

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
12 January 2006 (12.01.2006)

PCT

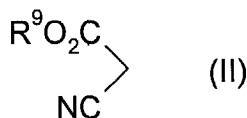
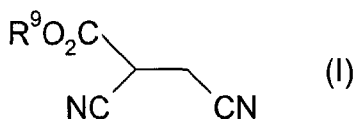
(10) International Publication Number
WO 2006/003501 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C07C 253/30**, 255/23
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2005/002038
- (22) International Filing Date: 23 June 2005 (23.06.2005)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
0414890.4 2 July 2004 (02.07.2004) GB
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(GB).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA,
MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ,
OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL,
SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC,
VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING SYNTHETIC INTERMEDIATES USEFUL IN PREPARING PYRAZOLE COMPOUNDS

(57) Abstract: The invention concerns a process for preparing a compound of formula (I): wherein R^9 is selected from: C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{Ph}$ and $(\text{CH}_2)_n$ heteroaryl wherein $n = 0, 1$ or 2 , each of which groups may be optionally substituted on any carbon atom by one or more groups selected independently from: halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkoxy, C_{1-4} alkanoyl, C_{1-4} haloalkanoyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4} haloalkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-4} haloalkylsulphonyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl and C_{3-8} halocycloalkyl; and R^9 can be hydrogen; which process comprises the reaction of a cyanoacetate of formula (II): wherein R^9 is as defined above, with formaldehyde cyanohydrin and an inorganic base in a polar solvent at a temperature not exceeding 20°C .