95-130 °C. Such solvents are, for example selected from C6-C10 branched or linear alkanes and cycloalkanes, e.g. C7 or C8 branched or linear alkanes and cycloalkanes.

For the purpose of the present invention, a C6-C10 branched or linear alkane or cycloalkane refers to an alkane or cycloalkane having in total from 6 to 10 atoms.

A C7 or C8 branched or linear alkane refers to an alkane having in total 7 or 8 carbon atoms, e.g. n-heptane, n-octane, 2,2,4-trimethylpentane ~~etc~~.

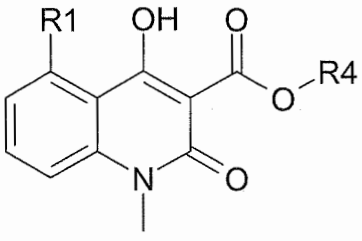
The cycloalkane may be mono- or polycyclic, e.g. bicyclic. Furthermore, the cycloalkane may be either unsubstituted or substituted (i.e. branched) with one or several, branched or linear, alkyl groups, it being understood that the total number of carbon atoms in the ring and any alkyl substituent, taken together, is 6 to 10, in particular 7 or 8. An example of a C10 cycloalkane is decalin (i.e. decahydronaphthalene). Examples of C7-C8 cycloalkanes are methylcyclohexane and cyclooctane.

Other isomers of alkanes and cycloalkanes, as may easily come to the mind of the skilled reader, are equally possible as long as the above-mentioned boiling point requirement is fulfilled.

In one embodiment, the aliphatic solvent is selected from n-heptane, n-octane, methylcyclohexane, 2,2,4-trimethylpentane and cyclooctane, or a mixture of any of these. In another embodiment, the solvent is selected from n-heptane and n-octane or a mixture of any of these.

The compound of formula (II)

In the compound of formula (II)



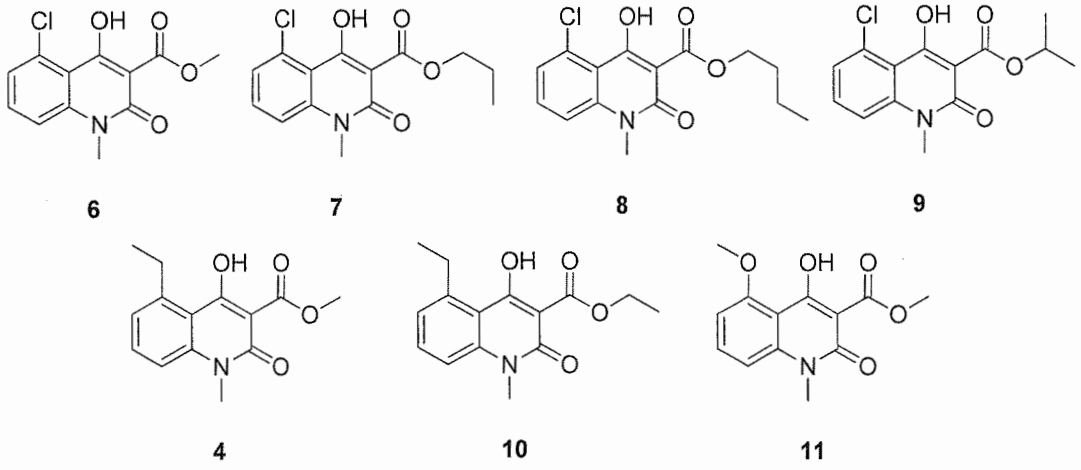
(II)

R4 is selected from C1-C4 alkyl, and may be branched or linear.

In one embodiment, R4 is selected from methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl and n-butyl. In another embodiment, R4 is C1-C3 alkyl, i.e. methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, and iso-propyl. In still another embodiment, R4 is methyl or ethyl, e.g. R4 is methyl.

In the condensation reaction between compounds (II) and (III), the aliphatic alcohol (IV) is formed as a byproduct and this aliphatic alcohol is withdrawn from the condensed vapors containing the aliphatic solvent or mixture of aliphatic solvents by treatment of the condensed vapors with an alcohol scavenging agent or a mixture of alcohol scavenging agents.

Some non-limiting examples of esters according to formula (II) are compounds **6-11**, represented herein below.



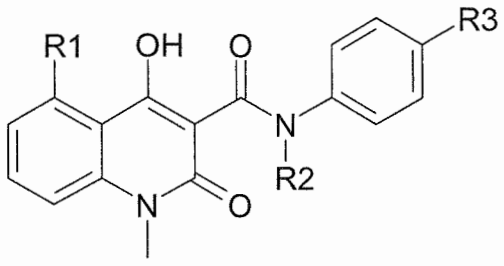
6 **7** **8** **9**

4 **10** **11**

When using e.g. **4** as starting compound (II), the formed alcohol (IV) will be methanol, when using e.g. **10** as starting compound (II), the formed alcohol (IV) will be ethanol ~~etc~~.

The compound of formula (I)

The product obtained in the method of the invention is a compound of formula (I),



(I)

wherein

R1 is ethyl, R2 is ethyl and R3 is H; or