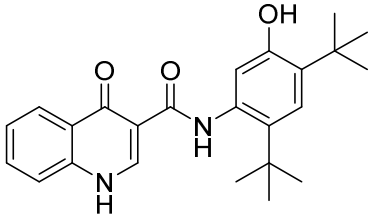
CLAIMS

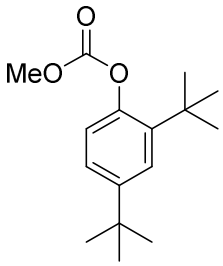
1. A process for the preparation of compound **1**:



1

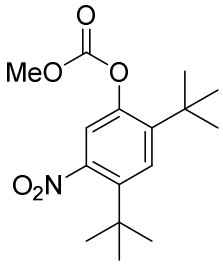
comprising:

a) converting compound **12**:



12

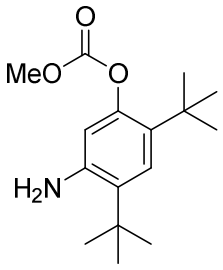
into compound **11A**:



11A,

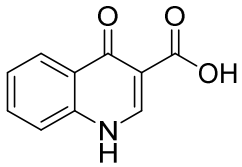
wherein the conversion of compound **12** into compound **11A** is performed in the presence of KNO_3 and/or $NaNO_3$, $AlCl_3$, and optionally one or more of trimethylsilyl chloride and $TiCl_4$;

b) converting compound **11A** into compound **4**:



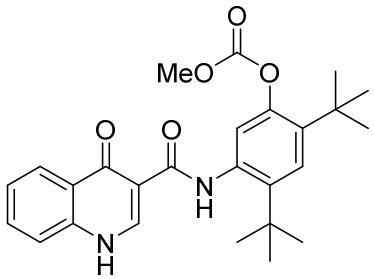
4;

c) reacting compound **3**:



3

with compound **4** to produce compound **5**:

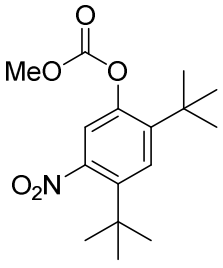


5; and

d) converting compound **5** into compound **1**;

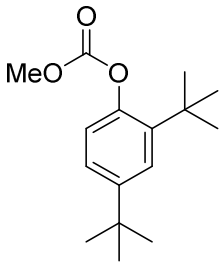
wherein the methyl (Me) of the $-OCO_2Me$ of each of compounds **4**, **5**, **11A**, and **12** is optionally replaced by a group selected from aliphatic, heteroaliphatic, heterocyclic, haloaliphatic, aryl, and heteroaryl.

2. A process for the preparation of compound **11A:**



11A,

comprising converting compound **12:**



12

into compound **11A**;

wherein the conversion of compound **12** into compound **11A** is performed in the presence of KNO_3 and/or $NaNO_3$, $AlCl_3$, and optionally one or more of trimethylsilyl chloride and $TiCl_4$; and

wherein the methyl (Me) of the $–OCO_2Me$ of each of compounds **11A** and **12** is optionally replaced by a group selected from aliphatic, heteroaliphatic, heterocyclic, haloaliphatic, aryl, and heteroaryl.

3. The process of claim 1 or 2, wherein the conversion of compound **12** into compound **11A** is performed in the presence of KNO_3, $AlCl_3$, and trimethylsilyl chloride.

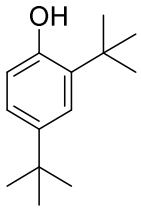
4. The process of claim 1 or 2, wherein the conversion of compound **12** into compound **11A** is performed in the presence of KNO_3 and $AlCl_3$.

5. The process of claim 1 or 2, wherein the conversion of compound **12** into compound **11A** is performed in the presence of $NaNO_3$ and $AlCl_3$.

6. The process of claim 1 or 2, wherein the conversion of compound **12** into compound **11A** is performed in the presence of a solvent.

7. The process of claim 6, wherein the solvent is CH_2Cl_2.

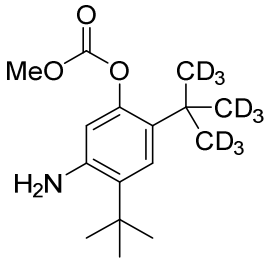
8. The process of claim 1 or 2, wherein compound **12** is produced by converting compound **13**:



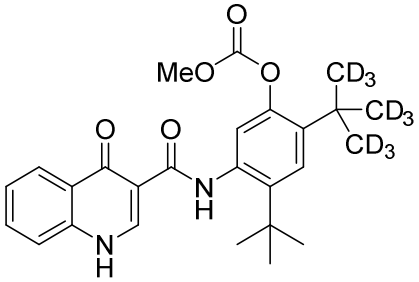
13

into compound **12**.

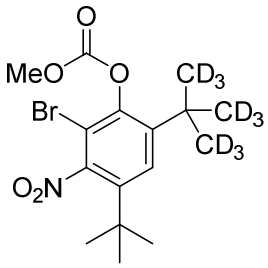
9. A compound selected from:



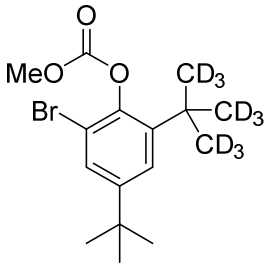
Compound **7**;



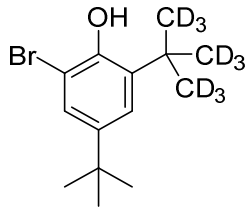
Compound **8**;



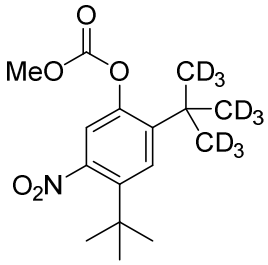
Compound **15**;



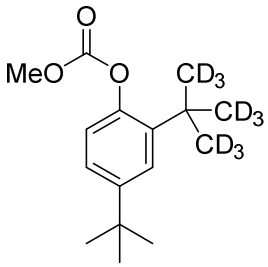
Compound **16**;



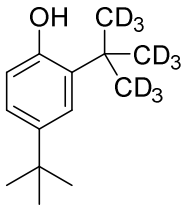
Compound **17**;



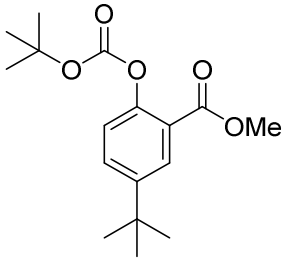
Compound **20**;



Compound **21**;



Compound **22**;



Compound **23**;

and salts thereof.