

Nature of Invention: Chemical molecule and synthesis route

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**Chemical Formula:**  $C_9H_{10}ClN_5O_2$

**Chemical Name:** Imidacloprid

**Chemical synthesis routes:**

## 1. Synthesis of Imidacloprid at lab scale :-

**Raw materials and Chemicals:-**

- 2-nitroimino imidazolidine
- 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl pyridine
- potassium carbonate
- acetonitrile
- DMF

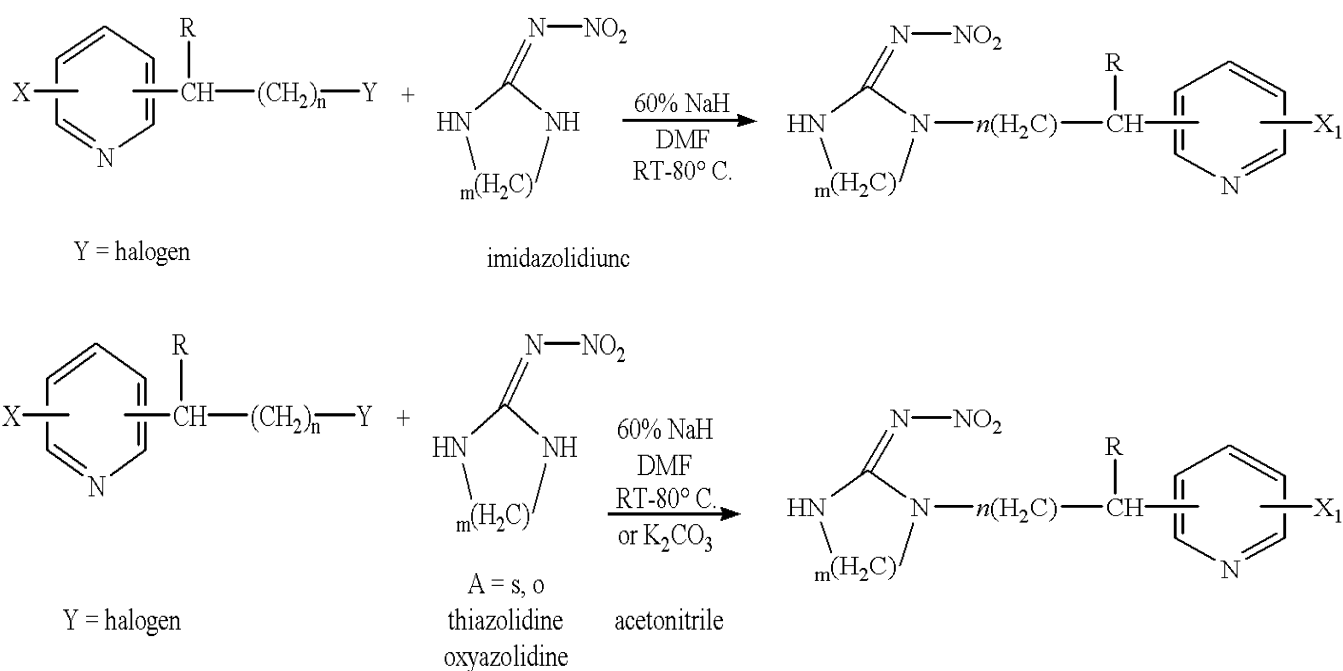
**Synthesis process:-**

The process for preparing imidacloprid involves reacting 2-nitroimino imidazolidine with 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl pyridine in the presence of an alkali carbonate in an organic solvent under reflux conditions. The 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl pyridine is added dropwise and continuously to the mixture at a rate of less than 0.03 equivalent per minute. Below the stepwise process described for the experiment conducted in the laboratory:

- Dissolve 7.8 g (60 mmol) of 2-nitroimino imidazolidine and 12.1 g (87.5 mmol) of potassium carbonate in 60 ml of acetonitrile in a reflux flask.
- Heat the mixture to achieve reflux operating conditions around 80 degree celsius.
- Dissolve 8.1 g (50.0 mmol) of 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl pyridine in 40 ml of acetonitrile.

- Add the 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl pyridine dropwise and continuously into the reflux flask over 0.5 hours, maintaining a rate of about 1.5 ml/minute.
- Let the mixture cool for a while
- After completion of the reaction, filter the mixture. .
- Concentrate the filtrate by using the filter paper .

**The yield is determined by liquid chromatography; for this process it is around 84.30 %.**



## 2. Alternate synthesis process:-

### Raw materials and Chemicals:-

- Ethylene Diamine
- Chlorine
- Nitroguanidine
- 3-methylpyridine

- 2-amino-5-methylpyridine

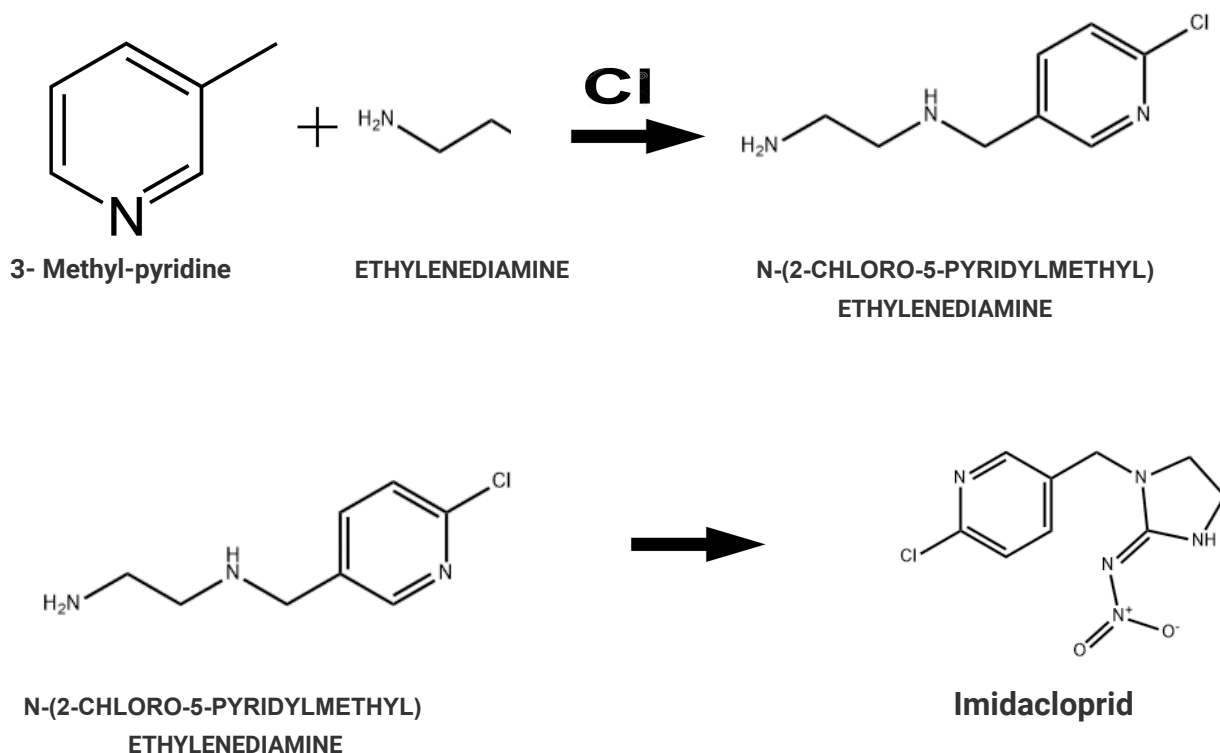
### Synthesis process:-

- Perform the Chichibabin reaction by reacting produce 3-methylpyridine to 2-amino-5-methylpyridine .
- Transform 2-amino-5-methylpyridine to the chloride using the Sandmeyer reaction in the presence of hydrogen chloride.
- Conduct chlorination of the methyl group to produce intermediate .
- Without isolating the intermediates, carry out the substitution of the active chloride with ethylene diamine to obtain compound Imidacloprid.
- The final product is formed by ring formation with nitroguanidine.

The multistep process yields the product at a purity of >95%.

Yield is 85%.

### Chichibabin reaction:-



**References:**

<https://patents.google.com/patent/US6307053B1/en>

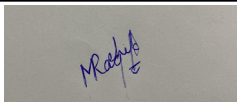
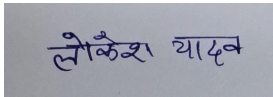
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**List the contributions of each author:**

- Author 2,4 and 5 carried out the literature search.
- Authors 1,2 and 3 found the reaction steps, product yield, necessary separation steps.

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