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## Synthesis of Some Biologically Active Derivatives of 2-Hydroxymethyl-5-hydroxy-4*H*-pyran-4-one II.\* Synthesis and Biological Properties of S-Substituted 2-Thiomethyl-5-O-acyl Derivatives

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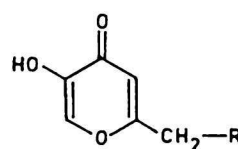
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S-Substituted 2-thiomethyl-5-O-acyl-4*H*-pyran-4-ones were prepared by substituting bromine of 2-bromomethyl-5-hydroxy-4*H*-pyran-4-one by sulfur-containing nucleophiles and following acylation of the phenolic group. Products of this synthesis were active against bacteria and yeast and stimulate the growth of plants.

Kojic acid (2-hydroxymethyl-5-hydroxy-4*H*-pyran-4-one) reveals various pesticidal properties [1]. Our preceding paper concerned the preparation of a series of 5-O-acyl derivatives exhibiting interesting herbicidal and growth-regulating properties [2]. This paper presents a modification of the 2-hydroxymethyl group of some selected 5-O-acyl derivatives with the aim to investigate the change in transport properties in a biological system.

The substituted 2-thiomethyl-5-hydroxy-4*H*-pyran-4-ones (*I*; see formulas and Table 1) were obtained from 2-bromomethyl-5-hydroxy-4*H*-pyran-4-one (*Ia*) by displacement reaction with thiols [3–5]. Thus, 2-bromomethyl derivative *Ia* afforded on treatment with sodium salts of the respective thiols in an organic solvent (tetrahydrofuran, dimethylformamide) the corresponding sulfides *Ib*–*Il*. Heteroaryl sulfides *Ij*–*In* were reacted in aqueous ethanol in the presence of potassium hydroxide. The 2-sulfomethyl derivative *Io* was synthesized from 2-bromomethyl derivative *Ia* and sodium sulfite.

Sommelet–Hauser rearrangement [6] is used for skeletal modification of 4*H*-pyran-4-one into 3-methylthiomethyl derivatives, but only 2-methylthiomethyl derivative *Ib* and unidentified tars instead of the expected compounds *IIla*, *IIlb* were obtained when reacting 5-O-acylkojates with dimethyl sulfide.



*I*

R

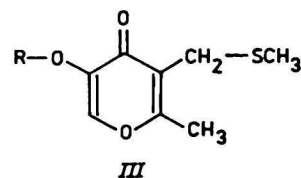
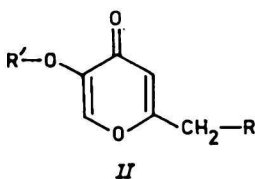
<i>a</i>	Br
<i>b</i>	CH <sub>3</sub> S
<i>c</i>	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHS
<i>d</i>	CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> S
<i>e</i>	CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> S
<i>f</i>	CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>7</sub> S
<i>g</i>	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OCOCH <sub>2</sub> S
<i>h</i>	HO(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> S
<i>i</i>	cyclohexylthio
<i>j</i>	2-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-5-ylthio
<i>k</i>	2-benzimidazolylthio
<i>l</i>	2-benzthiazolylthio
<i>m</i>	2-pyridylthio
<i>n</i>	2-pyridylthio <i>N</i> -oxide
<i>o</i>	SO <sub>3</sub> Na

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**Table 1.** Characterization and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Spectral Data ( $\delta$ ) of the Substituted 2-Thiomethyl-5-hydroxy-4H-pyran-4-ones

Compound	Formula $M_r$	Yield %	M.p. °C	H-3 (s)	H-6 (s)	CH <sub>2</sub> (s)	Other signals
<i>lb</i> <sup>a</sup>	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S 172.2	52	142—144	6.45	7.86	3.50	2.14 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> )
<i>lc</i>	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S 200.2	75	72—74	6.44	8.01	3.71	1.27 (d, 6H, 2 x CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.1 (q, 1H, CH)
<i>ld</i>	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S 200.2	52	76—77	6.41	8.01	3.66	0.97 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 1.04 (q, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>le</i>	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S 228.3	78	85—87	6.41	7.98	3.64	0.86 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 1.32 (m, 4H, 2 x CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>lf</i>	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S 270.4	82	65—70	6.42	7.83	3.51	0.87 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 1.25 (m, 12H, 6 x CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>lg</i>	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S 244.3	65	40—44	6.41	8.01	3.80	1.25 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.39 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>lh</i>	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S 202.2	75	54—55	6.38	8.05	3.67	2.58 (t, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> ), 3.51 (m, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>li</i>	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S 272.4	85	75—80	6.38	7.84	3.56	1.23—2.67 (m, 11H, cyclohexyl)
<i>lj</i>	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> 256.3	75	128—130	6.52	8.01	4.51	2.74 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> )
<i>lk</i>	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>9</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S 273.3	75	103—104	6.58	7.96	4.58	7.20, 7.45 (q, 4H, H <sub>arom</sub> )
<i>ll</i>	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>9</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub> 291.3	68	139—140	6.62	8.02	4.64	7.45—8.00 (m, 4H, H <sub>arom</sub> )
<i>lm</i>	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> S 235.3	72	85—88	6.65	7.99	4.42	7.15—7.67 (m, 3H, H <sub>arom</sub> )
<i>ln</i>	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> S 251.3	78	225—228	6.55	8.05	4.29	7.23—8.36 (m, 4H, H <sub>arom</sub> )
<i>lo</i>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>6</sub> SNa · 2H <sub>2</sub> O 264.2	52	176—180	6.31	7.98	3.68	3.69 (bs, OH – exchangeable proton)

a) Mass spectrum,  $m/z$ : 172 ( $M^+$ ).

R

	R	R'
<i>a</i>	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHS	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>b</i>	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHS	2,4-Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>c</i>	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHS	Cl <sub>2</sub> CHCO
<i>d</i>	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHS	2,3,6-Cl <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>e</i>	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHS	2,4-Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> )CO
<i>f</i>	CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> S	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>g</i>	CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> S	2,4-Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>h</i>	CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>7</sub> S	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>i</i>	CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>7</sub> S	2,4-Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>j</i>	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OCOCH <sub>2</sub> S	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>k</i>	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OCOCH <sub>2</sub> S	2,4-Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>l</i>	2-methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-5-ylthio	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>m</i>	2-pyridylthio	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>n</i>	2-pyridylthio	2,4-Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH(CH <sub>3</sub> )CO
<i>o</i>	H	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>p</i>	H	2,4-Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO

<i>a</i>	2-CH <sub>3</sub> -4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO
<i>b</i>	2,4-Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> CO

Phenolic group of sulfide derivatives was acylated with the appropriate acyl chlorides in acetone in the presence of triethylamine as a hydrogen chloride acceptor. Synthesis of substituted 2-thiomethyl-5-O-acyl-4H-pyran-4-ones *IIa–IIn* proceeded in high yields (Table 2). Dethio derivatives *IIo*, *IIp* were prepared from allomaltol by analogous procedure with the aim to examine the relation of the structure to biological effect.

Characteristic singlets of H-3 and H-6 protons in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (Tables 1 and 2) were at  $\delta = 6.31–6.65$  and  $7.78–8.48$ , respectively. A broader interval for signals of thiomethyl group at

$\delta = 3.42\text{--}4.64$  is due to a different nature of substituents. Selected IR spectral data are in Table 3.

The antibacterial activity was tested against gram-positive and gram-negative strains (Table 4). Testing the selected substances against phytopathogenic moulds we obtained the follow-

ing  $ID_{50}/(g\text{ mol}^{-1})$  values: *A. alternata*:  $Id\ 1.41 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $Ie\ 1.78 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $If\ 1.12 \times 10^{-4}$ ; *B. cinerea*:  $Id\ 7.08 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $Ie\ 1.12 \times 10^{-4}$ ; *F. nivale*:  $Id\ 7.08 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $Ie\ 7.08 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $If\ 5.01 \times 10^{-5}$ .

Derivatives *Ila*–*Ilp* tested for herbicidal and growth-regulating effects by standard methods showed activity comparable with references

**Table 2.** Characterization and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Spectral Data ( $\delta$ ) of the Substituted 2-Thiomethyl-5-acyloxy-4*H*-pyran-4-ones

Compound	Formula $M_r$	Yield %	M.p. °C	H-3	H-6	CH <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>arom</sub>	Other signals
<i>Ila</i>	$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{ClO}_5\text{S}$ 382.9	68	Solidifying oil	6.49	8.31	3.75	7.13–7.19 (m, 3H)	1.25 (d, 6H, 2 x CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.31 (m, 1H, CH), 2.26 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> )
<i>Ilb</i>	$\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_5\text{S}$ 403.3	72	Solidifying oil	6.50	8.33	3.70	7.13–7.14 (m, 3H)	1.25 (d, 6H, 2 x CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.28 (m, 1H, CH), 5.2 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>Ilc</i>	$\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ 311.2	51	Solidifying oil	6.64	7.85	3.60		1.31 (d, 6H, 2 x CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.11 (q, 1H, CH), 6.01 (s, 1H, CH)
<i>Ild</i>	$\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{Cl}_3\text{O}_4\text{S}$ 407.7	85	74–77	6.56	8.48	3.78	7.61–7.79 (d, 2H)	1.34 (d, 6H, 2 x CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.11 (m, 1H, CH)
<i>Ile</i>	$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_5\text{S}$ 417.3	62	65–70	6.56	7.91	3.76	7.61–7.79 (d, 2H)	1.29 (d, 6H, 2 x CH <sub>3</sub> ), 1.73 (d, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.07 (q, 1H, CH)
<i>Ilf</i>	$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{ClO}_5\text{S}$ 382.9	65	69–71	6.48	8.33	3.72	7.14–7.19 (m, 3H)	0.98 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 1.59 (m, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> ), 2.26 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> )
<i>Ilg</i>	$\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_5\text{S}$ 403.3	75	Solidifying oil	6.50	8.33	3.72	7.01–8.01 (m, 3H)	0.97 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 1.62 (m, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> ), 5.21 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>Ilh</i>	$\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{29}\text{ClO}_5\text{S}$ 452.9	78	70	6.49	7.78	3.51	6.63–7.12 (m, 3H)	1.48–1.62 (m, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> ), 0.88 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.99 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>Ili</i>	$\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_5\text{S}$ 461.4	74	71–75	6.50	7.85	3.50	6.63–7.12 (m, 3H)	0.92 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 1.48–1.62 (m, 14H, 7 x CH <sub>2</sub> ), 4.99 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>Ilj</i>	$\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{ClO}_7\text{S}$ 426.9	59	60–65	6.48	8.32	3.84	7.19 (m, 3H)	1.24 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.26 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.42 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> ), 4.14 (q, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>Ilk</i>	$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_7\text{S}$ 447.3	61	Solidifying oil	6.49	8.34	3.42		1.24 (t, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.82 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> ), 4.15 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> ), 5.2 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>III</i>	$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_5\text{S}$ 438.1	83	60–62	6.60	8.01	3.84		2.25 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.75 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.09 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> ), 4.56 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>IIm</i>	$\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClNO}_5\text{S}$ 417.9	78	97–99	6.56	8.30	4.47	7.38–8.52 (m, 7H, H <sub>arom</sub> , H <sub>heteroarom</sub> )	2.24 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.07 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>IIn</i>	$\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{15}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_5\text{S}$ 452.3	78	90–95	6.52	7.99	4.42	7.00–7.99 (m, 7H, H <sub>arom</sub> , H <sub>heteroarom</sub> )	1.67 (d, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.95 (q, 1H, CH)
<i>Ilo</i>	$\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClO}_5$ 308.7	82	110–113	6.31	8.24	–		2.26 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.35 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.08 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )
<i>Ilp</i>	$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_5$ 329.1	79	68–70	6.32	8.26	–		2.35 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.20 (s, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> )

**Table 3.** Infrared Spectra ( $\bar{\nu}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of Selected Compounds

Compound	$\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$	$\nu(\text{C}=\text{C})$
<i>Ic</i>	1650	1610
<i>Ig</i>	1730, 1650	1625
<i>Ij</i>	1650	1610
<i>Im</i>	1655	1630
<i>Io</i>	1637	1618
<i>Ilg</i>	1800, 1655	1625
<i>Ili</i>	1740, 1660	1605
<i>Ilk</i>	1780, 1770, 1725	1640
<i>III</i>	1740, 1795	1625
<i>IIIm</i>	1790, 1740	1630
<i>IIIn</i>	1780, 1670	1630
<i>Ilp</i>	1750, 1650	1610

MCPA (2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid) and Fluoazifop-P ((2*R*)-(4-(5-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyl-oxy)phenoxy)propionic acid) [7].

## EXPERIMENTAL

The melting points are corrected, the  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of deuteriochloroform solutions of the prepared compounds containing tetramethylsilane as internal reference were measured with a Jeol IX-100 apparatus, the IR spectra were taken with a spectrophotometer PU 9800 FTIR (Philips Analytical) in KBr pellets and the mass spectra were run with an instrument 902 S (AEI, Manchester). Samples of products for analyses were dried over  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  at room temperature and pressure 60 Pa, others at room temperature in air. Solvents were removed by distillation under reduced pressure (2–2.5 kPa) at 25–30 °C. The reaction course was monitored by thin-layer chromatography on Silufol sheets (Kavalier, Votice) with detection by  $\text{UV}_{254}$  light or with iodine vapours. Silica gel (60–120  $\mu\text{m}$ ) in the carrier to substance ratio 30 : 1 was used for column chromatography. Deviation between the calculated and found values of analysis did not exceed 0.4 %.

Microdilution test with a binary dilution was employed for the basic antimicrobial and anti-yeast tests on a peptone culture medium at 37 °C with evaluation of turbidity after 24 h or on a Sabouraud soil at 24 °C with the evaluation after 48 h for bacteria and yeast, respectively. The inhibitory effect was judged on the basis of MIC exerting a 100 % inhibition against control. The fungicidal effect was estimated by a plate dilution method at cultivation temperatures 24 or 21 °C (*F. nivale*) on a 2 % glucose agar or 2 % malt wort agar (*F. nivale*). The curves were constructed from diameters of the growing colony.  $\text{ID}_{50}$  (concentration of a substance causing a 50 % inhibition against control) was estimated graphically [8]. The herbi-

**Table 4.** Antibacterial and Anti-yeast Activities (MIC/(mol  $\text{dm}^{-3}$ ))

Microorganism	<i>Id</i>	<i>Ie</i>	<i>If</i>	<i>Ii</i>
<i>B. subtilis</i>	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.56 \times 10^{-5}$	–
<i>S. subflava</i>	$5 \times 10^{-4}$	$5 \times 10^{-4}$	$6.3 \times 10^{-5}$	–
<i>S. aureus</i>	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$6.3 \times 10^{-5}$	–
<i>E. coli</i>	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	–
<i>P. mirabilis</i>	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	–
<i>C. albicans</i>	–	$1.25 \times 10^{-4}$		$1.25 \times 10^{-4}$

cidal effect after a pre-emergent application of a 5 % aqueous solution of the prepared derivatives on oat, millet, cress, and mustard seeds sown in rows in laboratory conditions (5  $\text{cm}^3$  of solution per 500  $\text{cm}^2$  of soil) was evaluated after 21 d employing the bonity grades 0–5 (0 = no effect, 5 = a total herbicidal effect).

## Nucleophilic Displacements of 2-Bromomethyl-5-hydroxy-4*H*-pyran-4-one by Alkane-thiols or Heteroarene-thiols

**Method A.** Stepwise, the respective thiol (14 mmol) and after a 10 min stirring 2-bromomethyl derivative *Ia* (13 mmol) were added to sodium hydride (0.34 g; 14 mmol) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (70  $\text{cm}^3$ ) or dimethylformamide (50  $\text{cm}^3$ , derivatives *IIf*, *Ili*). The mixture was stirred till the starting *Ia* was consumed (6 to 12 h, monitored by thin-layer chromatography), acidified with acetic acid and the solvent was distilled off. The residue was washed with water and crystallized from benzene. This method was applied for compounds *Ic*–*Ii*.

**Method B.** Solution composed of 2-bromomethyl derivative *Ia* (5.1 g; 25 mmol), the respective thiol (25 mmol) and potassium hydroxide (1.9 g; 30 mmol) in ethanol (80 %, 120  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was refluxed for 6 h. The mixture was then acidified with acetic acid, the solvent was distilled off and the solid residue was washed with water and purified either by crystallization from 2-propyl alcohol or by chromatography on silica gel, chloroform–acetone ( $\phi_r = 6 : 1$ ) being the eluent. This method was applied for preparation of compounds *Ij*–*In*.

## 2-Methylthiomethyl-5-hydroxy-4*H*-pyran-4-one (*Ib*)

2-Bromomethyl-5-(2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetoxy)-4*H*-pyran-4-one (4.04 g; 10 mmol) in chloroform (10  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and dimethyl sulfide (5.7 g; 60 mmol) were stirred under nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature for 12 h. The suspension was filtered off and treated with sodium methoxide (0.3 g Na)

in methanol (25 cm<sup>3</sup>). This mixture was refluxed for 2 h, acidified with dilute ( $\phi_r = 1 : 1$ ) hydrochloric acid, the solvent was removed and the residue was washed with ethyl acetate and recrystallized from benzene—cyclohexane ( $\phi_r = 2 : 1$ ).

### Sodium Salt of 2-Sulfomethyl-5-hydroxy-4H-pyran-4-one (Ia)

Sodium sulfite (1.4 g; 11 mmol), Ia (2.05 g; 10 mmol), and water (7 cm<sup>3</sup>) were heated till the solution became clear. The crude product, separating on standing in a refrigerator, was filtered off, washed with ether to remove the yellow colouration and crystallized from ethanol—water ( $\phi_r = 5 : 1$ ).

### Acylation of Substituted 2-Thiomethyl-5-hydroxy-4H-pyran-4-ones

The respective acyl chloride (20 mmol) was added successively to a mixture of substituted 2-thiomethyl-5-hydroxy-4H-pyran-4-one or alloxan (17 mmol) and triethylamine (2.8 cm<sup>3</sup>, 20

mmol) in acetone (100 cm<sup>3</sup>) at 5–10 °C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, the solid was filtered off, the filtrate was concentrated and the crude product II was either crystallized from benzene or chromatographed on silica gel, chloroform—acetone being the eluent ( $\phi_r = 6 : 1$ ).

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