

**MICROWAVE-ASSISTED SYNTHESIS OF COUMARINS
VIA K_2CO_3 CATALYZED KNOEVENAGEL CONDENSATION
IN 1-*n*-BUTYL-3-METHYLIMIDAZOLIUM BROMIDE IONIC LIQUID**

Hassan Valizadeh and H. Gholipur

Islamic Azad University, Hashtrud, East Azarbaijan, Iran

K_2CO_3 has been utilized as an inexpensive and efficient catalyst for the Knoevenagel condensation of arylaldehydes with acidic methylene compounds such as ethyl cyanoacetate and malononitrile to afford substituted coumarins. 1-*n*-Butyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide has been employed as an alternative reaction medium in this procedure. The reaction proceeds smoothly under mild and solvent-free conditions and the products are obtained in excellent yields. This methodology is more convenient in that milder conditions, inexpensive and shorter reaction times.

