

Ring-closing metathesis as a key step to construct the 2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole ring system

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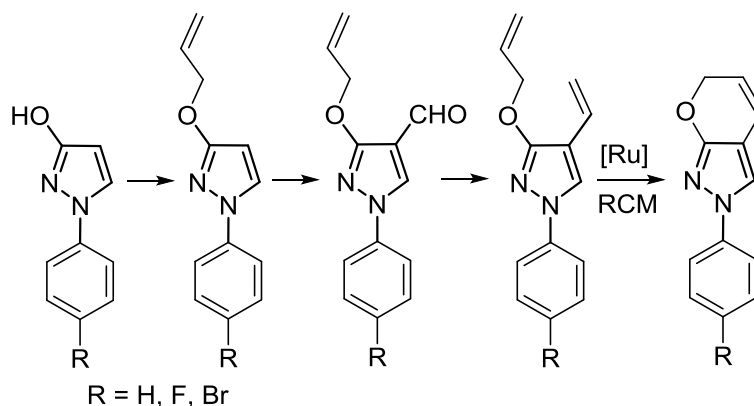
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Abstract

A simple and efficient synthetic route to the 2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole ring system was developed by employing ring-closing metathesis (RCM) as a key step. The required diene substrate for the RCM reaction was prepared by a three-step procedure starting from 1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazol-3-ol. Treatment of the obtained 4-ethenyl-1-phenyl-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1*H*-pyrazole with Grubbs' first-generation catalyst afforded the target 2-phenyl-2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole. 2-(4-Fluorophenyl)- and 2-(4-bromophenyl)-2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole were synthesized by an analogous way. The structures of the obtained heterocyclic products were unequivocally confirmed by detailed ¹H, ¹³C, ¹⁵N and ¹⁹F NMR spectroscopic experiments and HRMS measurements. The optical properties of 2-phenyl-2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole were studied by UV-Vis and fluorescence spectroscopy.



Keywords: 1-Phenylpyrazol-3-ol, Wittig olefination, Ring-closing metathesis, 2,6-Dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole

Introduction

The pyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole ring system (Figure 1, **A**) is present in a wide variety of biologically active compounds.¹ In recent years, there has been increasing interest in the chemistry of its dihydro analogues. The 1,4- and 2,4-dihydropyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole ring systems, which correspond to tautomeric forms **B** and **C** (Figure 1), often appear as the main structural motifs of anticancer,²⁻⁵ anti-inflammatory,⁶ and anti-diabetic agents.⁷ The known numerous methods for the preparation of these compounds are generally based on a multicomponent reaction of an aromatic aldehyde, 3-oxobutanoate, hydrazine hydrate, and malononitrile in the presence of a suitable catalyst.⁸ However, access to derivatives of 1,6- and 2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole isomers **D** and **E** (Figure 1) is very limited, and their chemistry and biological properties remain largely unexplored. Derivatives of pyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazol-6(1*H*)-one⁹ (Figure 1, **F**) are structurally similar and are known as analgesic, anti-inflammatory¹⁰ and antiviral agents.¹¹

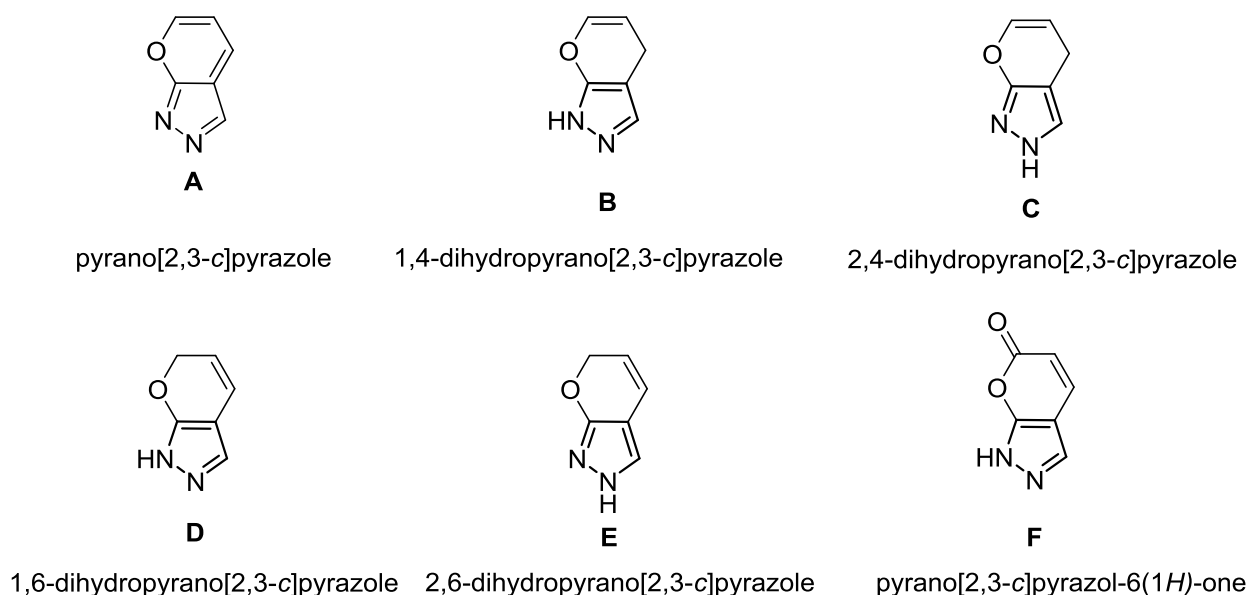


Figure 1. Pyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole and its hydro derivatives.

In the present work, we describe a method for the construction of the 2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole ring system (Figure 1, **E**) via a ring-closing metathesis (RCM) reaction. RCM reactions catalyzed by ruthenium alkylidene complexes^{12,13} have proven to be one of the most powerful tools for the construction of non-aromatic (hetero)carbocyclic compounds¹⁴⁻¹⁶, in particular, oxygen heterocycles.¹⁷⁻¹⁹ For example, treatment of 2-allyloxy-1-ethenylbenzene with Grubb's first-generation catalyst, $[\text{Cl}_2(\text{PCy}_3)_2\text{Ru}=\text{CHPh}]$,²⁰ afforded 2*H*-1-benzopyran in 95% yield.²¹

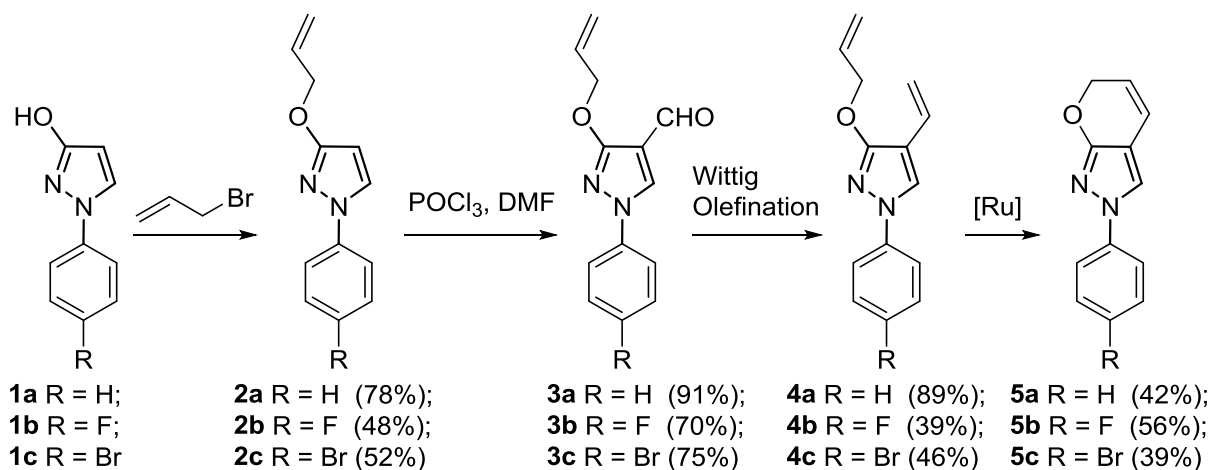
Results and Discussion

The synthetic strategy designed to construct the 2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole ring system employs a diene substrate that contains an ethene unit attached to an allyloxy unit onto the pyrazole core, which can participate in the RCM reaction (Scheme 1). As a starting material, we used 1-phenylpyrazol-3-ol (**1a**), which is readily accessible from the oxidation of 1-phenyl-3-pyrazolidinone.²²⁻²⁴ Recently, we applied this scaffold to

obtain the novel pyrazolo[4,3-*f*][1,2,3]triazolo[5,1-*c*][1,4]oxazepine and pyrazolo[4',3':3,4]pyrido[1,2-*a*]benzimidazole ring systems^{25,26} and to prepare building blocks for the preparation of optoelectronic materials and fluorescent organic nanoparticles.²⁷⁻³⁰

The *O*-allylation of **1a** with allyl bromide in the presence of NaH gave *O*-allylated pyrazole **2a**.³¹ To introduce a formyl group at the 4-position of the pyrazole ring, we employed a previously reported procedure based on the Vilsmeier-Haack reaction.³² Heating compound **2a** with POCl₃ in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) at 60 °C resulted in the formation of the desired pyrazole-4-carbaldehyde **3a** in 91% yield (Scheme 1). The characteristic signals of aldehyde **3a** in the ¹H NMR spectrum were the singlets at 8.25 (5-H) and 9.88 ppm (CHO). The ¹³C NMR spectrum contained the signal of a formyl carbon at 183.4 ppm.

Next, we investigated the conversion of aldehyde **3a** into 4-ethenylpyrazole **4a**. One of the most popular methods for the synthesis of alkenes from aldehydes and ketones is the Wittig reaction, which is based on the coupling of carbonyl compounds with single-substituted phosphonium ylides.³³ To introduce a methylene group, methylenetriphenylphosphorane (Ph₃P=CH₂ ↔ Ph₃P⁺-CH₂⁻) generated by the addition of a base to a solution of methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide or iodide is typically used as an ylide source.^{34,35} For example, the Wittig reaction of benzaldehyde with methyltriphenylphosphonium iodide in the presence of K₂CO₃ in DME provided styrene in 90% yield.³⁵ In our case, the reaction of aldehyde **3a** with methyltriphenylphosphonium iodide in the presence of KO^{*t*}Bu in toluene resulted in the formation of 4-ethenylpyrazole **4a** in 89% yield. The ¹³C NMR spectrum of **4a** exhibited the corresponding signals of the newly formed vinyl carbon atoms at 113.4 and 125.1 ppm.



Scheme 1. Synthetic route to the 2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole ring system.

Having prepared the required diene **4a**, we further investigated its RCM reaction in order to convert the latter into the target compound **5a**. When **4a** was heated with Grubbs' first-generation catalyst in dichloromethane, no RCM reaction occurred. However, the replacement of the solvent with THF gave the desired 2-phenyl-2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole **5a** in 42% yield. The application of microwave heating allowed to shorten the RCM reaction time from 48 h to 3 h, but the isolated yield of **5a** was only 34%.

The heterocyclic compounds of type **5** represent dihydropyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole substructures related to important functional organic molecules with wide biomedical applications. Because popular NMR prediction programs, such as ACD C+H predictor,³⁶ depend on high-quality data with unambiguously assigned resonances, we carried out NMR studies with compound **5a** in an attempt to fully map all the NMR signals for ¹H, ¹³C and ¹⁵N as accurately as possible (Figure 1). The desired results were achieved through a combination

of standard NMR techniques, such as DEPT, gs-HSQC, gs-HMBC, COSY, TOCSY, NOESY³⁷, H2BC³⁸ and 1,1-ADEQUATE³⁹ experiments. The broad-band decoupled ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **5a** showed resonances for 10 carbon atoms. The DEPT-90 and 135 spectra indicated the presence of 1 methylene and 6 methine carbon atoms. Comparison of the DEPT spectrum with the broad-band decoupled ¹³C NMR spectrum revealed the presence of 3 quaternary carbons. The multiplicity-edited ¹H-¹³C HSQC spectrum indicated that the methylene protons H-6 have one-bond connectivity with the C-6 carbon at 68.8 ppm. Moreover, this also revealed heteronuclear interactions between the protons of two pairs of chemically equivalent methine groups (7.36-7.40 and 7.54-7.58 ppm), with their respective carbons, which resonated at 129.4 and 117.6, respectively. The data from the ¹H-¹³C HMBC spectrum revealed long-range correlations of the methylene protons with the quaternary carbon C-7a (at 161.9 ppm) and protonated carbons C-5 (at 119.0 ppm) and C-4 (118.1 ppm). The aforementioned protonated carbon C-4 showed correlation with quaternary carbon C-3a in the 1,1-ADEQUATE spectrum, which was also supported by the correlation of C-3 with C-3a. The ¹⁵N NMR data were obtained *via* a ¹H-¹⁵N HMBC experiment. Both nitrogen atoms showed appropriate couplings to H-3, and in the case of N-2, it had strong coupling with the aromatic protons 2-H and 6-H. The TOCSY spectrum showed that there were two distinct spin systems in the molecule. The ¹H-¹H connectivities within each spin system were confirmed using the data from the COSY, TOCSY and NOESY spectra.

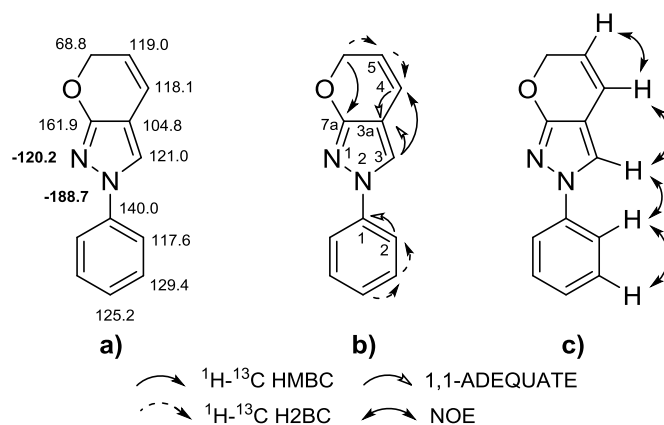


Figure 2. (a) ¹³C and ¹⁵N (in bold) NMR chemical shifts of compound **5a**. (b) Characteristic ¹H-¹³C HMBC, H2BC and 1,1-ADEQUATE correlations are represented by arrows. (c) Characteristic ¹H-¹H NOESY correlations are represented by arrows.

Compounds **5b,c** were obtained analogously to compound **5a**. Although the preparation of the starting compound **1b** was reported in a patent applications,^{40,41} neither a detailed synthesis description nor spectroscopic data of the product were provided. The *O*-allylation of **1b** and **1c**⁴² and the subsequent formylation of **2b,c** produced aldehydes **3b,c** which after conversion to the corresponding ethenyl derivatives afforded the diene substrates **4b** and **4c**. Treatment of **4b,c** with Grubbs' first-generation catalyst resulted in the formation of the target compounds **5b** and **5c** in 56% and 39% yield, respectively.

The optical properties of compound **5a** were investigated by UV-Vis spectroscopy and fluorometric measurements. The electronic absorption spectra of compound **5a** in THF did not show absorption bands in the visible region of the electronic spectra, and it showed an absorption maximum at 310 nm (Figure 3, a). Upon excitation of compound **5a** at 320 nm (in THF solution), the fluorescence spectrum exhibited three peaks at 360, 381 and 395 nm (Figure 3, b). The fluorescence quantum yield (Φ_f) of the solution was estimated by the integrating sphere method and gave a Φ_f value of ca. 1%.

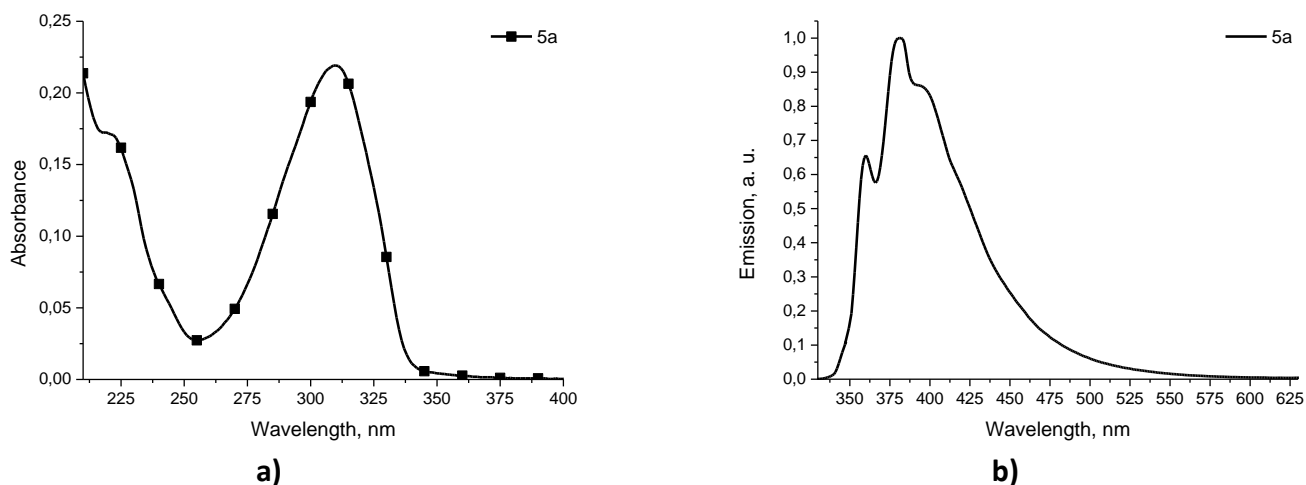


Figure 3. (a) Absorption spectrum of **5a** in THF (0.1 mM, 298 K); (b) fluorescence emission spectrum of **5a** in THF ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 320$ nm).

Conclusions

In summary, an efficient route to access the 2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazole ring system was developed by employing ring-closing metathesis (RCM) as the key step. The structures of the synthesized 2-phenyl-, 2-(4-bromophenyl)- and 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-*c*]pyrazoles were characterized by ^1H , ^{13}C , ^{15}N and ^{19}F NMR spectroscopy, UV-Vis and fluorescence spectroscopy and HRMS measurements.

Experimental Section

General. Microwave reactions were conducted using a CEM Discovery Synthesis Unit (CEM Corp., Matthews, NC). The machine consists of a continuous focused microwave power delivery system with operator-selectable power output from 0 to 300 W. The reactions were performed in glass vessels (capacity 10 mL) sealed with septum. In the case of an open vessel conditions the reactions were performed in a round bottom flask (capacity 25 mL) connected to a reflux condenser. All experiments were performed using a stirring option. For thin layer chromatography (TLC), Merck pre-coated TLC plates (Silica gel 60 F₂₅₄) were employed. The purification of the products was performed using flash chromatography on a glass column with silica gel (high purity grade 9385, pore size 60 Å, 230-400 mesh particle size). The melting points were determined in capillary tubes, on a capillary melting point apparatus Büchi Melting Point M-565 and are uncorrected. The ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{15}N NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 solutions at 25 °C on a Bruker Avance III 700 (700 MHz for ^1H , 176 MHz for ^{13}C , 71 MHz for ^{15}N) spectrometer equipped with a 5 mm TCI ^1H - $^{13}\text{C}/^{15}\text{N}$ /D z-gradient cryoprobe. The chemical shifts, expressed in ppm, were relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS). The ^{15}N NMR spectra were referenced to neat, external nitromethane (coaxial capillary). ^{19}F NMR spectra (376.46 MHz, absolute referencing *via* δ ratio) were obtained on a Bruker Avance III 400 instrument with a 'directly' detecting broadband observe probe (BBO). The full and unambiguous assignments of the ^1H , ^{13}C , ^{15}N and ^{19}F NMR resonances were achieved using standard Bruker software and a combination of standard NMR spectroscopic

techniques, such as DEPT, COSY, TOCSY, NOESY, gs-HSQC, gs-HMBC, H2BC and 1,1-ADEQUATE. The infrared spectra were recorded on a Bruker Vertex v70 FTIR spectrometer equipped with a diamond ATR accessory. The UV-vis spectra were recorded using 0.1 mM solutions of the compounds in THF on a Shimadzu 2600 UV/Vis spectrometer. The fluorescence spectra were recorded on a FL920 fluorescence spectrometer from Edinburgh Instruments. The PL quantum yields were measured from dilute solutions by an absolute method using Edinburgh Instruments integrating sphere excited with a Xe lamp. Optical densities of the sample solutions were ensured to be below 0.1 to avoid reabsorption effects. All optical measurements were performed at rt under ambient conditions. HRMS spectra were recorded with a Bruker maXis or Bruker micrOTOF-QIII spectrometers.

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-ol (1b). An intensively stirred suspension of 4-fluorophenylhydrazine hydrochloride (8.13 g, 50 mmol) in dry toluene/methanol (1/1, 100 mL) was kept under inert atmosphere, and the potassium *tert*-butoxide (16.83 g, 150 mmol) was added in one portion. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. Then it was subsequently raised to 50°C and the ethyl acrylate (150 mmol, 16.36 mL) was added dropwise over the 15 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50°C for 24 h, diluted with 100 mL of water and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous phase was adjusted to a pH of 6 and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layers were combined, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtrated, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with dichloromethane/methanol 100:3, v/v. To yield the 1-(4-fluorophenyl)pyrazolidin-3-one. Yield 6.31 g (70%), white crystals, m.p. 109–111 °C. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3135, 2918, 1601, 1500, 1356, 1221, 1118. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 2.56 (t, *J* 8.0 Hz, 2H, 4-CH₂), 3.86 (t, *J* 8.0 Hz, 2H, 5-CH₂), 7.00 (d, *J* 6.4 Hz, 4H, Ph 2,3,5,6-H), 9.14 (s, 1H, NH). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 29.9 (C-4), 55.9 (C-5), 116.0 (d, ²*J*_{C,F} 22.7 Hz, Ph C-3,5), 118.1 (d, ³*J*_{C,F} 7.9 Hz, Ph C-2,6), 147.6 (d, ⁴*J*_{C,F} 2.3 Hz, Ph C-1), 158.9 (d, ¹*J*_{C,F} 241.6 Hz, Ph C-4), 175.7 (C-3). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -278.3 (N-1), -230.2 (N-2). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -120.8. HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+H]⁺ found 181.0771. [C₉H₁₀FN₂O]⁺ requires 181.0772.

The obtained 1-(4-fluorophenyl)pyrazolidin-3-one (6.13 g, 34 mmol) and FeCl₃·6H₂O (2.3 g, 8.5 mmol) were dissolved in dimethylformamide (50 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C, and gassed with oxygen for 2 h. After gassing was stopped, the mixture was stirred for further 10 h maintaining at 80 °C. Then it was poured into water (100 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 20 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtrated, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with hexane/ethylacetate 2:1, v/v, to yield the title compound **1b**. Yield 4.91 g (81%), bright orange crystals, m.p. 152–154 °C. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3139, 2938, 1556, 1510, 1393, 1230, 1158. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 5.88 (d, *J* 2.6 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.11 – 7.18 (m, 2H, Ph 3,5-H), 7.43 – 7.48 (m, 2H, Ph 2,6-H), 7.58 (d, *J* 2.6 Hz, 1H, 5-H). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 94.4 (C-4), 116.6 (d, ²*J*_{C,F} 23.0 Hz, Ph C-3,5), 120.8 (d, ³*J*_{C,F} 8.3 Hz, Ph C-2,6), 129.5 (C-5), 136.0 (d, ⁴*J*_{C,F} 2.8 Hz, Ph C-1), 160.9 (d, ¹*J*_{C,F} 245.8 Hz, Ph C-4), 164.1 (C-3). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -191.8 (N-1), -135.2 (N-2). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -116.2. HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+H]⁺ found 179.0615. [C₉H₈FN₂O]⁺ requires 179.0615.

General procedure for the allylation of 1H-pyrazol-3-oles giving 3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazoles (compounds 2a-c). The solution of **1a-c** (10 mmol) in dry DMF (15 mL) was cooled to 0 °C under inert atmosphere and NaH (60% dispersion in mineral oil, 400 mg, 10 mmol) was added portionwise. After mixing for 15 min at 0 °C, the mixture was gradually warmed up to 40°C temperature and stirred for additional 15 min. Then it was subsequently raised to 60°C and an allyl bromide (12 mmol, 1.0 mL) was added dropwise over

the 10 min. The mixture was stirred at 60°C for 8 h, diluted with 60 ml of water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layers were combined, washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtrated, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with hexane/ethylacetate 15:1, v/v. To yield compounds **2a-c**.

1-Phenyl-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole (2a). Yield 1.56 g (78%), yellow oil. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3132, 2927, 1541, 1505, 1396, 1236, 985, 936. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 4.79 (dt, *J* 5.6, 1.4 Hz, 2H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.26 – 5.32 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.42 – 5.48 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.91 (d, *J* 2.6 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 6.09 – 6.17 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 7.19 – 7.22 (m, 1H, Ph 4-H), 7.39 – 7.42 (m, 2H, Ph 3,5-H), 7.59 – 7.62 (m, 2H, Ph 2,6-H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H, 5-H). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 70.0 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 94.1 (C-4), 117.9 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 118.0 (Ph C-2,6), 125.4 (Ph C-4), 127.8 (C-5), 129.5 (Ph C-3,5), 133.4 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 140.3 (Ph C-1), 164.3 (C-3). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -186.0 (N-1), -119.3 (N-2).³⁰

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole (2b). Yield 1.05 g (48%), bright yellow oil. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3098, 2915, 1547, 1516, 1392, 1217, 1175, 991, 942. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 4.77 (dt, *J* 5.6, 1.3 Hz, 2H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.26 – 5.31 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.41 – 5.48 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.90 (d, *J* 2.6 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 6.07 – 6.15 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 7.07 – 7.11 (m, 2H, Ph 3,5-H), 7.52 – 7.56 (m, 2H, Ph 2,6-H), 7.65 (d, *J* 2.6 Hz, 1H, 5-H). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): 69.9 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 94.0 (C-4), 116.1 (d, ²*J*_{C,F} 23.0 Hz, Ph C-3,5), 118.0 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 119.6 (d, ³*J*_{C,F} 8.2 Hz, Ph C-2,6), 127.9 (C-5), 133.3 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 136.6 (d, ⁴*J*_{C,F} 2.7 Hz, Ph C-1), 160.5 (d, ¹*J*_{C,F} 244.5 Hz, Ph C-4), 164.3 (C-3). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -187.8 (N-1), -118.7 (N-2). HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+Na]⁺ found 241.0748. [C₁₂H₁₁FN₂NaO]⁺ requires 241.0748.

1-(4-Bromophenyl) 3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole (2c). Yield 1.45 g (52%), colorless oil. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3154, 2916, 1547, 1498, 1385, 1236, 1179, 982, 932. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 4.77 (dt, *J* 5.6, 1.3 Hz, 2H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.26 – 5.31 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.42 – 5.46 (m, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.92 (d, *J* 2.6 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 6.06 – 6.15 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 7.47 – 7.53 (m, 4H, Ph 2,3,5,6-H), 7.70 (d, *J* 2.6 Hz, 1H, 5-H). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 70.0 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 94.7 (C-4), 118.1 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 118.3 (Ph C-4), 119.3 and 132.4 (Ph C-2,3,5,6), 127.8 (C-5), 133.3 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 139.3 (Ph C-1), 164.4 (C-3). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -188.1 (N-1), N-2 was not found. HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+Na]⁺ found 300.9947. [C₁₂H₁₁⁷⁹BrN₂NaO]⁺ requires 300.9947.

General procedure for the formylation of 3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazoles giving 3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole-4-carbaldehydes (compounds 3a-c). Phosphorus oxychloride (1.86 mL, 20 mmol) was added dropwise to dry DMF (1.55 mL, 20 mmol) at -10°C and the resulting mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 10-20 min until the Vilsmeier-Haack complex formed. Then, the appropriate 3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole **2a-c** (5 mmol) in DMF (15 mL) was added to the Vilsmeier-Haack complex and the temperature was slowly raised to 70°C and maintained for 12 h. The reaction mixture was cooled in an ice bath, cautiously quenched with ice-cold water (100 mL), and basified with 10% NaHCO₃ solution. The precipitate was filtered off. The filtrate was extracted with ethyl acetate which was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtrated and then concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with hexane/ethylacetate 3:1, v/v. To yield compounds **3a-c**.

1-Phenyl-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole-4-carbaldehyde (3a). Yield 1.04 g (91%), bright yellow crystals, m.p. 107–109 °C. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3126, 2938, 1665, 1552, 1501, 1391, 1222, 1205, 993, 943. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 4.92 (dt, *J* 5.7, 1.3 Hz, 2H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.30 – 5.35 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.45 – 5.50 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 6.11 – 6.18 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 7.32 (t, *J* 7.4 Hz, 1H, Ph 4-H), 7.44 – 7.49 (m, 2H, Ph 3,5-H), 7.62 – 7.66 (m, 2H, Ph 2,6-H), 8.25 (s, 1H, 5-H), 9.88 (s, 1H, CHO). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 70.2 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 111.6 (C-4), 118.7 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 118.9 (Ph C-2,6), 127.4 (Ph C-4), 129.5 (C-5),

129.7 (Ph C-3,5), 132.6 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 139.1 (Ph C-1), 163.6 (C-3), 183.4 (CHO). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -179.2 (N-1), -118.0 (N-2). HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+Na]⁺ found 229.0974. [C₁₃H₁₃N₂O₂]⁺ requires 229.0972.

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole-4-carbaldehyde (3b). Yield 0.86 g (70%), bright brown crystals, m.p. 134–136 °C. IR (neat, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3126, 2946, 1669, 1564, 1502, 1390, 1224, 1209, 989, 941. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 4.89 (dt, *J* 5.7, 1.3 Hz, 2H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.30 – 5.34 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.44 – 5.48 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 6.09 – 6.16 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 7.12 – 7.17 (m, 2H, Ph 3,5-H), 7.57 – 7.64 (m, 2H, Ph 2,6-H), 8.19 (s, 1H, 5-H), 9.86 (s, 1H, CHO). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 70.2 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 111.6 (C-4), 116.6 (d, ²J_{C,F} 23.2 Hz, Ph C-3,5), 118.8 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 120.7 (d, ³J_{C,F} 8.4 Hz, Ph C-2,6), 129.6 (C-5), 132.5 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 135.4 (d, ⁴J_{C,F} 2.8 Hz, Ph C-1), 161.6 (d, ¹J_{C,F} 247.4 Hz, Ph C-4), 163.6 (C-3), 183.4 (CHO). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -181.2 (N-1), -117.3 (N-2). HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+Na]⁺ found 269.0696. [C₁₃H₁₁FN₂NaO₂]⁺ requires 269.0697.

1-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole-4-carbaldehyde (3c). Yield 1.15 g (75%), bright brown crystals, m.p. 125–127 °C. IR (neat, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3124, 2923, 1665, 1554, 1496, 1418, 1221, 1207, 988, 939. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 4.90 (dt, *J* 5.8, 1.2 Hz, 2H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.31 – 5.35 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.45 – 5.50 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 6.10 – 6.17 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 7.50 – 7.66 (m, 4H, Ph 2,3,5,6-H), 8.23 (s, 1H, 5-H), 9.87 (s, 1H, CHO). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 70.3 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 111.9 (C-4), 118.9 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 120.3 and 132.8 (Ph C-2,3,5,6), 120.7 (Ph C-4), 129.5 (C-5), 132.4 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 138.1 (Ph C-1), 163.6 (C-3), 183.4 (CHO). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -181.5 (N-1), -118.3 (N-2). HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+Na]⁺ found 328.9897. [C₁₃H₁₁⁷⁹BrN₂NaO₂]⁺ requires 328.9896.

General procedure for the Wittig olefination of 3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole-4-carbaldehydes giving 4-ethenyl-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazoles (compounds 4a-c). To a suspension of methyltriphenylphosphonium iodide (1.83 g, 4.5 mmol) in dry toluene (60 mL) under inert atmosphere, the potassium *tert*-butoxide (1.01 g, 9 mmol) was added in one portion. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min and subsequently refluxed for another 30 min. Formation of the ylide can be visibly observed by its persistent yellow color. After refluxing, the reaction mixture was allowed to come to room temperature and kept in an ice bath, followed by dropwise addition of an appropriate aldehyde **3a-c** (3 mmol) dissolved in dry toluene (30 mL). Then the reaction was carried out in room temperature for 3-5 hours, and the progress was monitored by TLC. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched by saturated solution of ammonium chloride and the organic layer was extracted with ethyl acetate several times. The organic layers were combined, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtrated, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with hexane/ethylacetate 15:1, v/v to yield compounds **4a-c**.

4-Ethenyl-1-phenyl-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole (4a). Yield 0.60 g (89%), colorless oil. IR (neat, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3081, 2928, 1564, 1500, 1396, 1235, 1205, 989, 940. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 4.89 (dt, *J* 5.5, 1.5 Hz, 2H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.18 (dd, *J* 11.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H, Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 5.28 – 5.31 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.45 – 5.50 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.74 (dd, *J* 17.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H, Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 6.12 – 6.20 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 6.55 (dd, *J* 17.7, 11.3 Hz, 1H, Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 7.18 – 7.22 (m, 1H, Ph 4-H), 7.39 – 7.43 (m, 2H, Ph 3,5-H), 7.57 – 7.61 (m, 2H, Ph 2,6-H), 7.75 (s, 1H, 5-H). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 69.7 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 108.7 (C-4), 113.4 (Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 117.6 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 117.7 (Ph C-2,6), 125.1 (Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 125.2 (C-5), 125.3 (Ph C-4), 129.5 (Ph C-3,5), 133.4 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 140.0 (Ph C-1), 161.7 (C-3). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -189.4 (N-1), -119.6 (N-2). HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+Na]⁺ found 249.1000. [C₁₄H₁₄N₂NaO]⁺ requires 249.0998.

4-ethenyl-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole (4b). Yield 0.29 g (39%), colorless oil. IR (neat, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3086, 2929, 1564, 1511, 1396, 1226, 1205, 989, 941. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 4.86

(dt, J 5.4, 1.4 Hz, 2H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.17 (dd, J 11.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H, Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 5.27 – 5.31 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.43 – 5.49 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.72 (dd, J 17.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H, Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 6.11 – 6.18 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 6.52 (dd, J 17.7, 11.3 Hz, 1H, Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 7.07 – 7.12 (m, 2H, Ph 3,5-H), 7.51 – 7.55 (m, 2H, Ph 2,6-H), 7.66 (s, 1H, 5-H). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 69.7 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 108.8 (C-4), 113.5 (Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 116.2 (d, ² $J_{C,F}$ 22.9 Hz, Ph C-3,5), 117.6 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 119.4 (d, ³ $J_{C,F}$ 8.1 Hz, Ph C-2,6), 125.0 (Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 125.3 (C-5), 133.4 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 136.4 (d, ⁴ $J_{C,F}$ 2.6 Hz, Ph C-1), 160.5 (d, ¹ $J_{C,F}$ 244.5 Hz, Ph C-4), 161.8 (C-3). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -191.2 (N-1), -119.0 (N-2). HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+Na]⁺ found 267.0906. [C₁₄H₁₃FN₂NaO]⁺ requires 267.0904.

1-(4-Bromophenyl)-4-ethenyl-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazole (4c). Yield 0.42 g (46%), colorless oil. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3083, 2925, 1563, 1493, 1392, 1231, 1181, 989, 937. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 4.86 (dt, J 5.5, 1.4 Hz, 2H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.18 (dd, J 11.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H, Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 5.27 – 5.31 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.43 – 5.48 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 5.73 (dd, J 17.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H, Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 6.10 – 6.17 (m, 1H, O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 6.51 (dd, J 17.7, 11.3 Hz, 1H, Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 7.43 – 7.53 (m, 4H, Ph 2,3,5,6-H), 7.71 (s, 1H, 5-H). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 69.8 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 109.3 (C-4), 113.9 (Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 117.7 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 118.2 (Ph C-4), 119.0 and 132.4 (Ph C-2,3,5,6), 124.9 (Pyr 4-CH=CH₂), 125.1 (C-5), 133.3 (O-CH₂-CH=CH₂), 139.1 (Ph C-1), 161.9 (C-3). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -191.5 (N-1), -119.9 (N-2). HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+Na]⁺ found 327.0104. [C₁₄H₁₃⁷⁹BrN₂NaO]⁺ requires 327.0103.

General procedure for the ring-closing metathesis of 4-ethenyl-3-[(prop-2-en-1-yl)oxy]-1H-pyrazoles giving 2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazoles (compounds 5a-c)

Method A. Bis(tricyclohexylphosphine)benzylidene ruthenium dichloride (41 mg, 0.05 mmol) was added to a solution of an appropriate diene **4a-c** (1.0 mmol) in dry degassed tetrahydrofuran (10 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed under argon atmosphere for 24 h. Since the reaction was incomplete, and the catalyst had become deactivated, another portion of it (41 mg, 0.05 mmol) was added (total catalyst loading 10 mol %). The reaction mixture was refluxed for another 24 h. Subsequently the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with hexane/ethylacetate 6:1, v/v. The yields of compounds **5a** (83 mg, 42%), **5b** (121 mg, 56%) and **5c** (108 mg, 39%).

Method B. Bis(tricyclohexylphosphine)benzylidene ruthenium dichloride (41 mg, 0.05 mmol) was added to a solution of diene **4a** (99 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dry degassed tetrahydrofuran (5 mL). The reaction mixture was heated in a microwave reactor (150 W) to 65 °C for 3 h. Standard workup and purification according to the Method A yielded compound **5a** (23 mg, 23%).

Method C. Bis(tricyclohexylphosphine)benzylidene ruthenium dichloride (82 mg, 0.1 mmol) was added to a solution of diene **4a** (198 mg, 1.0 mmol) in dry degassed tetrahydrofuran (10 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed in a microwave reactor (150 W) for 3 h, under open vessel conditions with an inert gas sparging. Glass capillary for Ar purging were immersed through the reflux condenser into the solution maintaining the inert gas introduction. The solvent was kept at the constant volume. Standard workup and purification according to the Method A yielded compound **5a** (67 mg, 34%).

2-Phenyl-2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole (5a). Pale crystals, m.p. 88–90 °C. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 3116, 2927, 1581, 1502, 1406, 1202. ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 5.03 (dd, J 3.3, 2.0 Hz, 2H, 6-H), 5.56 (dt, J 9.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 6.47 (dt, J 9.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.18 (t, J 7.4 Hz, 1H, Ph 4-H), 7.37 – 7.41 (m, 2H, Ph 3,5-H), 7.53 (s, 1H, 3-H), 7.55 – 7.58 (m, 2H, Ph 2,6-H). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 68.8 (C-6), 104.8 (C-3a), 117.6 (Ph C-2,6), 118.2 (C-4), 119.1 (C-5), 121.1 (C-3), 125.3 (Ph C-4), 129.4 (Ph C-3,5), 140.1 (Ph C-1), 161.9 (C-7a). ¹⁵N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) -188.7 (N-2), -120.2 (N-1). HRMS (ESI TOF): [M+H]⁺ found 199.0864. [C₁₂H₁₁N₂O]⁺ requires 199.0866.

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole (5b). Pale crystals, m.p. 104–107 °C. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm^{-1}): 3133, 2927, 1590, 1510, 1399, 1206. ^1H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) 5.01 (dd, J 3.2, 1.7 Hz, 2H, 6-H), 5.54 (dt, J 9.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 6.44 (dt, J 9.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.04 – 7.09 (m, 2H, Ph 3,5-H), 7.44 (s, 1H, 3-H), 7.48 – 7.52 (m, 2H, Ph 2,6-H). ^{13}C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) 68.8 (C-6), 104.9 (C-3a), 116.2 (d, $^2J_{\text{C,F}}$ 22.9 Hz, Ph C-3,5), 118.0 (C-4), 119.1 (C-5), 119.3 (d, $^3J_{\text{C,F}}$ 8.2 Hz, Ph C-2,6), 121.2 (C-3), 136.4 (d, $^4J_{\text{C,F}}$ 2.6 Hz, Ph C-1), 160.4 (d, $^1J_{\text{C,F}}$ 244.4 Hz, Ph C-4), 161.9 (C-7a). ^{15}N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) -190.6 (N-2), -119.7 (N-1). ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) -117.7. HRMS (ESI TOF): $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ found 239.0591. $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_9\text{FN}_2\text{NaO}]^+$ requires 239.0591.

2-(4-Bromophenyl)-2,6-dihydropyrano[2,3-c]pyrazole (5c). White crystals, m.p. 133–135 °C. IR (neat, ν_{\max} , cm^{-1}): 3134, 2927, 1592, 1495, 1398, 1207. ^1H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) 5.03 (dd, J 3.3, 2.0 Hz, 2H, 6-H), 5.57 (dt, J 9.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 6.45 (dt, J 9.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.42 – 7.50 (m, 5H, 3-H and Ph-2,3,5,6). ^{13}C NMR (176 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) 68.9 (C-6), 105.3 (C-3a), 117.9 (C-4), 118.1 (Ph C-4), 119.0 and 132.4 (Ph C-2,3,5,6), 119.6 (C-5), 120.9 (C-3), 139.1 (Ph C-1), 162.0 (C-7a). ^{15}N NMR (71 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) -190.8 (N-2), -120.5 (N-1). HRMS (ESI TOF): $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ found 276.9973. $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}^{79}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}]^+$ requires 276.9971.

Supplementary Material

NMR spectra (^1H , ^{13}C , DEPT-135 ^{13}C , ^1H - ^{15}N HMBC, ^1H - ^{13}C , gs-HSQC, and 60 Hz 1,1- ADEQUATE) of compound **5a** are available in the Supplementary material file.

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