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Microwave Assisted Synthesis of Tetrahydrobenzo[b]Pyrans Via One Pot Multicomponent Reaction Using [Et₃NH][HSO₄] as Ionic Liquid Catalyst

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ABSTRACT

The utility of Ionic Liquids (ILs) for the environmentally benign synthesis of heterocyclic compounds found important for due to their unique chemical and physical properties viz. low vapor pressure, recyclability, controlled miscibility, high thermal and chemical stability. The synthesis of 2-amino-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-7,7-dimethyl-4-(3, 4-substituted phenyl)-5-oxo-4H-chromene-3-carbonitrile or tetrahydrobenzo[b]pyran derivatives were successfully synthesized via one pot multicomponent cyclocondensation reaction of aromatic aldehydes, dimedone and malononitrile utilizing triethylamine hydrogen sulphate [Et₃NH][HSO₄] as ionic liquid catalyst under solvent free and microwave irradiation method. The reaction was carried to study the optimization of reaction conditions. It was observed that the reaction was best finished when 20 mol% of [Et₃NH][HSO₄] ionic liquid catalyst, solvent free and MWI conditions are utilized. The ionic liquid catalyst was recycled for three cycles. Our method represents highly efficient, cheap reusable catalyst and environmentally benign greener protocol for the synthesis of chromene-3-carbonitrile or tetrahydrobenzo[b]pyran derivatives under solvent-free conditions.

KEYWORDS: Tetrahydrobenzo[b]pyran; ionic liquid [Et₃NH][HSO₄]; microwave irradiation; green protocol

INTRODUCTION

A vast number of chromene heterocycles with significant pharmaceutical potential have been derived from natural sources. Few of them are currently used in clinical trials or as potent drugs. The dihydropyran type natural product crolibulin and the pharmaceutical HA14-1 showed anticancer properties [1], antibacterial rhodomyrton [2], the gastric antisecretory agent [3] and hyperxanthone E antitumor agent [4]. Cancer cells grow faster,

apoptosis inducing agents act on cancer cells to restrict their abnormal growth and cell division. The 4-aryl-4H-chromenes are potent apoptosis (controlled cell death) inducing agents [5]. Cai *et al* [6] developed anti-cancer drugs using 4-aryl-4H-chromenes. By varying substituents synthetically on the aryl ring, at C-4 they found that 4H-chromene I showed better activity against human lung tumor xenograft (calu-6) [7]. 4-Aryl-4H-chromene with an electron donating group like

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