



REVIEW

1,3,4-Thiadiazoles of pharmacological interest: Recent trends in their synthesis *via* tandem 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition: Review



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ABSTRACT

This review article presents a survey of the utility of a new synthetic strategy for 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives based on reactions of nitrilimines with various functionalized sulfur dipolarophiles which proceed *via* tandem *in situ* 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition and β -elimination of simple molecule from the initially formed cycloadduct. The biological activities of some of the compounds prepared by such a strategy are pointed out. Only the literature reports within the period from 2000 to mid 2012 are covered.

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Introduction and scope of the review

A survey of the literature revealed that differently substituted 1,3,4-thiadiazoles and annelated 1,3,4-thiadiazoles have wide range of pharmacological activities such as antibacterial, antifungal, antituberculosis, antihepatitis B viral, antileishmanial, anti-inflammatory, analgesic, CNS depressant, anticancer,

antioxidant, antidiabetic, molluscicidal, antihypertensive, diuretic, analgesic, antimicrobial, antitubercular, and anticonvulsant activities [1–11]. These important biological activities encouraged several research groups to find out different methods for synthesis of new thiadiazoles using different synthones, such as thiosemicarbazides, thiocarbazides, dithiocarbazates, thioacylhydrazines, acylhydrazines, and bithioureas [4,7–11].

We would like to report in this review the recent developments of a new synthetic strategy for the synthesis of 1,3,4-thiadiazoles. This strategy is based on an *in situ* 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of nitrilimines **A** to functionalized sulfur dipolarophiles **B**, followed by β -elimination of simple molecule from the initially formed cycloadducts **C** (Scheme 1). This strategy proved useful and convenient for synthesis of various functionalized 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **D** (Scheme 1). Such a target

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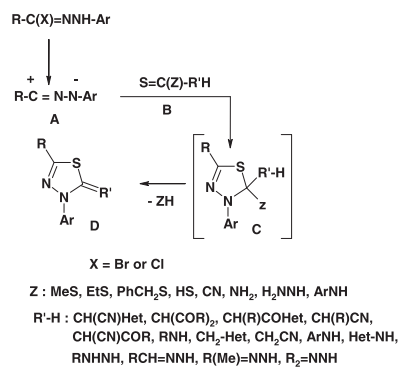


Fig. 1 1,3-Dipolar cycloaddition.

has not been covered hitherto in the foregoing review articles surveying the chemistry of both 1,3,4-thiadiazoles [1–11] and nitrilimines as well as their precursors [12–24].

Regarding the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition, it is a process in which two reactants, namely a 1,3-dipole and a dipolarophile combine together to form a five membered ring *via* the formation of two new sigma bonds without loss of any small fragment (Fig. 1). The 1,3-dipole is basically a system of three atoms amongst which are distributed four π electrons, whereas the dipolarophile is usually an unsaturated system having two π electrons. It is usually a system with either a double or a triple bond. The 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions are usually referred to either as $(4\pi + 2\pi)$ cycloadditions or $(3 + 2)$ cycloadditions on the basis of the number of electrons or the number of atoms in the two reactants, respectively.

Several types of 1,3-dipoles are found in the literature. One class of such 1,3-dipolar species is the so-called nitrilimines of the general formula **E**. Such nitrilimines are 1,3-dipoles readily generated *in situ* from stable precursors. They are usually generated in the presence of an appropriate dipolarophile. If they are generated in the absence of suitable dipolarophile, they undergo head-to-tail dimerization to afford the corresponding cycloadduct, namely the corresponding 1,3,4,6-tetrasubstituted-1,2,4,5-tetrazine **F** as given below.

Several convenient methods have been reported for the generation of nitrilimines [25–39]. These include (i) thermolysis of either 2,5-disubstituted tetrazoles **1**, 1,3,4-oxadiazol-5-ones **2** or 1,2,3,4-oxathiadiazol-2-oxides **3** (ii) base treatment of either hydrazonoyl halides **4**, α -nitroaldehyde hydrazones **5** or N-hydrazonoyl pyridinium salts **6** (iii) oxidation of aldehyde hydrazones **7** with lead tetracetate or ferric chloride and (iv) treatment of acid hydrazides **8** with triphenylphosphine in acetonitrile (Chart 1).

The present review covers only the papers dealing with the synthesis of 1,3,4-thiadiazoles *via* nitrilimines, generated by base-catalyzed dehydrohalogenation of hydrazonoyl halides. The various types of hydrazonoyl halides used in this synthesis are listed below in order of their citations in this review.

I	$\text{Ar}-\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNHAr}'$
II	$\text{Het}-\text{COC}(\text{X}) = \text{NNHAr}$
III	$\text{R}-\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNH}-\text{Het}$
IV	$\text{R}-[\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNH}-\text{Ar}]_2$
V	$\text{ROOC}-\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNH}-\text{Het}$
VI	$\text{MeCO}-\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNH}-\text{Het}$
VII	$\text{ROOC}-\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNH}-\text{Ar}$
VIII	$\text{Het}-\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNHAr}$
IX	$\text{MeCOC}(\text{X}) = \text{NNHAr}$
X	$\text{ROOC}-\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNH}-\text{Ar}$
XI	$\text{PhNHOC}-\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNH}-\text{Ar}$
XII	$\text{ArCOC}(\text{X}) = \text{NNHAr}$
XIII	$\text{Het}-\text{C}(\text{X}) = \text{NNH}-\text{Het}$

Regarding the dipolarophile, it can be almost any molecule having a double or triple bond of the following types (Chart 2). In this review, only cycloaddition reactions of nitrilimines to compounds having the $\text{C}=\text{S}$ double bond as dipolarophilic site are surveyed.

Reactions

Reaction with alkyl dithiocarboxylates

Several reports on the reactions of alkyl dithiocarboxylates with nitrilimines have been published. In all cases, such reactions were carried out by stirring a mixture of the appropriate ester and hydrazonoyl halide in ethanol at room temperature in the presence of triethylamine [40–45]. For example, Abdelhamid et al. [40,41] reported that reaction of methyl 2-cyano-2-(benzoazol-2-yl)dithioacetates **9** with each of nitrilimines, derived from the corresponding hydrazonoyl halides **1** under such conditions, afforded the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **10** in 64–92% yield (Scheme 2).

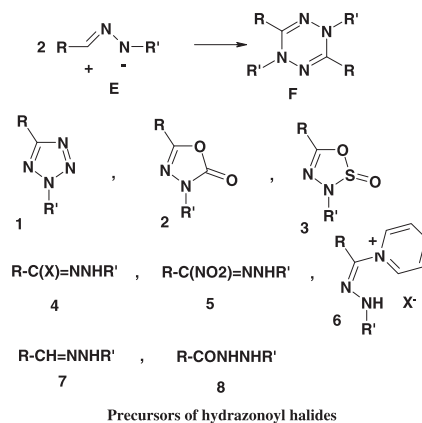


Chart 1

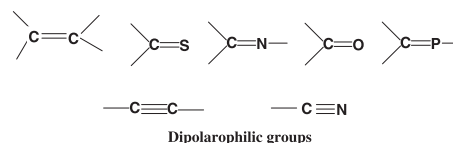
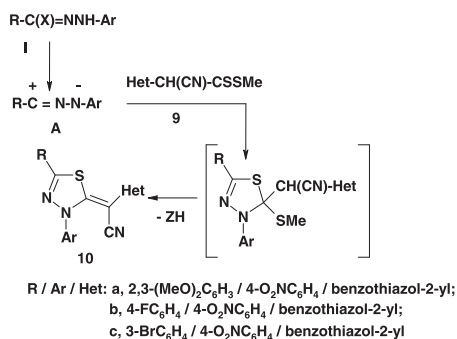
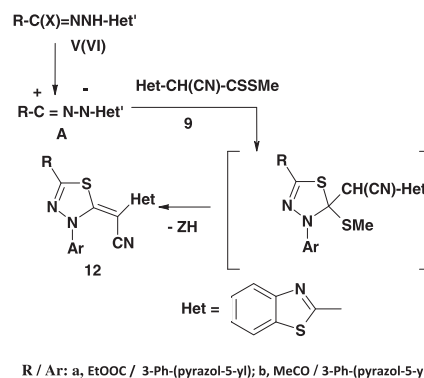


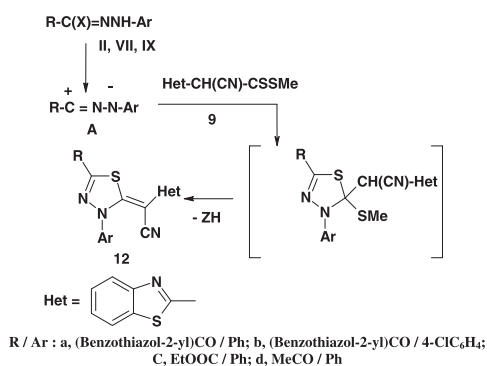
Chart 2



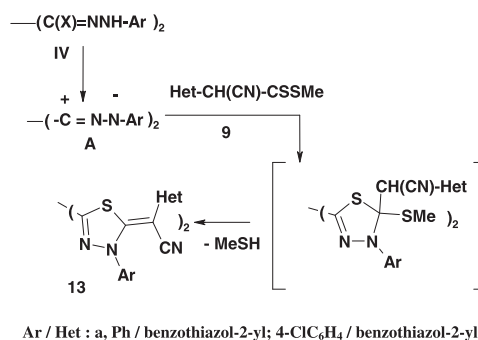
Scheme 2



Scheme 4



Scheme 3

Scheme 5 Ar/Het: a, Ph/benzothiazol-2-yl; 4-ClC₆H₄/benzothiazol-2-yl.

Likewise, the reactions of methyl 2-cyano-2-(benzothiazol-2-yl)dithiocarboxylates **9** with hydrazonoyl chlorides **II** [42] and **VII(IX)** [43] yielded the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **11** in 92% and **12** in 52–59% yields, respectively (Scheme 3).

In another report [44], it was indicated that 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **12** were formed in 55–68% yield when N-het-aryl-hydrazonoyl halides **V(VI)** were treated with methyl 2-cyano-2-(benzothiazol-2-yl)dithiocarboxylates **9** (Scheme 4).

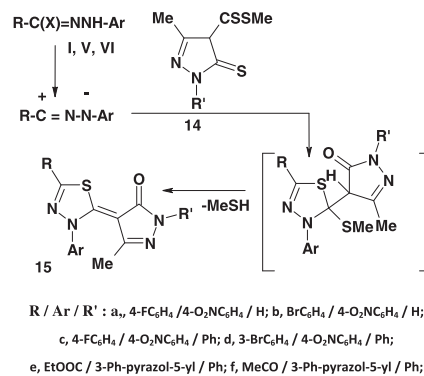
Reaction of *bis*-nitrilimines, derived from the bis-hydrazonoyl chlorides **IV** with methyl 2-cyano-2-(hetaryl)dithiocarboxylates **9**, gave the corresponding *bis*-2,2'-(1,3,4-thiadiazole) derivatives **13** in 83–90% yield (Scheme 5) [45].

Also, the 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **15** were furnished in 70–75% yield by reaction of methyl pyrazole-4-dithiocarboxylates **14** with hydrazonoyl halides **I, V, and VI** (Scheme 6) [41,44].

Reaction with thioamides

Many reactions of thioamides with nitrilimines were carried out by refluxing a mixture of the appropriate hydrazonoyl halide and thioamide in ethanol in the presence of triethylamine [49,50,54–57]. For example, when N-phenyl 2-benzoyl-3-oxo-thiobutanamide **16** was reacted with hydrazonoyl bromide **XII** under such reaction conditions, it afforded the corresponding 3-benzoyl-4-aryl-5-[(acetyl,benzoyl)methylene]-1,3,4-thiadiazoles **17a–c** (Scheme 7) [49].

Also, treatment of the thioanilide **18** with each of the hydrazonoyl chlorides **I** and **II** under the same reaction conditions



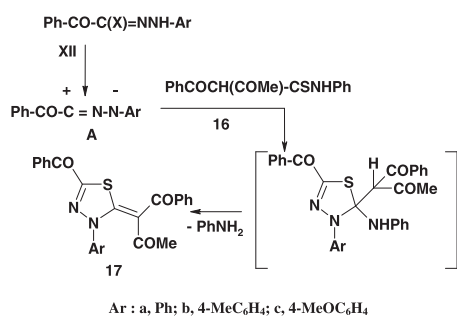
Scheme 6

afforded the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **19a–c** (Scheme 8) [50].

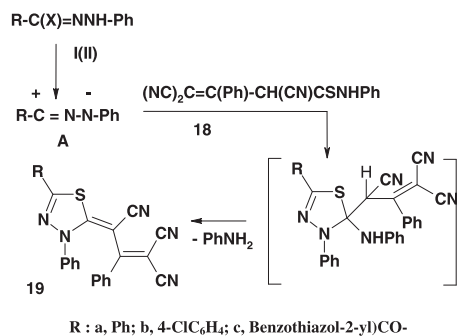
In a similar manner, the thioacetanilide **20** reacted with the hydrazonoyl halides **I, VII, and IX** gave also the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **21** in 62–68% yields (Scheme 9) [54].

Treatment of the thioanilides **22** with the hydrazonoyl chlorides furnished also the corresponding thiadiazole derivatives **23** (Scheme 10) [55].

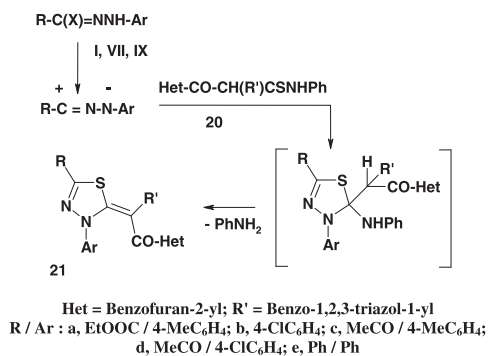
Likewise, the hydrazonoyl chlorides **I, VII, IX, and XI** were reported to react with the thioanilide **24** under the same reaction conditions and yielded the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **25** in 82–90% yields (Scheme 11) [56].



Scheme 7



Scheme 8

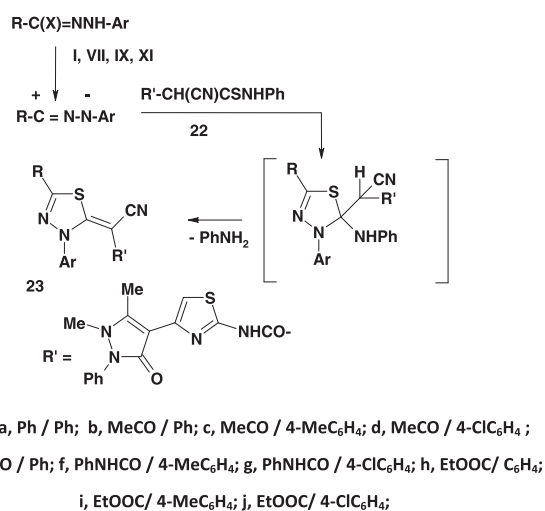


Scheme 9

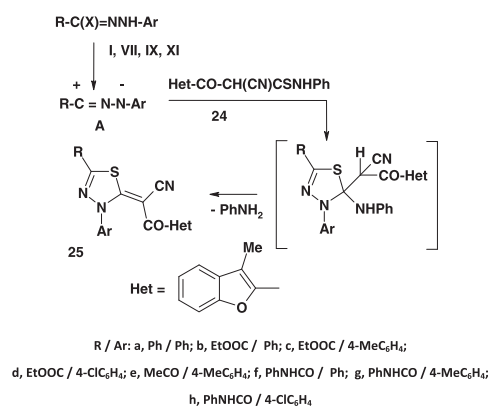
The reaction of the hydrazonoyl chlorides **I**, **II**, **VII**, **IX**, or **XI** with the thioanilide **26** in refluxing ethanol in the presence of triethylamine afforded the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **27** in 73–80% yield (Scheme 12) [57].

In some other reports, several 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives were also obtained by reaction of hydrazonoyl halides with the appropriate thioamides in ethanol containing triethylamine at room temperature. For example, the 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **10** have been prepared in 64–92% yield by reaction of 2-hetaryl-cyanothioacetanilides **28** with the hydrazonoyl halides **I** and **VIII** under such reaction conditions [42] or in refluxing chloroform in the presence of triethylamine [40] (Scheme 13).

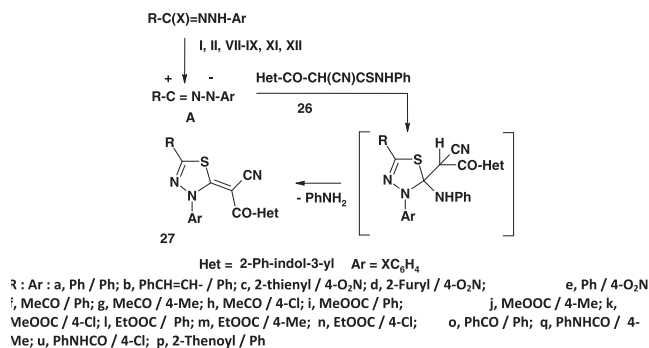
Similar treatment of each of the hydrazonoyl chlorides **VII** and **IX** with the N-methylthioacetamide derivative **29** in ethanol containing triethylamine at room temperature afforded the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **30** in 57–60% yield (Scheme 14) [59].



Scheme 10



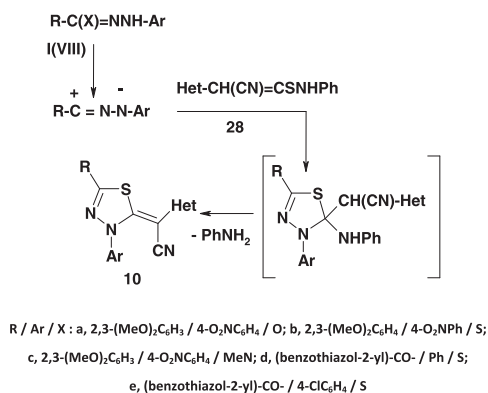
Scheme 11



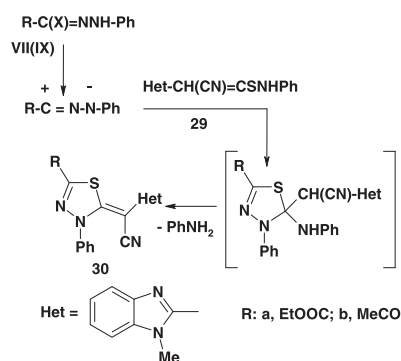
Scheme 12

Bis-2,2'-(1,3,4-thiadiazole) derivatives **13** have been obtained in 83–90% yield by reaction of the *bis*-nitrilimines, derived from the respective *bis*-hydrazonoyl chlorides **IV**, with N-phenyl 2-cyano-2-(benzothiazol-2-yl)thioamide **29** under the same reaction conditions (Scheme 15) [45].

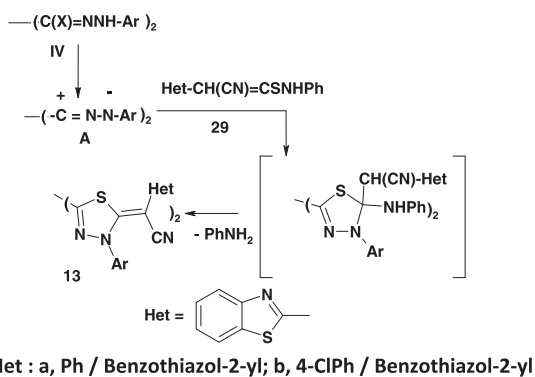
Only in one report [51], reaction of N-aryl-cyanothioformamides **30** with nitrilimines from hydrazonoyl halides **VII** and



Scheme 13



Scheme 14

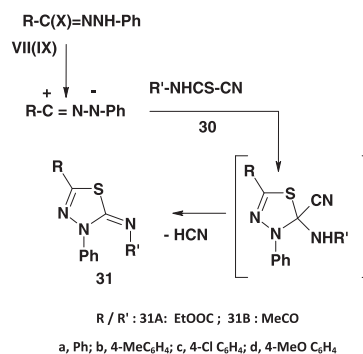


Scheme 15

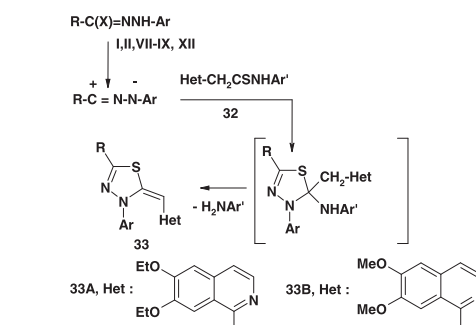
IX, when carried out in refluxing ethanol in the presence of sodium ethoxide, it afforded the corresponding 3-phenyl-5-substituted-2-N-(arylimino)-1,3,4-thiadiazoles **31** (Scheme 16) [51].

Abunada [46], Hassaneen et al. [47], and Abdallah et al. [48] demonstrated that treatment of the thioanilides **32A(B)** each with hydrazonoyl halides **I, II, VII, IX, and XII** in refluxing chloroform in the presence of triethylamine yielded thiazolidine derivatives **33** (Scheme 17).

Similarly, the reaction of thioacetanilide **34** with various nitrilimines derived from the respective hydrazonoyl halides



Scheme 16



33A, R / Ar :
a, Ph / Ph; b, EtOOC / Ph; c, PhCH=CH- / Ph; d, 2-Thienyl / 4-O₂NPh; e, MeCO / 4-O₂NPh;
f, PhCO / 4-O₂NPh; g, 2-Thenoyl / 4-O₂NPh; h, EtOOC / Ph; b, i, EtOOC / 4-MePh;
j, EtOOC / 4-ClPh
33B, R / Ar :
33B-1, a, MeCO / Ph; b, MeCO / 4-MePh; c, MeCO / 4-Cl;
33B-2, a, PhCO / Ph; b, PhCO / 4-MePh; c, PhCO / 4-ClPh;
33B-3, a, EtOOC / Ph; b, EtOOC / 4-MePh; c, EtOOC / 4-ClPh;
33B-4, a, MeOOC / Ph; b, MeOOC / 4-MePh; c, MeOOC / 4-ClPh;
33B-5 a, PhNHCO / Ph; b, PhNHCO / 4-MePh; c, PhNHCO / 4-ClPh;
33B-6, a, Ph / 4-O₂NPh; b, 4-MePh / 4-O₂NPh; c, 4-ClPh / 4-O₂NPh; d, 2-thienyl / 4-O₂NPh;
e, 2-furyl / 4-O₂NPh;
33B-7, a, Ph / Ph; b, PhCH=CH- / Ph; f, 2-Naphthoyl / Ph; g, 2-thenoyl / Ph

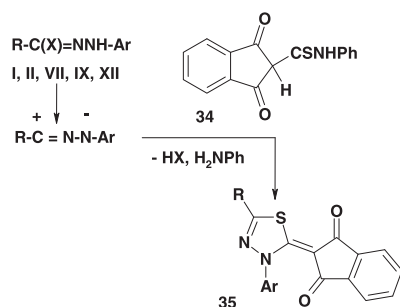
Scheme 17

I, VII, IX, and XII in refluxing chloroform in the presence of triethylamine afforded the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **35** in 74–80% yield (Scheme 18) [52].

Several thioamides reacted with hydrazonoyl halides in dimethyl formamide in the presence of potassium hydroxide at room temperature to give the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives [53,58,60–62]. For example, the interaction of 2-hetaryl-2-cyanothioacetanilide **36** with various nitrilimines derived from the respective hydrazonoyl halides **II, VII, IX, XI, and XII** under such reaction conditions gave mainly the 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **37** in 53–60% yield (Scheme 19) [53].

Likewise, reaction of the thioanilide **38** with the hydrazonoyl chlorides **I, VII, and XI** was reported to furnish the corresponding thiazolidine derivatives **39** (Scheme 20) [58].

In another report [60], it was indicated that similar reaction of the thioanilides **40** with the *bis*-hydrazonoyl chlorides **IV** furnished the corresponding *bis*-2,2'-(1,3,4-thiadiazole) derivatives **41** in 66–70% yield (Scheme 21). In contrast to this finding, it was indicated that reaction of the same *bis*-hydrazonoyl



R = EtOOC; Ar: a, Ph; b, 4-MePh; c, 4-ClPh;

R = MeCO; Ar: a, Ph; b, 4-ClPh; c, 4-O₂NPh

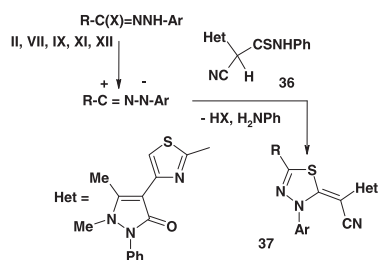
R = 2-Thenoyl; Ar: a, , Ph; b, 4-ClPh; c, 4-MePh;

R = PhCO; Ar: a, Ph; b, 4-MePh;

R = Ph; Ar: a, Ph; b, 4-O₂NPh

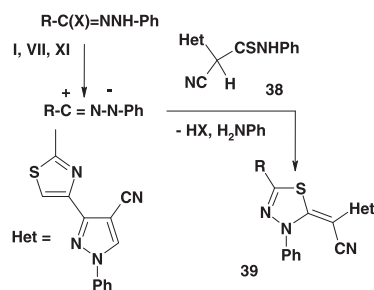
R = PhCH=CH-; Ar: a, Ph

Scheme 18



R / Ar : a, 2-Thenoyl / Ph; b, 2-furoyl / Ph; c, EtOOC / Ph; d, MeCO / Ph; e, PhNHCO / Ph;
f, PhCO / Ph; g, 2-naphthoyl / Ph; h, MeCO / 4-MePh

Scheme 19



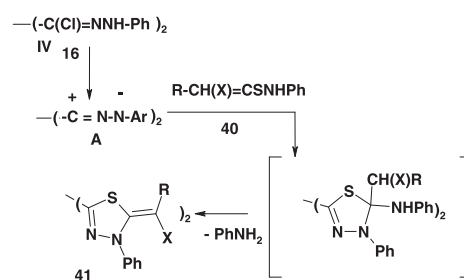
R: a, Ph; b, EtOOC; c, PhNHCO

Scheme 20

chloride with cyanthioacetamide **42** in boiling ethanol in the presence of triethylamine yielded the thiazole derivative **43** (Scheme 22) [60].

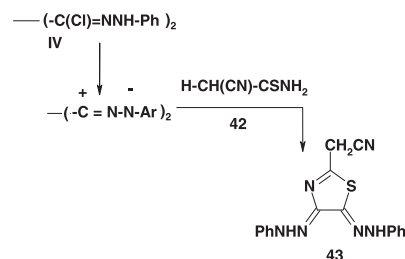
Recently, it was found that reaction of each of the hydrazonoyl halides **I**, **VII** and **IX** with the *bis*-thioanilide **44** in DMF containing KOH furnished the *bis*-1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **45** in 49–66% yield (Scheme 23) [61].

Hassaneen et al. reported that treatment of (2-phenylimino-3-phenyl-4-oxothiazolidin-5-yl)thiocarboxanilide **46** with each of hydrazonoyl halides **I**, **VII**, **VIII**, **IX**, **XI**, and **XII** in DMF containing KOH afforded the corresponding thiadiazoline

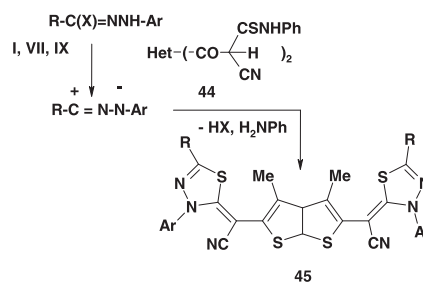


R / X : a, PhCO / CN; b, 2-Furoyl / CN; c, (Benzothiazol-2-yl)CO- / CN; d, PhCO / EtOOC

Scheme 21



Scheme 22



R = Ph; Ar : a, Ph;

R = EtOOC; Ar : a, Ph; b, 4-MePh; c, 4-ClPh

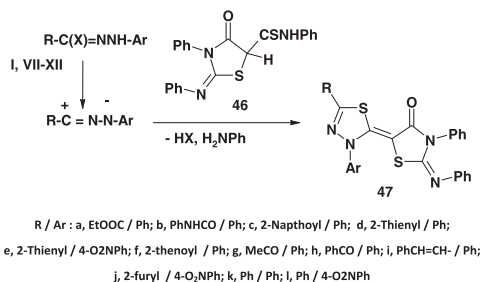
R = MeCO; Ar : a, 4-MePh; b, 4-ClPh; c, 3-ClPh

Scheme 23

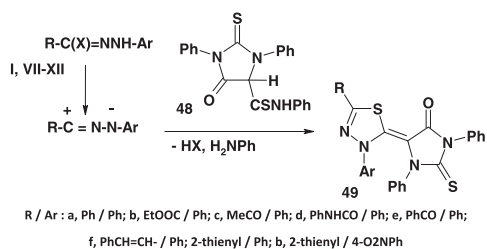
derivatives **47** (Scheme 24) [62]. Similar reaction of 1,3-diphenyl-2-thioxo-5-oxo-4-thiocarboxanilide **48** with the aforementioned hydrazonoyl halides under the same reaction conditions yielded also the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **49** (Scheme 25) [62].

Reaction with alkyl dithiocarbamates

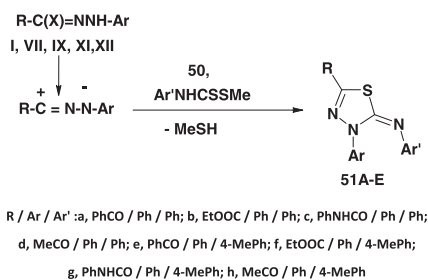
A number of papers have been published on reactions of alkyl dithiocarbamates with nitrilimines. In all of these papers, the reactions were carried out by stirring a mixture of the appropriate hydrazonoyl halide and the dithiocarbamate in ethanol in the presence of triethylamine at room temperature [44,63–69]. For example, 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **51** were readily obtained in 68–85% yield by reaction of diarylnitrilimines derived from the respective hydrazonoyl halides **I**, **VII**, **IX**, **XI**, and **XII** under such conditions with methyl N-aryldithiocarbamates **50** (Scheme 26) [63,64].



Scheme 24



Scheme 25



Scheme 26

In like manner, the related 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives of type **52** were obtained in 55–87% yield by reaction of N-aryl-C-heteroyl hydrazonoyl halides **II** with methyl N-phenyldithiocarbamate **50A** (Scheme 27) [42,66–68].

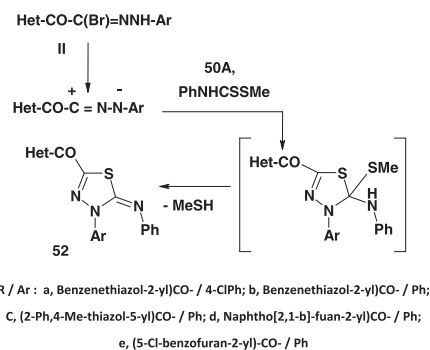
Also, reaction of hydrazonoyl chlorides **V(VI)** with methyl N-phenyldithiocarbamate **50A** in ethanolic triethylamine at room temperature furnished the corresponding 5-phenylimino-1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **53** in 55–65% yield (Scheme 28) [44].

Abdelhamid and Abdel-Wahab [64] and Abdelhamid et al. [69] investigated the reaction of methyl N-hetaryldithiocarbamate **54** with nitrilimines derived from the hydrazonoyl chlorides **I, II, VII, IX, XI, and XII** in ethanolic triethylamine at room temperature and characterized the products as 5-hetarylimino-1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **55**. The latter products were obtained in 50–82% yield (Scheme 29).

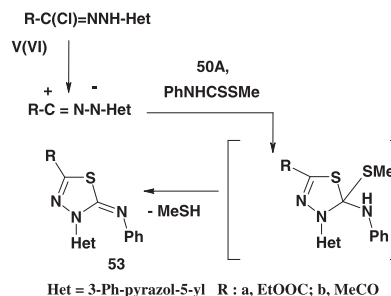
2-Phenylimino-1,3,4-thiadiazole derivative **56** were also produced in good yield by reaction of methyl N-aryldithiocarbamates **50A** with the hydrazonoyl halide **II** in ethanolic triethylamine (Scheme 30) [66].

Reaction with thiourea and its derivatives

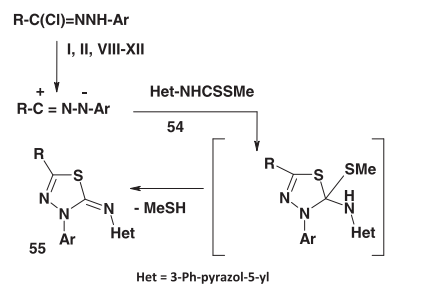
Direct synthesis of 5-phenylimino-1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **58** in 65–82% yield from C,N-diarylnitrilimines, derived by



Scheme 27



Scheme 28



R / Ar : a, Ph / Ph; EtOOC / Ph; b, PhNHCO / Ph; c, MeCO / Ph; d, PhCO / Ph;
e, 2-Naphthoyl / Ph; f, 2-Thenoyl / Ph; g, 2-Naphthoyl / Ph; h, 2-Thenoyl / Ph;
i, PhNHCO / 4-MePh; j, MeCO / 4-MePh; k, EtOOC / 4-MePh;

Scheme 29

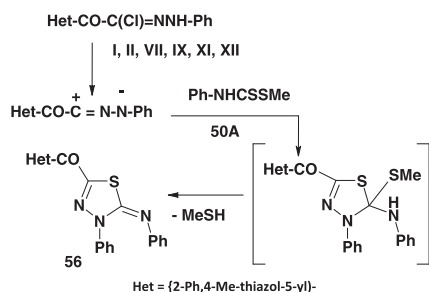
base-catalyzed dehydrohalogenation of the respective hydrazonoyl halides **I** in refluxing ethanol in the presence of triethylamine, and mono-substituted-thiourea and its N,N'-disubstituted derivatives **57A,B** were recently reported (Scheme 31) [40,63,64].

Also, it was reported that N-phenyl benzenecarbohydrazonoyl bromide reacted with *bis*-thiourea **59** in refluxing pyridine and yielded the azine derivative **60** (Scheme 32) [86]. The latter was also produced by heating 2-hydrazono-3,5-diphenyl-2,3-dihydro-1,3,4-thiadiazole **61** in DMF containing triethylamine as catalyst (Scheme 32) [86].

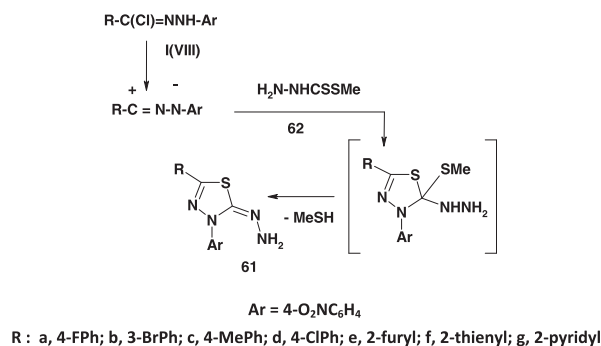
Reactions with alkyl dithiocarbazates

Unsubstituted dithiocarbazates

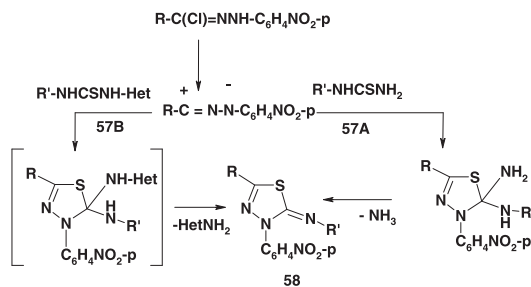
The thiadiazole derivatives **61a–d** were readily produced from methyl dithiocarbamate **62** through its reaction with each of the



Scheme 30

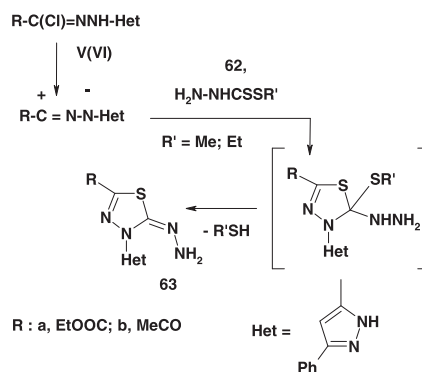


Scheme 33

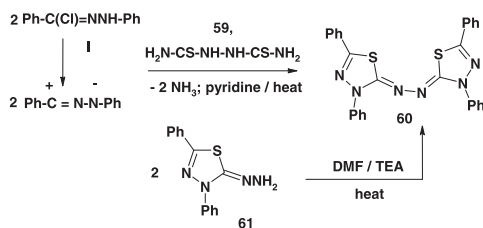


R / R' : a, 2,4-(MeO)₂C₆H₃ / Ph; b, 2,4-(MeO)₂C₆H₃ / 4-MePh; c, 2,4-(MeO)₂C₆H₃ / 4-MeOPh;
d, 3,4-(CH₂O)₂C₆H₃ / Ph

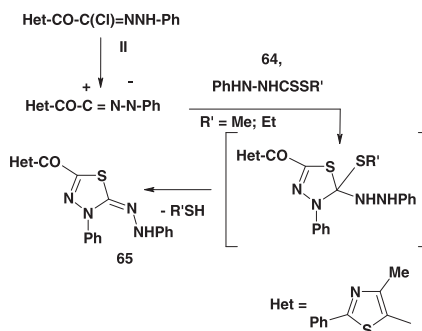
Scheme 31



Scheme 34



Scheme 32



Scheme 35

hydrazonoyl bromides **I** in ethanol in the presence of triethylamine at room temperature [41]. However, the thiazolidine derivatives **61e–g** were produced by refluxing a mixture of each halide **VIII** and alkyl dithiocarbazate **62** in ethanol [70] (Scheme 33). The yields of the compounds prepared were not pointed out, however.

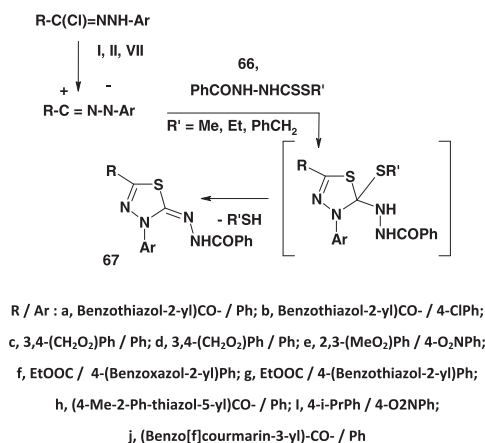
Likewise, reaction of N-hetaryl hydrazonoyl chlorides **V** and **VI** each with alkyl dithiocarbazates **62** in ethanol in the presence of triethylamine at room temperature furnished the corresponding thiazolidine derivatives **63** in 65% yield (Scheme 34) [40].

Alkyl N-aryldithiocarbazates

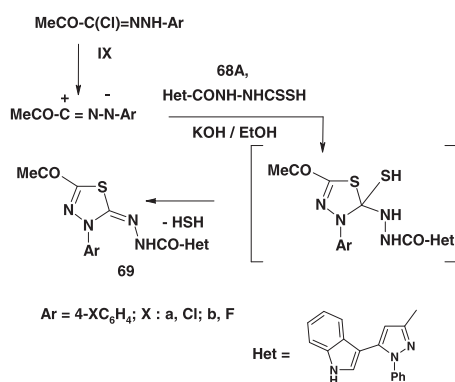
Reaction of methyl N-phenyldithiocarbazate **64** with the nitrilimines, generated from the N-arylC-hetarylhydrazonoyl bromides **II** in ethanol in the presence of triethylamine, furnished the thiazolidine derivative **65** (Scheme 35) [66].

Alkyl N-acyldithiocarbazates

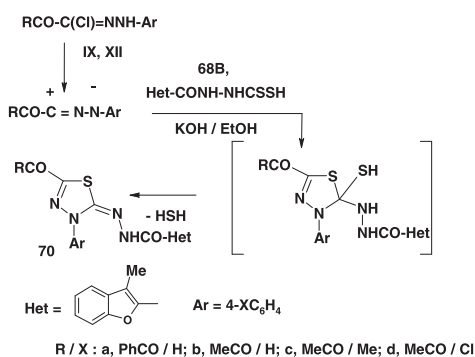
Several publications concerning reaction of alkyl N-acyldithiocarbazates with nitrilimines have been reported. Most of the reactions were studied by stirring a mixture of the appropriate hydrazonoyl halide and the alkyl N-acyldithiocarbazate in ethanol in the presence of Triethylamine at room temperature [42,63–65,71,72]. Only in one report [66], the reaction between the hydrazonoyl halide and alkyl N-acyldithiocarbazate was carried out in refluxing chloroform containing triethylamine. Thus, reaction of alkyl N-benzoyldithiocarbazate **66** with nitrilimines generated from various hydrazonoyl halides **I** [63,64,71], **II** [65], and **X** [42,66,72] afforded the corresponding thiazolidine derivatives **67** in 71–85% yields (Scheme 36).



Scheme 36



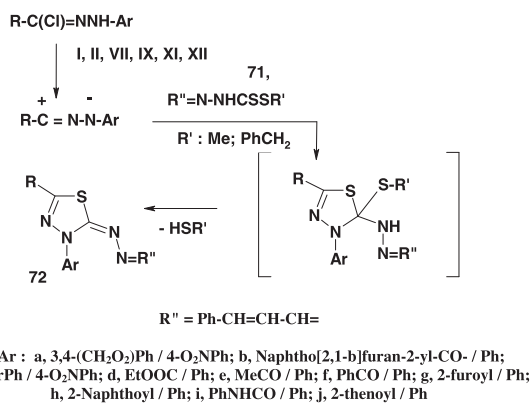
Scheme 37



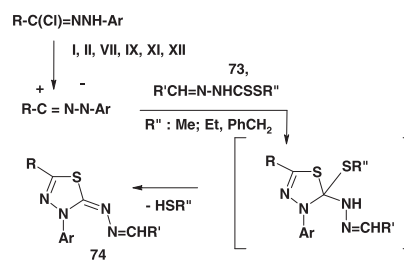
Scheme 38

Furthermore, N-[5-acetyl-3-(aryl)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2(3H)-ylidene]-5-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazole-3-carbohydrazides **69** was prepared in 43–50% by direct heating the potassium salt of dithiocarbamate **68A** with hydrazonoyl chlorides **IX** in ethanol (Scheme 37) [73].

Likewise, reaction of the hydrazonoyl halides **IX** and **XII** each with potassium salt of the dithiocarbamate **68B** in refluxing ethanol yielded the corresponding 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **70** in 72–76% yields (Scheme 38) [74].



Scheme 39



74-1, Ar = 4-O₂NPh, R : A, 2,4-(MeO)₂Ph; B, 4-FPh; C, 3-BrPh; D, 3,4-(CH₂O)₂Ph; E, 2,3-(MeO)₂Ph; F, 4-i-PrPh;
R' : a, Ph; b, 2-thienyl; c, 2-furyl; d, 2,3-(CH₂O)₂Ph; e, 4-i-PrPh; f, piperinyl; g, 3-pyridyl; h, coumarinyl; i, 2,3-(MeO)₂Ph; j, 4-MePh; k, 4-MeOPh; l, 2-pyridyl

74-2, Ar = Ph, R : A, PhCO; B, EtOOC; C, PhNHCO; D, MeCO; E, MeOOC; F, 2-Furoyl; G, 2-Thenoyl; H, 2-Naphthoyl; I, Ph
R' : a, 2,3-(MeO)₂Ph; b, 4-i-PrPh; c, 2,3-(CH₂O)₂Ph; d, 2-pyrrolyl; e, 3-indolyl; f, 2,4-(HO)₂Ph; g, 2-naphthoyl; h, 2,4-Me₂-1-Ph-5-oxopyrazolin-4-yl; i, 4-Me₂NPh; j, 1-naphthyl; k, 7-HO-2-Me,4-oxochromen-6-yl; l, 4-MeO, 5-oxo-furo[3,2-g]chromen-6-yl

74-3, Ar = Ph, R : A, (Benzothiazol-2-yl)CO; B, (2-Ph, 4-Me-thiazol-2-yl)CO; C, (Naphtho[2,1-b]furan-2-yl)CO; D, (5-Cl-benzo[b]furan-2-yl)CO; E, (Benzocoumarin-3-yl)CO; F, (Benzo[b]furan-2-yl)CO
R' : a, Ph; b, 4-FPh; c, 2-thienyl; d, 2-furyl; e, 3-pyridyl; f, 4-MeOPh; g, 4-pyridyl

74-4, R = EtOOC; Ar : A, 4-(Benzoazol-2-yl)Ph; B, 4-(Benzothiazol-2-yl)Ph
R' : a, Ph; b, 2,3-(CH₂O)₂Ph; c, 4-i-PrPh

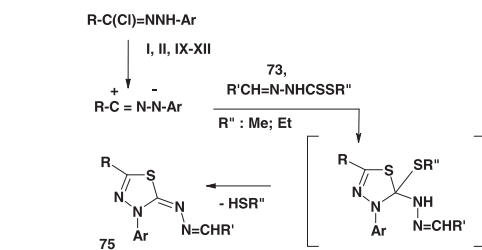
Scheme 40

Alkyl N-cinnamylidene dithiocarbazates

The azine derivatives **72** were reported to be obtained in 65–90% in yields from the interaction of alkyl styrylmethylidenedithiocarbazate **71** with various nitrilimines derived from hydrazonoyl chlorides **I**, **II**, **VII**, **IX**, **XI**, and **XII** in ethanol in the presence of triethylamine at room temperature (Scheme 39). The formation of the latter products **72** was considered to result from initial cycloaddition of nitrilimines to the C=S to form the cycloadducts which in turn underwent elimination of methanethiol [63,67,71,75].

Alkyl N-arylmethylene dithiocarbazates

Several publications covering reactions of nitrilimines with alkyl N-alkylidene dithiocarbazates have been reported. In all cases examined, the reactions were carried out by stirring a mixture of the appropriate hydrazonoyl halide and alkyl



75A, R / Ar : (2,4-Me₂-thiazol-2-yl)CO / Ph;

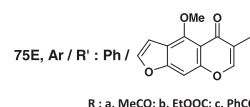
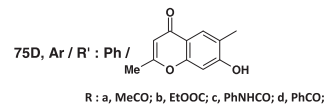
R' : a, Ph; b, 4-MePh; c, 2-thienyl; d, 2-furyl; e, 3-pyridyl

75B, R / Ar : (2,4-Me₂-thiazol-2-yl)CO / 4-MePh;

R' : a, Ph; b, 4-MePh; c, 2-thienyl; d, 2-furyl; e, 3-pyridyl

75C, (2,4-Me₂-thiazol-2-yl)CO / 4-MePh;

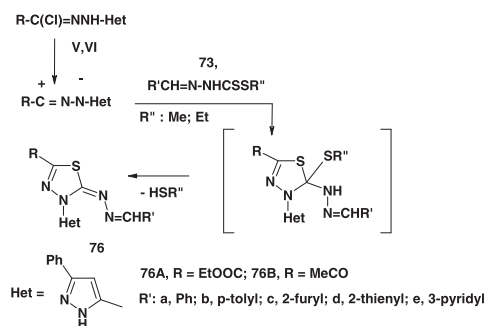
R' : a, Ph; b, 4-MePh; c, 2-thienyl; d, 2-furyl; e, 3-pyridyl



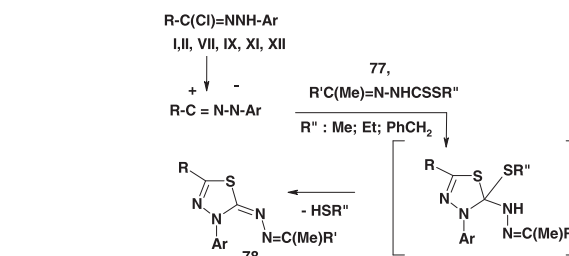
75F, Ar / R' : 1-Naphthyl / Ph

R : a, EtOOC; b, MeCO; c, PhNHCO; d, MeOOC; d, PhCO; e, 2-Naphthoyl; f, thenoyl;

Scheme 41



Scheme 42



78A, R / Ar : 2,3-(MeO)₂Ph / O₂NPh;

R' : a, Ph; b, 2-thienyl; c, 2-furyl

78B, Ar / R' : 4-O₂NPh / 2,4-Me₂-thiazol-5-yl-;

R : a, 4-FPh; b, 3-BrPh

78C, Ar / R' : 4-O₂NPh / 2-Ph-4-Me-thiazol-5-yl-;

R : a, 4-FPh; b, 3-BrPh

78D, R / Ar, (Benzothiazol-2-yl)CO / Ph;

R' : a, Ph; b, 2-Naphthyl; c, 2-Furyl; d, 2-Pyridyl

78E, R / Ar : 3,4-(CH₂O₂)Ph / 4-O₂NPh;

R' : a, Ph; b, 2-furyl; c, 2-thienyl; d, 3-pyridyl

78F, R / Ar : EtOOC / 4-(Benzothiazol-2-yl)Ph

R' : a, Ph; b, 2-furyl

78G, R / Ar : EtOOC / 4-(Benzoxazol-2-yl)Ph;

R' : a, Ph; b, 2-furyl

78H, R / Ar : (2-Ph-4-Me-thiazol-2-yl)-CO- / Ph;

R' : a, Ph; b, 2-thienyl; d, 2-furyl; e, 3-pyridyl;

78I, R / Ar : (5-Cl-benzo[b]furan-2-yl)CO- / Ph;

R' : a, Ph; b, 2-thienyl; c, 2-furyl; d, 2-pyridyl

78J, R / Ar : 4-i-PrPh / 4-O₂NPh;

R' : a, Ph; b, 2-furyl; c, 2-thienyl; d, 2-pyridyl;

78K, Ar / R' : Ph / 1-Naphthyl;

R : a, EtOOC; b, MeCO; c, PhNHCO; d, MeOOC; d, PhCO; e, 2-apthoyl; f, 2-thenoyl;

78L, Ar / R' : Ph / 2-Naphthyl;

R : a, EtOOC; b, MeCO; c, PhNHCO; d, MeOOC; d, PhCO; e, 2-Naphthoyl; f, 2-thenoyl;

78M, Ar / R' : Ph / (Naphtho[2,1-b]furan-2-yl-);

R : a, EtOOC; d, MeOOC; c, PhNHCO; b, MeCO; d, PhCO; f, 2-thenoyl; e, 2-Naphthoyl; g, (Naphtho[2,1-b]- furan-2-yl)-CO-

Scheme 43

N-alkylidene dithiocarbazate in ethanol containing triethylamine at room temperature. For example, reactions of the dithiocarbazates **73** with nitrilimines derived from various hydrazonoyl halides **II**, **VII**, **IX**, **XI**, and **XII** [40–42,53,63–68,71,72,75,76,78,79] under such conditions furnished the corresponding azine derivatives **74** (Scheme 40).

Also, the thiazole derivatives **75** have also been prepared by reaction of N-aryl 2-hetaryl-2-oxoethanehydrazonoyl chlorides **II** with alkyl N-arylidenedithiocarbazate **73** in ethanolic triethylamine at room temperature (Scheme 41) [71,80].

Similarly, reaction of N-hetarylhydrazonoyl chlorides **V**, **VI**, **IX**, and **X** each with alkyl N-arylidenedithiocarbazate **73** under the same reaction conditions was reported to furnish the corresponding thiazole derivatives **76** in 60–80% yields (Scheme 42) [44].

Alkyl N-(1-aryl)ethylidene dithiocarbazates

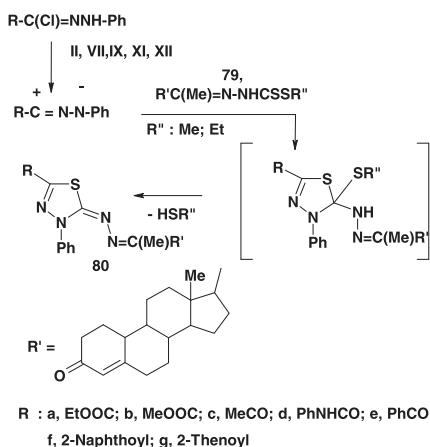
Numerous azine derivatives **78** were prepared in 56–90% yield by reactions of alkyl 1-substituted-ethylidene-dithiocarbazate

77 with various nitrilimines, generated from hydrazonoyl bromides **I**, **V**, **VII**, and **VIII** [40,41,63,71,65,66,68,71,72,77,78,81,83] in ethanol in the presence of triethylamine at room temperature (Scheme 43).

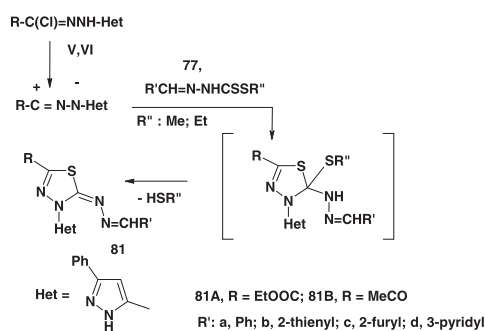
Likewise, 2,3-dihydro-1,3,4-thiadiazolyl steroids **80** were analogously prepared in 60–68% yields by reaction of alkyl dithiocarbazate **79** with various hydrazonoyl halides **II**, **VII**, **IX**, **XI**, and **XII** under the same reaction conditions (Scheme 44) [82].

Reactions of alkyl 1-substituted-ethylidene-dithiocarbazates **77** with each of N-hetaryl hydrazonoyl chlorides **V** and **VI** in ethanolic at room temperature yielded the corresponding azine derivatives **81** in 60–85% yield (Scheme 45) [44].

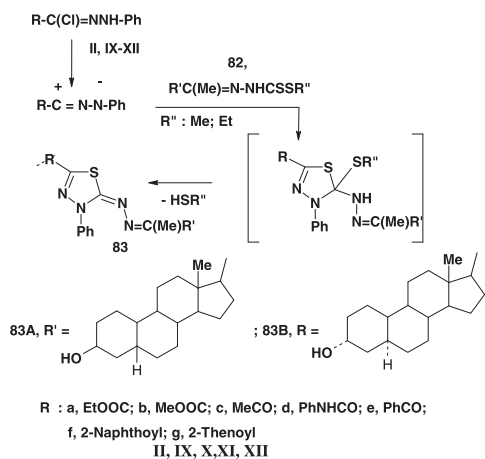
The steroidal dithiocarbazates **82A,B** were also reported to undergo similar reaction with hydrazonoyl halides **II**, **VII**, **IX**, **XI**, and **XII** and gave the respective 1,3,4-thiadiazoles **83A,B** (Scheme 46) [82].



Scheme 44



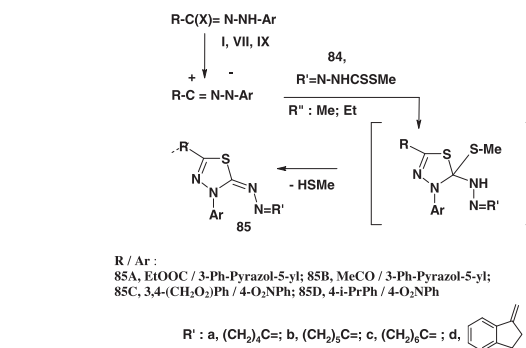
Scheme 45



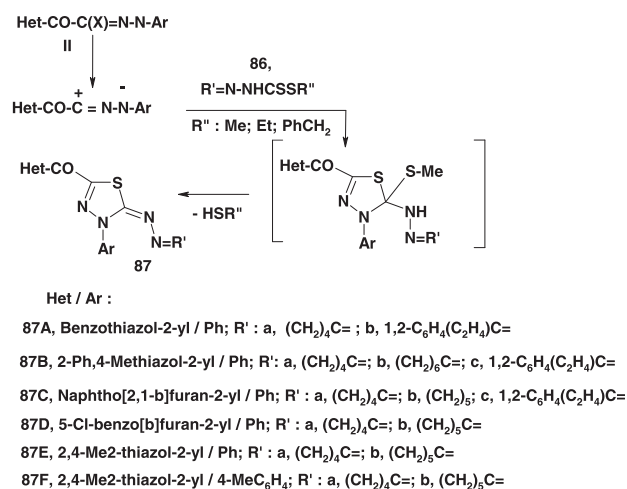
Scheme 46

Alkyl N-cycloalkylidene dithiocarbazates

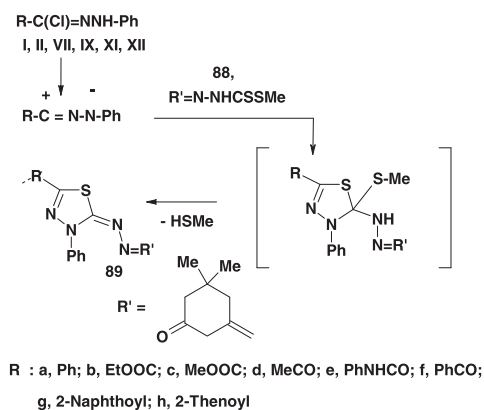
Reactions of nitrilimines with alkyl cycloalkylidene dithiocarbazates have been studied by several authors. In most of these cases, the reactions were carried out by stirring the appropriate nitrilimine precursor, namely the hydrazonoyl halide, and the dithiocarbazate ester in ethanol in the presence of triethylamine at room temperature. Thus, reactions of methyl cycloalkylidene dithiocarbazates **84** with the hydrazonoyl halides



Scheme 47



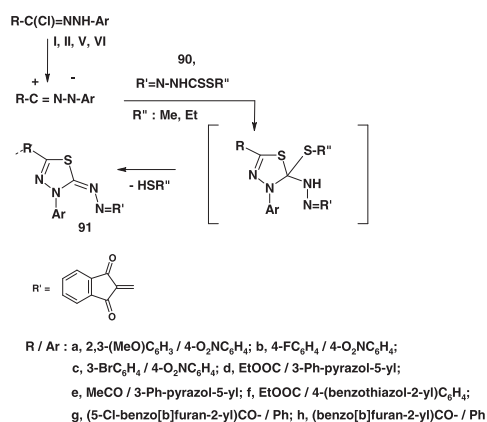
Scheme 48



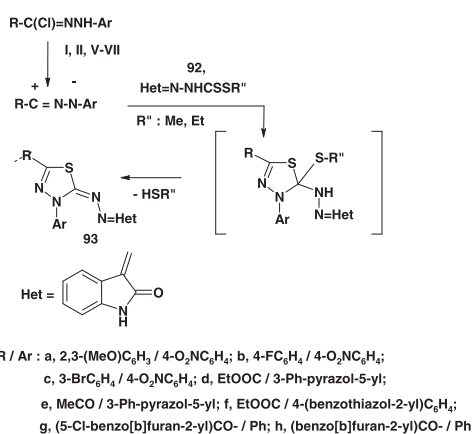
Scheme 49

VII(IX) [44] and **I** [63,71] under such conditions have been reported to yield the corresponding azine derivatives **85** in 50–78% yield (Scheme 47).

Also, the 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **87** have been obtained in 64–88% yields by reactions of nitrilimines derived from the C-heteroaryl-hydrazonoyl halides **II** with alkyl carbodithioates **86** under the same reaction conditions (Scheme 48) [43,66–68,80,83].



Scheme 50



Scheme 51

Rateb [84] reported that methyl dithiocarbamate **88** reacted with nitrilimines, derived from the hydrazonoyl halides **I**, **II**, **VII** and **IX-XII** in dimethyl formamide in the presence of potassium hydroxide at room temperature, and furnished the corresponding azine derivatives **89** in 55–67% yield (Scheme 49).

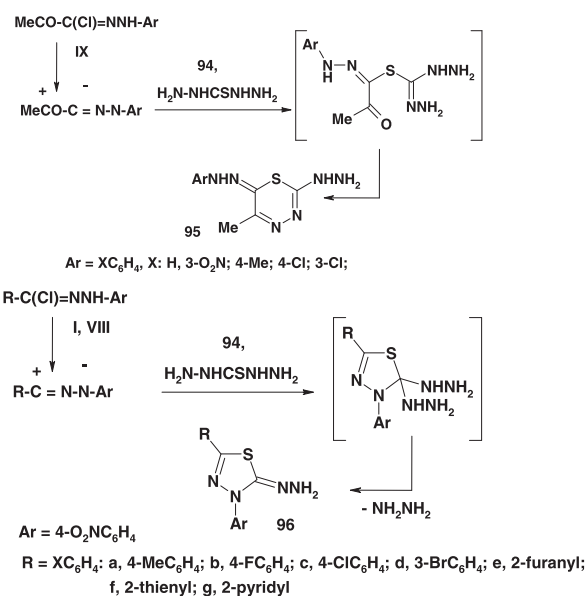
Similarly, other research groups [40,41,44,65,68] described the preparation of the thiadiazole derivatives **91** by reactions of alkyl dithiocarbazates **90** with various hydrazonoyl halides **I**, **II**, **VII**, and **IX** in ethanolic triethylamine at room temperature (Scheme 50).

Alkyl N-hetarylidene dithiocarbazates

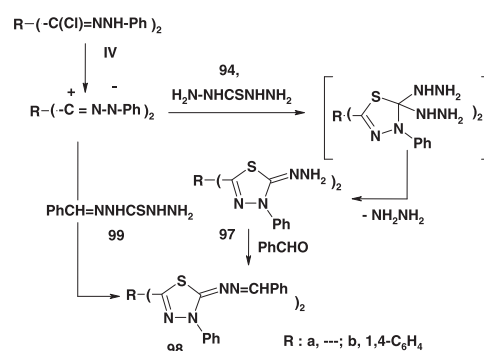
Several reports covering reactions of alkyl N-hetarylidene dithiocarbazates with nitrilimines have been published [40,41,44,65,67–69,79]. In these reports, it was indicated that reaction of alkyl dithiocarbazates **92** with various hydrazonoyl halides **I**, **II**, **VII**, **IX**, and **XI** in ethanol in the presence of triethylamine afforded the corresponding thiadiazole derivatives **93** in 65–85% yield (Scheme 51).

Reactions with carbonothioic dihydrazide

Different results were reported concerning reactions of carbonothioic dihydrazide **94** with hydrazonoyl halides. For example, Sayed [86] reported that treatment of **94** with hydrazonoyl



Scheme 52



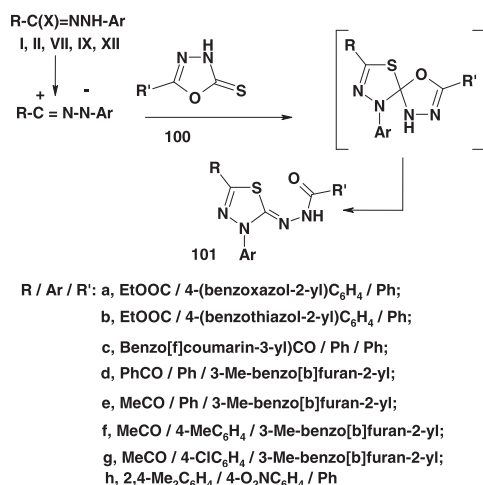
Scheme 53

chloride **IX** in boiling DMF gave the corresponding thiadiazine derivatives **95** in 64% yield (Scheme 52) [86]. In contrast, the same reaction of **94** with N-aryl arenecarbohydrazonoyl halides **I** and **VIII** in refluxing ethanol was reported earlier by the same author to afford the thiadiazole derivatives **96** [70]. No rationalization was given for such difference.

Similarly, reactions of carbonothioic dihydrazide **94** with the bis-hydrazonoyl chlorides **IV** in DMF in the presence of triethylamine furnished the corresponding 2,2'-bis(1,3,4-thiadiazole) derivatives **97** in about 60% yield (Scheme 53) [70,86]. Compound **97** reacted with benzaldehyde to give the bis-hydrazone **98**. The latter was also obtained by reaction of the bis-hydrazonoyl chloride **IV** with 2-(phenylmethylene)carbonothioic dihydrazide **99** in ethanolic triethylamine [70].

Reactions with heterocyclic thiones

In a recent review by Shawali and Farghaly [22] on reactions of hydrazonoyl halides with many heterocyclic thiones having no α -hydrogen, it has been indicated that such reactions afford only the corresponding spiro(heterocycle[n,2']-3H-1,3,4-thiadiazole). More recently, several research groups have reported



Scheme 54

that reactions of N-arylhydrazonoyl halides **I** and **X** with 5-substituted-1,3,4-oxadiazol-5(4H)thione **100** in boiling ethanol [65,72,74] or chloroform [64] in the presence of triethylamine furnished in all cases examined, products that were identified as the corresponding thiadiazole derivatives **101** in 72–76% yield. The latter products were assumed to be formed via the ring opening of the initially formed spirocycloadducts (Scheme 54). The latter products **101** were also obtained by reaction of the same hydrazonoyl halides each with alkyl N-benzoyldithiocarbamate (Scheme 54) [65,72,74].

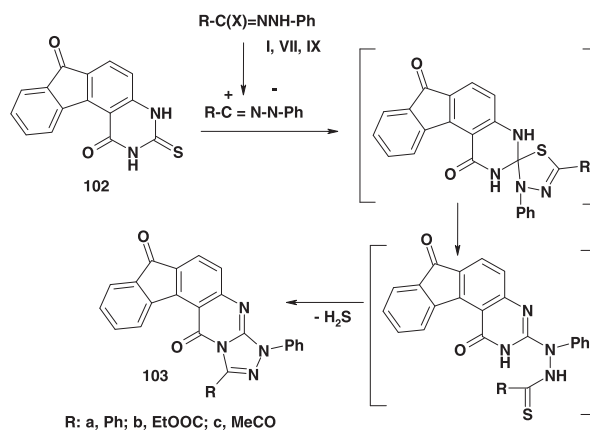
In contrast, it was reported that reactions of heterocyclic thione **102** with hydrazonoyl chlorides **I**, **VII** and **X** in chloroform in the presence of triethylamine were reported to afford the corresponding fused [1,2,4]triazoles **103** in 89–91% yields [85]. To account for the formation of the latter, it was suggested that the initially formed spiro-1,3,4-thiadiazole cycloadducts underwent tandem *in situ* rearrangement and elimination of hydrogen sulfide to give the respective fused [1,2,4]triazoles **103** as end products (Scheme 55) [85].

Biological activity

Many of the thiadiazole derivatives that have been prepared by the foregoing reactions, proved to possess wide range of pharmaceutical activities like antimicrobial, antiviral, anticancer, and molluscicidal effectiveness. In the following, a brief coverage of such activities is outlined.

Antimicrobial activities

Abdelhamid et al. [41] reported that certain 2,3-dihydro-1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **10a,b**; **15a,b**; **74a,b**; **78a,b**; **91** and **93** (Chart 3) possess high inhibitory activity against some strains of Gram positive bacteria, namely *Staphylococcus albus*, *Staphylococcus faecalis* and *Bacillus subtilis* and Gram negative bacteria *Escherichia coli*. Also compounds **74A** [76] and **74B** and **74C** [78], **74D**, **74E** and **74F** [79] and **74G**, **74H**, **74I** (Charts 4–7) [79] exhibited a high inhibition toward *Candida albicans* and *Aspergillus flavus* fungi. Also, 2-N-arylimino-1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives **31a** and **31b** (Chart 8) were reported to exhibit moderate activity against *Candida albicans* [51].



Scheme 55

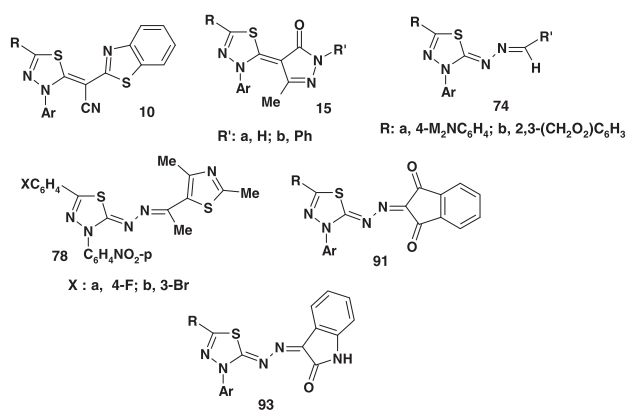
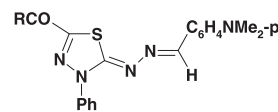


Chart 3



74, R: a, MeCO; b, EtOOC; c, PhNHCO

Chart 4

Antiviral activities

The thiazoline derivatives **69a,b** (Chart 9) were reported to show no antiviral activity [73].

Anticancer and cytotoxic activity

Twelve of the azine derivatives **91** (Chart 10) were evaluated for their anticancer activity. The results showed that some of these compounds possess cytotoxicity against Ehrlich ascites carcinoma [65].

Anticonvulsant and anti-inflammatory activities

Some of the compounds **21** (Chart 11) [54] were screened for anticonvulsant activity. The results showed that **21a** and **21d** were found active in ScMet, whereas compound **21c** was active

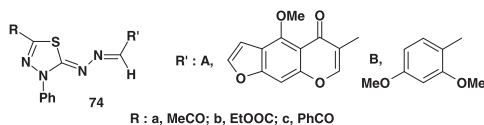


Chart 5

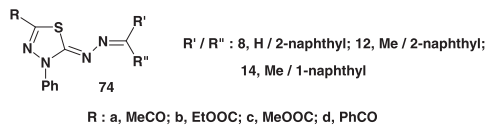


Chart 6

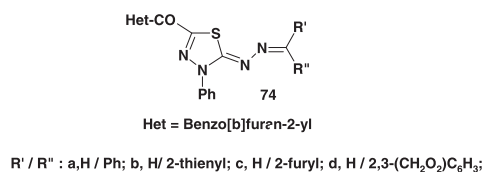


Chart 7

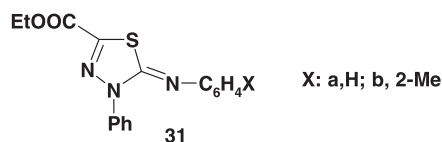


Chart 8

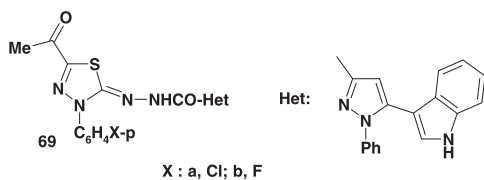


Chart 9

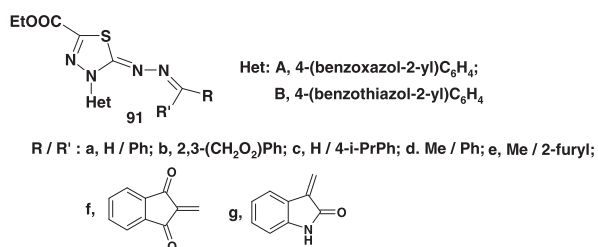


Chart 10

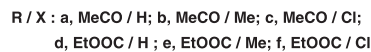
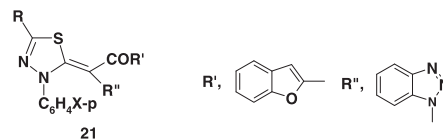


Chart 11

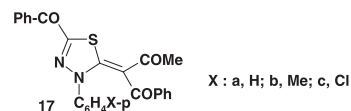


Chart 12

in MES. Also, compounds **21** were found to exhibit antinociceptive effect and the order of their activity is in the order **21f** > **21c** > **21a** > **21b** > **21d**. In addition, compounds **21** were screened for their anti-inflammatory activity. The results showed that **21a** exhibited the most potent anti-inflammatory activity and from structure–activity relationship (SAR) the order is **21a** > **21b** > **21c**.

Molluscicidal activity

The toxicity of compounds **17a–c** to *Biomphalaria alexandrinai* snails was screened, and the results showed that compound **17b** showed the highest activity (Chart 12) [49].

Conclusion

From the foregoing survey, it seems that tandem 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of nitrilimines to functionalized sulfur dipolarophilic compounds followed by β -elimination of simple molecule such as alkanethiol from the initially formed cycloadducts provides a useful and convenient strategy for synthesis of numerous 1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives. The subject of such reactions is still ongoing and undoubtedly will provide new fused functionalized 1,3,4-thiadiazoles of both industrial and biological interests.

Conflict of interest

The author has declared no conflict of interest.

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