0.032-0.063 mm, (Woelm Pharma GmbH & Co, Eschwege).

N,N-Diisopropyl 2-alkynyl carbamates 9 from 2-alkynols; general procedure

The 2-alkynol (0.105 mmol) in dry pyridine (0.15 mmol, 12 g) and N,N-diisopropyl-carbamoyl chloride<sup>12,13</sup> (0.100 mmol) were stirred at 90-100 °C for 12 h. The cool reaction mixture was poured to ice (50 g), 36% aq. HCl (20 mL), and diethyl ether (50 mL); the aq. soln. extracted twice with ether (each 30 mL). The ethereal soln. was washed with sat. aq.  $NaHCO_3$  (20 mL) and brine. After drying over  $MgSO_4$ , the solvent was evaporated in vacuum and the residue distilled or recrystallized.

N,N-Diisopropyl 2-butynyl carbamate (9a). cf. ref.<sup>12</sup>

N,N-Diisopropyl 2-propynyl carbamate (9d). Yield 16.4 g (89%), bp 118 °C/15 torr, mp 38-40 °C (from diethyl ether). - IR (KBr): 2130 ( $C\equiv C$ ), 1695  $cm^{-1}$  ( $C=O$ ). -  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 1.24 (d) and 3.9 (m) ( $NiPr$ ); 2.42 (t,  $J_{3,1}$  = 2.5 Hz, 3-H); 4.67 ppm (d, 1-H). -  $C_{10}H_{17}NO_2$  (183.25), calc. C 65.54 H 9.35, found C 65.50 H 9.24.

N,N-Diisopropyl 1-propyl-2-propynyl carbamate (9e). Yield 13.9 g (62%), bp 105 °C/8 torr. - IR (neat): 2110 ( $C\equiv C$ ), 1685  $cm^{-1}$  ( $C=O$ ). -  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 0.95 (t) and 1.65 (m) ( $CH_2CH_3$ ); 1.20 (d) and 3.35 (m) ( $NiPr$ ); 2.37 (d,  $J_{3,1}$  = 2 Hz, 3-H); 5.32 ppm (td,  $J_{1,1}$  = 6 Hz, 1-H).

N,N-Diisopropyl 3-(trimethylsilyl)-2-propynyl carbamate (9b). To a soln. of 9d (3.7 g, 20 mmol) and TMEDA (2.3 g, 20 mmol) in diethyl ether (40 mL) at -10 °C *n*-butyllithium in hexane (13.8 mL 1.6N, 22 mmol) was dropped; the reaction mixture was cooled to -70 °C and trimethylchlorosilane (2.4 g, 22 mmol) was added. After warming to rt, usual aq. work-up, followed by distillation afforded 4.4 g (89%) 9b, bp 107 °C/10 torr. - IR (neat): 2185 ( $C\equiv C$ ), 1700 ( $C=O$ ), 1250 and 845  $cm^{-1}$  ( $Si-CH_3$ ). -  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 0.2 (s,  $Si-CH_3$ ); 1.25 (d) and 3.9 (m) ( $NiPr$ ); 4.74 ppm (s, 1- $H_2$ ).

N,N-Diisopropyl 1-propyl-2-butynyl carbamate (9c). To a soln. of 9e (19.6 g, 20.0 mmol) in 1,2-dimethoxyethane (40 mL) at -70 °C *n*-butyllithium in hexane (13.8 mL 1.6N, 22 mmol) was slowly added, the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min and methyl iodide (5.7 g, 40 mmol) slowly added. After 30 min stirring between -70 to -78 °C, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt, and aq. work-up was accomplished as usual. LC (diethyl ether/petroleum ether, 1 : 10) yielded 3.7 g (77%) 9c, oil,  $R_f(1:1)$  = 0.55. - IR (neat): 2240 ( $C\equiv C$ ), 1690  $cm^{-1}$  ( $C=O$ ). -  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 0.93 (t) and 1.5 (m) ( $CH_2CH_3$ ); 1.23 (d) and 3.95 (m) ( $NiPr$ ); 1.88 (d,  $J_{1,4}$  = 2 Hz); 5.38 ppm (tq,  $J_{1,1}$  = 7 Hz, 1-H). -  $C_{14}H_{25}NO_2$  (239.36), calc. C 70.25 H 10.53, found C 70.42 H 10.59.

4-Hydroxy-1,2-alkadienyl carbamates 14 and 15; general procedure. To carbamate 9 (10.0 mmol) in diethyl ether (30 mL) at -78 to -70 °C *n*-butyllithium in hexane (6.9 mL 1.6N, 11 mmol) were introduced with a dry-ice cooled syringe and the yellow slurry of 10 was stirred at this temp. for 15 min.

Procedure A: Aldehyde or ketone 5 (11 - 20 mmol) was introduced slowly with a cooled syringe. Stirring at this temp. was continued for 1.5-15 h, and work-up was performed as described below.

Procedures B and C. Tetra(isopropoxy)titanium (11) (11 mmol; B) or chloro-tris-(diethylamino)titanium (12) in hexane (11 mmol; C) was added to the reaction mixture below -65 °C and stirring was continued for 15 min. 5 (11-20 mmol) was added and the mixture stirred for 1.5-15 h at -70 to -78 °C. For work-up, the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to 0 °C and poured to a mixture of ice (50 g), 2N aq. HCl (50 mL; 60 mL for B/TMEDA), and ether (100 mL). The aq. soln. was extracted twice with ether (each 50 mL), the combined ethereal solns. were washed with water (50 mL), aq. sat.  $NaHCO_3$  (50 mL), followed by aq. sat. KCl, and were dried over  $MgSO_4$ . After evaporation of the solvent in vacuum, the residue was purified by LC (silica gel; diethyl ether/petroleum ether).

( $aR^*$ ,  $4S^*$ )- and ( $aR^*$ ,  $4R^*$ )-N,N-Diisopropyl 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-1,2-pentadienyl carbamate (14aa and 15aa). 9a, 11 and acetaldehyde (5a) (0.88 g, 20 mmol), B, 1.5 h,

diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:5), afforded 2.15 g (89%), **14aa**,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.24$ , mp 48 °C. - IR (neat): 3400 (br., OH), 1975 (C=C=C), 1690  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C=O). -  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 1.25$  (d) and 3.95 (sept)(NiPr); 1.36 (d,  $J_{5,4} = 6$  Hz, 5-H<sub>3</sub>); 1.88 (d,  $J_{3,1} = 2$  Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.37 (m, OH); 4.26 (dq,  $J_{4,1} = 2$  Hz, 4-H); 7.34 ppm (dq, 1-H). -  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 16.57$  (C-5); 20.87 and 46.30 (NiPr); 21.87 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 68.73 (C-4); 112.50 (C-1); 118.98 (C-3); 153.10 (C=O); 188.43 ppm (C-2).

$\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_3$  (241.33), calc. C 64.70 H 9.61, found C 64.91 H 9.54.

Procedure B, 1.5 h, afforded 2.16 (90%) of a mixture, consisting of **14aa** and **15aa** (65%), 50:50),  $R_F(1:1) = 0.24$ ; and of *N,N*-diisopropyl 1-(1-hydroxyethyl)-2-butyryl carbamate (**16aa**), 2 diastereomers,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.22$ , 35% ( $^1\text{H NMR}$ ).

**15aa**, from the mixture;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.23$  ppm (dq,  $J_{1,4} = J_{1,3} = 2$  Hz, 1-H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 16.25$  (C-5); 21.68 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 68.81 (C-4), 153.19 (C=O), 188.65 ppm (C-2).

**16aa**; IR (neat): 2220  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C≡C);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 3.49$  (m, 1'-H); 5.33 ppm (m, 1-H).

(aR\*,4S\*)- and (aR\*,4R\*)-N,N-Diisopropyl 4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethyl-1,2-hexadienyl-carbamate (**14ab** and **15ab**). **9a**, **11** (3.13 g) and 2-methylpropanal (**5b**) (0.95 g, 13 mmol), **B**, 7 h, diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:5), afforded 2.34 g (87%) **14ab**,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.22$ , oil. - IR (neat): 3400 (br., OH), 1975 (C=C=C), 1690  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C=O). -  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 0.92$  and 1.02 (each d,  $J_{5,6} = J_{5,5'} = 7$  Hz, 6-H<sub>3</sub> and 5-CH<sub>3</sub>); 1.25 (d) and 3.6 - 4.2 (m) (NiPr and 5-H); 1.82 (d,  $J_{3,1} = 2$  Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 2.4 (m, OH); 3.84 (dd,  $J_{4,5} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{4,1} = 2$  Hz, 4-H); 7.36 ppm (dq, 1-H). -  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 16.30$  and 16.72 (C-6 and 6-CH<sub>3</sub>); 19.62 (C-5); 20.95 and 46.27 (NiPr); 31.34 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 77.73 (C-4); 111.82 (C-1); 117.09 (C-3); 153.23 (C=O); 189.33 ppm (C-2). -  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_3$  (269.39), calc. C 66.88 H 10.10, found C 67.00 H 10.54.

**A**, 1 h, afforded 2.34 (87%) of a mixture, consisting of **14ab** and **15ab** (86%, 57:43),  $R_F(1:1) = 0.22$ , and of *N,N*-diisopropyl 1-(1-hydroxy-2-methylpropyl)-2-butyryl carbamate (**16ab**), 2 diastereomers,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.20$ , 14% ( $^1\text{H NMR}$ ).

**15ab**, from the mixture;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.22$  ppm (dq,  $J_{1,4} = J_{1,3} = 2$  Hz, 1-H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 15.81$  and 17.16 (C-6 and 5-CH<sub>3</sub>); 19.53 (C-5); 31.04 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 77.73 (C-4), 111.84 (C-1), 116.68 (C-3); 153.25 (C=O), 189.97 ppm (C-2).

**16ab**; IR (neat): 2220  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C≡C);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 5.48$  ppm (m, 1-H).

(aR\*,4R\*)-N,N-Diisopropyl 4-hydroxy-3,5,5-trimethyl-1,2-hexadienyl carbamate (**14ac**). **9a**, **11** (3.13 g) and 2,2-dimethylpropanal (**5c**) (0.96 g, 11 mmol), **B**, 7 h, diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:10), afforded 1.68 g (59%) **14ac**,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.39$ , mp 59 °C. - IR (KBr): 3400 (br., OH), 1973 (C=C=C), 1700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C=O). -  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 1.00$  (s, 2x 6-H<sub>3</sub> and 5-CH<sub>3</sub>); 1.26 (d) and 3.6 - 4.2 (m) (NiPr); 1.93 (d,  $J_{3,1} = 2$  Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 2.1 (m, OH); 3.73 (br. "s", 4-H); 7.48 ppm (dq,  $J_{1,4} = 2$  Hz, 1-H). -  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_3$  (283.41), calc. C 67.81 H 10.31, found C 67.94 H 10.23.

(aR\*,4S\*)- and (aR\*,4R\*)-N,N-Diisopropyl 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2-pentadienyl carbamate (**14ad** and **15ad**). **9a** (0.592 g, 3.00 mmol), **12** (3.30 mmol), 27% in hexane, **C**) and benzaldehyde (**5d**) (0.318 g, 3.30 mmol), 3 h, diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:6), afforded 0.89 g (97%) of a mixture consisting of **14ad** and **15ad** (85 : 15,  $^1\text{H NMR}$ ),  $R_F(1:1) = 0.32$ , oil. - IR (neat): 3400 (br., OH), 1975 (C=C=C), 1680  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C=O). -  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , from the mixture); **14ad**:  $\delta = 1.23$  (d) and 3.90 (sept) (NiPr); 1.65 (d,  $J_{3,1} = 2$  Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.15 (m, OH); 5.05 (m, 4-H); 7.38 ppm (m, 1-H and C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>). -  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ), **14ad**:  $\delta = 16.21$  (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 20.90 and 46.41 (NiPr); 75.37 (C-4); 113.18 (C-1); 117.82 (C-3); 126.7-128.5, 141.53 (phenyl-C); 153.14 (C=O); 189.41 ppm (C-2); **15ad**: 16.59 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 113.85 (C-1); 141.67 (1 phenyl H); 188.91 ppm (C-2).

$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_3$  (303.40), calc. C 71.26 H 8.31, found C 71.40 H 8.51.

**B**, 5 h, with **9a** (5.00 mmol) and **11** (5.50 mmol) afforded 1.28 g (86%) of a mixture, consisting of **14ad** and **15ad** (71%, 80 : 20;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ ),  $R_F(1:1) = 0.32$ ; and of *N,N*-diisopropyl 1-(1-hydroxybenzyl)-2-butyryl carbamate (**16ad**), 2 diastereomers (X:Y = 60 : 40),  $R_F(1:1) = 0.28$ , 29%. - IR (neat): 2240  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C≡C). -  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 1.83$  (X), 1.75 (Y) (d,  $J_{4,1} = 2$  Hz, 4-H<sub>3</sub>); 4.95 (m, X-1'-H); 5.52 ppm (m, X-1-H). -  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 69.97$  (X), 69.33 (Y) (C-3); 74.15 (X), 74.70 (Y) (C-2); 139.56 (X), 139.67 ppm (Y) (1 phenyl C).

(E)-(aR\*,4S\*)- and (E)-(aR\*,4R\*)-N,N-Diisopropyl 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-6-phenyl-1,2,5-hexatrienyl carbamate (**14ae** and **15ae**). **9a** (0.592 g, 3.00 mmol), **12** (3.3 mmol, 27% in hexane, **C**) and (E)-3-phenyl-2-propenal (**5e**) (0.35 g, 3.30 mmol), 15 h, diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:6), afforded 0.65 g (65%) of a mixture consisting of **14ae** and **15ae** (80 : 20,  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ ),  $R_F(1:1) = 0.30$ , oil. - IR (neat): 3400 (br., OH), 1975 (C=C=C), 1690 (C=O), 1595 and 1570  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C=C). -  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , from the mixture); **14ae**:  $\delta = 1.20$  (d) and 3.90 (sept) (NiPr); 1.82 (d,

$\underline{J}_{3',1} = 2$  Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 2.50 (m, OH); 4.60 (d,  $\underline{J}_{4,5} = 8$  Hz, 4-H); 6.13 (dd,  $\underline{J}_{5,6} = 16$  Hz, 5-H); 6.62 (d, 6-H); 7.7 ppm (m, 1-H and C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>). - <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>), **14ad**:  $\delta = 16.63$  (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 20.89 and 46.35 (NiPr); 73.94 (C-4); 113.41 (C-1); 116.88 (C-3); 126.58 (C-5); 128.50 (C-6); 127.67, 129.71 and 131.46, 136.66 (phenyl-C); 152.98 (C=O); 189.20 ppm (C-2); **15ae**: 16.50 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 113.17 (C-1); 189.39 ppm (C-2).

(**aR\***, **4S\***, **5S\***)- and (**aR\***, **4S\***, **5R\***)-*N,N*-Diisopropyl 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-5-phenyl-1,2-hexadienyl carbamate (**5S\***)-**14af** and (**5R\***)-**14af**. **9a** (0.99 g, 5.00 mmol), chlorotris(isopropoxy)titanium (**11b**) (5.50 mmol, 1N in hexane) and racemic 2-phenylpropanal *rac*-(**5f**) (0.74 g, 5.50 mmol), 15 h, diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:10); afforded 0.95 g (57%) of a mixture of (**5S\***)- and (**5R\***)-**14af** (82 : 18), accompanied (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) by 3% of *N,N*-diisopropyl 1-(1-hydroxy-2-phenylpropyl)-2-butyryl carbamate (**16af**). Repeated LC yielded (**5S\***)-**14af** together with **16af**,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.40$ , and pure (**5R\***)-**14af**,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.45$ . - IR (neat), mixture: 3400 (br., OH), 1970 (C=C), 1695 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O).

(**5S\***)-**14af**; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.25$  (d) and 3.96 (m) (NiPr); 1.31 (d,  $\underline{J}_{6,5} = 7$  Hz, 6-H<sub>3</sub>); 1.78 (d,  $\underline{J}_{3',1} = 2$  Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 2.17 (m, OH); 3.01 (dq,  $\underline{J}_{4,5} = 5.5$  Hz,  $\underline{J}_{5,6} = 7$  Hz, 5-H); 4.10 (m, 4-H); 7.32 ppm (m, phenyl); 7.40 ppm (dq,  $\underline{J}_{1,3} = \underline{J}_{1,4} = 2$  Hz, 1-H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 15.18$  (C-6); 17.22 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 20.27-21.43 (br.) and 45.97-46.55 (br.) (NiPr); 43.56 (C-5); 77.20 (C-4); 113.21 (C-1); 116.89 (C-3); 126.34, 127.89, 128.21, 144.27 (phenyl); 152.99 (C=O); 189.59 ppm (C-2).

(**5R\***)-**14af**; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.22$  (d) and 3.90 (m) (NiPr); 1.30 (d,  $\underline{J}_{6,5} = 7$  Hz, 6-H<sub>3</sub>); 1.86 (d,  $\underline{J}_{3',1} = 2$  Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.00 (dq,  $\underline{J}_{5,4} = \underline{J}_{5,6} = 7$  Hz, 5-H); 4.19 (m, 4-H); 7.31 (m, phenyl); 7.47 ppm (m, 1-H).

**16af**, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.91 (d,  $\underline{J}_{4,1} = 2$  Hz, 4-H<sub>3</sub>), 5.08 ppm (m, 1-H).

C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (331.46), calc. C 72.47 H 8.82, found C 72.57 H 8.88.

*N,N*-Diisopropyl 4-hydroxy-3,4-dimethyl-1,2-pentadienyl carbamate (**14ag**). **9a** (0.59 g, 3.00 mmol), **11** (3.30 mmol) and acetone (**5g**) (0.23 g, 4.0 mmol), **B**, 3 h, diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:4), afforded 0.65 g (76%) **14ag**,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.20$ , viscous oil. - IR (neat): 3400 (br., OH), 1970 (C=C), 1690 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). - <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.20$  (d) and 3.86 (sept) (NiPr); 1.35 (s, 6-H<sub>3</sub> and 5-H<sub>3</sub>); 1.85 (d,  $\underline{J}_{3',1} = 2$  Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 2.30 (m, OH); 7.20 ppm (q, 1-H).

C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (255.36, calc. C 65.85 H 9.87, found 65.92 H 9.90).

**A**, 2 h, afforded 0.65 g (76%) **14ag**;  $\alpha$ -adduct **16ag** was not recognized by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

*N,N*-Diisopropyl 3-(1-hydroxycyclopentyl)-1,2-butadienyl carbamate (**14ah**). **9a** (0.59 g, 3.00 mmol), **12** (3.30 mmol, 27% in hexane) and cyclopentanone (**5h**) (0.34 g, 4.0 mmol), **C**, 15 h, diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:5), afforded 0.27 g (47%) **14ah**,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.37$ , mp 51 °C - IR (KBr): 3400 (br., OH), 1970 (C=C), 1690 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). - <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.20$  (d) and 3.87 (sept) (NiPr); 1.75 (m, 4 CH<sub>2</sub>); 1.82 (d,  $\underline{J}_{3',1} = 2$  Hz, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 2.02 (m, OH); 7.23 ppm (q,  $\underline{J}_{4,1} = 2$  Hz, 1-H).

C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (281.40), calc. C 68.29 H 9.67, found C 68.12 H 9.64.

Procedure **B**, 2 h, afforded 0.53 g (63%) of a mixture containing **14ah** and *N,N*-diisopropyl 1-(1-hydroxycyclopentyl)-2-butyryl carbamate (**16ah**),  $R_F(1:1) = 0.35$ , 82 : 18, (<sup>1</sup>H NMR). **16ah**, from the mixture, IR (neat): 2150 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 5.10$  ppm (q,  $\underline{J}_{1,4} = 3$  Hz, 1-H).

(**aR\***, **4R\***)-*N,N*-Diisopropyl 4-hydroxy-3-trimethylsilyl-1,2-pentadienyl carbamate (**14ba**). **9b** (1.28 g, 5.00 mmol) **11** (3.13 g, 5.50 mmol) and acetaldehyde (**5a**) (0.44 g, 10 mmol), **B**, 1 h, diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:3), afforded 1.14 g (89%) **14ba**,  $R_F(1:1) = 0.31$ , viscous oil. The isomers **15ba** or **16ba** were not detected by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. - IR (neat): 3420 (br., OH), 1950 (C=C), 1685 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). - <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 0.19$  (s, SiMe<sub>3</sub>); 1.22 (d) and 3.5 - 4.2 (m) (NiPr); 1.35 (d,  $\underline{J}_{5,4} = 6.5$  Hz, 5-H<sub>3</sub>); 2.32 (m, OH); 4.43 (dq,  $\underline{J}_{4,1} = 2$  Hz, 4-H); 7.47 ppm (dq, 1-H). - <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -1.01$  (SiMe<sub>3</sub>); 20.4 (br.) and 45.9 (br.) (NiPr); 24.15 (C-5); 67.47 (C-4); 113.21 (C-1); 122.08 (C-3); 153.26 (C=O); 195.78 ppm (C-2).

C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Si (299.49), calc. C 60.16 H 9.76, found C 60.30 H 9.84.

(**aR\***, **4S\***)- and (**aR\***, **4R\***)-*N,N*-Diisopropyl 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-1-propyl-1,2-pentadienyl carbamate (**14ca** and **15ca**). **9c** (0.72 g, 3.00 mmol), TMEDA (0.35 g, 3.00 mmol), **12** (3.3 mmol, 27% in hexane), and acetaldehyde (**5a**) (0.44 g, 10 mmol), **C**/TMEDA, 3 h, diethyl ether/petroleum ether (1:6), afforded 0.71 g (83%) of a mixture of **14ca** and **15ca**, 82 : 18 (<sup>13</sup>C NMR),  $R_F(1:1) = 0.23$ , viscous oil. **16ba** was not detected by <sup>13</sup>C NMR. - IR (neat): 3420 (br., OH), 1980 (C=C), 1690 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). - **14ca**, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 0.93$  (t,  $\underline{J} = 7$  Hz, 3'-H<sub>3</sub>); 1.17 (d) and 3.5 - 4.3 (m) (NiPr and 4-H); 1.45 (m, 2'-H<sub>2</sub>); 1.73 (s, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 2.17 (t,  $\underline{J} = 7$  Hz, 1'-H<sub>2</sub>). - <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 13.58$  (C-3'); 16.42 (C-5); 19.78 (C-2'); 20.98 and 46.32 (NiPr); 22.85 (3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 34.57 (C-1'); 68.85 (C-4); 24.15 (C-5); 116.73 (C-1);



126.60 (C-3); 154.29 (C=O); 189.43 ppm (C-2). 15ca, no differences in 80 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 16.81 (C-5); 68.54 (C-4); 117.24 (C-1); 126.31 (C-3); 188.53 ppm (C-2).  
 $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_3$  (283.14), calc. C 67.81 H 10.31, found C 67.67 H 10.42.

**17 and 19; hydrogenation of the allenes 14aa and 14ab.** With the catalyst P2-Ni, prepared<sup>15</sup> in 5 mL ethanol from nickel diacetate (0.120 g, 0.60 mmol), ethanolic  $\text{NaBH}_4$  (1M, 0.6 mL) and ethanolic ethylene diamine (1M, 0.2 mL), was saturated with  $\text{H}_2$ . 14aa (0.964 g, 4.00 mmol) in ethanol (4 mL) was added with vigorous stirring. After 2.5 h stirring at 20 °C and 750 torr, the hydrogen consumption (112 mL, approx. 4 mmol) stopped. For work-up, the solvent was evaporated in vacuum, the residue stirred with dichloromethane (30 mL) and aq. 1M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (30 mL), the organic phase washed with sat. aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , followed by brine, dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and evaporated. LC (silica gel, diethyl ether/petroleum ether, 1:4) afforded 0.39 g (46%) of a mixture of 17a and 19a (90 : 10,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $\text{GC}^{12}$ ). The identical ratio was found in samples, taken after 25 min (50% consumption) and after 24 h. In a second experiment, a ratio 17a : 19a = 80 : 20 was obtained. -

14ab (under identical conditions) yielded 17b and 19b (41%, 73 : 27).<sup>12</sup>  
 With Lindlar catalyst:<sup>25</sup> The catalyst (0.200 g) in THF (2 mL) was saturated with  $\text{H}_2$ , and 14aa (0.241 g, 1.00 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added. After 1.5 h at 20 °C and 750 torr, the hydrogen consumption (18 mL, approx. 0.7 mmol) stopped. Usual work-up and LC afforded 0.088 g (36%) 17a and 19a, 81 : 19.

**Synthesis of alkenal 23; (aR\*,4S\*)-N,N-diisopropyl 4-acetoxy-3,5-dimethyl-1,2-hexadienyl carbamate (22).** To a soln. of 14ab (1.35 g, 5.00 mmol), triethylamine (15 mmol) and 4-(N,N-dimethylamino)pyridine (0.5 mmol) in dichloromethane, acetic anhydride (11 mmol) at -70 °C was added and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt. After 2 h stirring at rt, usual work-up, followed by LC (diethyl ether/petroleum ether, 1:4), afforded 1.11 g (72%) 22,  $R_F$ (1:1) = 0.45, oil, besides unreacted 14ab. - IR (neat): 1980 (C=C=C), 1743 (C=O), 1710  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (NC=O). -  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 0.94 (d, 6- $\text{H}_3$  and 5- $\text{CH}_3$ ); 1.25 (d) and 3.9 (m) (NiPr); 1.81 (d,  $\underline{J}_{3,1}$  = 2 Hz, 3- $\text{CH}_3$ ); 2.05 (s,  $\text{CH}_3\text{C=O}$ ); 2.0 (m, 5-H); 4.94 (dd,  $\underline{J}_{4,5}$  = 7 Hz,  $\underline{J}_{4,1}$  = 2.5 Hz, 4-H); 7.43 ppm (m, 1-H).  
 $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_4$  (311.42), calc. C 65.57 H 9.39, found C 65.52 H 9.44.

**(E/Z)-4-Acetoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-hexenal (23):** To a soln. of 22 (0.622 g, 2.00 mmol) in methanol (10 mL) at -10 °C, methanesulfonic acid (2.00 mmol) and mercuric acetate (0.02 mmol) were added. After 1 h at -10 °C, stirring was continued at rt for 17 h. For work-up, the solvent was evaporated in vacuum, the residue dissolved in dichloromethane/water (20 + 20 mL), followed by rapid extraction of the organic layer with water (20 mL), aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and brine. Evaporation of the solvent at rt and rapid LC on silica gel (60 g, diethyl ether/petroleum ether, 1:5) yielded 0.200 g (54%) instable 23, E : Z = 80 : 20,  $R_F$ (1:1) = 0.24. - We were unable to obtain an analytically pure sample. - IR (neat): 1740 (OC=O); 1677  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (CH=O). -  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ), (E)-23:  $\delta$  = 0.90 (d,  $\underline{J}$  = 7 Hz, 6- $\text{H}_3$  and 5- $\text{CH}_3$ ); 1.22 (m, 5-H); 2.08 (s,  $\text{CH}_3\text{C=O}$ ); 2.14 (d,  $\underline{J}_{3,1}$  = 1 Hz, 3- $\text{CH}_3$ ); 4.90 (d,  $\underline{J}_{4,5}$  = 6 Hz, 4-H); 5.90 (d,  $\underline{J}_{2,1}$  = 8 Hz, 2-H); 10.5 (d, 1-H); (Z)-23:  $\delta$  = 4.80 (d, 4-H); 5.80 ppm (d, 2-H).  
 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ), (E)-23:  $\delta$  = 14.58 and 17.25 (6-C and 5- $\text{CH}_3$ ); 19.22 (3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 20.77 ( $\text{CH}_3\text{C=O}$ ); 30.18 (C-5); 81.49 (C-4); 127.04 (C-2); 159.00 (C-3); 170.19 (OC=O); 190.97 (C-1); (Z)-23:  $\delta$  = 82.16 (C-4); 169.99 ppm (OC=O).

**p-Chlorophenyl urethane 21.** 14aa (0.241 g, 1.00 mmol), pyridine (16mg, 0.2 mmol) and p-chlorophenyl isocyanate (0.20 g, 1.30 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) were allowed to stand at 20 °C for 60 h. Evaporation of the solvent in vacuum, followed by LC (silica gel, diethyl ether/petroleum ether, 1 : 20) afforded 0.233 g (59%) 21. By applying the diffusion method (acetone/hexane) single crystals (mp 134 °C), suitable for X-ray analysis, were obtained. - IR (KBr): 3320 (NH), 1975 (C=C=C), 1730 and 1698  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C=O). -  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 1.24 (d) and 3.97 (m) (NiPr); 1.43 (d,  $\underline{J}_{5,4}$  = 6 Hz, 5- $\text{H}_3$ ); 1.88 (d,  $\underline{J}_{3,1}$  = 2 Hz, 3- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 5.35 (q, 4-H); 6.95 (br. s, NH); 7.3 (m, phenyl); 7.42 ppm (qd,  $\underline{J}_{1,4}$  = 2 Hz).  
 Crystal structure analysis of 21 ( $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{27}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_4$ ). Slightly yellow blocks from acetone/hexane, dimensions 0.6 x 0.6 x 0.5  $\text{mm}^3$ , space group Pbc<sub>a</sub>,  $a$  = 1172.5(1),  $b$  = 2434.5(2),  $c$  = 1570.1(1) pm,  $V$  = 4.482  $\text{nm}^3$ ,  $Z$  = 8,  $d_c$  = 1.17  $\text{g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\mu$  = 0.19  $\text{mm}^{-1}$  (Mo-K $\alpha$ ); 3931 unique intensities measured ( $2\theta_{\text{max}}$  = 50°), 2535 with  $|F| > 3\sigma(F)$  treated as observed, structure solution with direct methods (SHELXTL), non-hydrogen atoms refined anisotropically, H atoms at calculated positions,  $R$  = 0.097 ( $R_w$  = 0.110). The refinement of the central part of the molecule was supported by weak restraints. The final difference electron-density synthesis showed some peaks around the allene group; they also appeared in the crystal structure of the phenyl urethane of 14aa, which could not be refined satisfactorily.

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