

[54] **SUBSTITUTED PHENOXYBENZOIC ACIDS AND ESTERS THEREOF**

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Related U.S. Patent Documents

Reissue of:

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U.S. Applications:

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 819,412, Apr. 25, 1969, Pat. No. 3,652,645.

[51] Int. Cl.³ **C07C 79/46**

[52] U.S. Cl. **560/021; 562/435;**
71/111; 71/115

[58] Field of Search **560/21; 562/435**

[56] **References Cited**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

2-nitro-5-(substituted-phenoxy)benzoic acids and esters salts, amides and acyl halides thereof comprise a class of compounds that are highly effective herbicides.

5 Claims, No Drawings

SUBSTITUTED PHENOXYBENZOIC ACIDS AND ESTERS THEREOF

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of application Ser. No. 819,412, filed Apr. 25, 1969, now U.S. Pat. No. 3,652,645 and entitled Halophenoxy Benzoic Acid Herbicides.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

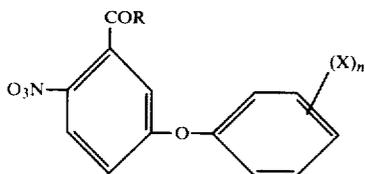
This invention is concerned with certain phenoxybenzoic acid compounds and their use as herbicides.

Description of the Prior Art

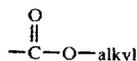
It has been proposed to use as herbicides 2-methoxybenzoic acids (U.S. 3,013,054) and 4-phenoxybenzoic acids (France 1,502,538). It is the discovery of this invention, however, that benzoic acids having a phenoxy substituent in the 5-position are very effective herbicides.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention provides herbicidal compounds having the formula:



wherein X is a member selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen (e.g., fluorine, chlorine and bromine), nitro, trifluoromethyl, cyano, COOH,



(e.g. alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms), hydroxy, alkoxy of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms,



SH, SR₁, SOR₁, SO₂R₁, SO₂NH₂ and combinations thereof, R₁ and R₂ are selected from the group consisting of alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, R is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, alkoxy of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, aryloxy, chloro, amido, alkylamido of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, dialkylamido of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, SH, SR₁, and OM in which M is an alkali metal (e.g. lithium, sodium and potassium), alkylammonium of 1 to 4 carbon atoms or alkanolammonium of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, n is an integer of 1 to 5, and in which compound at least one X is other than hydrogen; their use as herbicides;

and a herbicidal composition comprising at least one of said compounds and a carrier therefor.

DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC EMBODIMENTS

The compounds of this invention are readily prepared by the Ullman ether synthesis reaction between the alkali metal, (e.g., Na, K) salt of a suitable substituted phenol and a 5-halo (e.g. F, Cl, Br)-2-nitrobenzoic acid or an ester, amide, or salt thereof. The 5-halo-2-nitro-benzoic acid or ester is readily prepared by nitrating a m-halotoluene, followed by oxidation of the methyl group by well-known procedures. Also, the m-halobenzoic acid or ester may be directly nitrated by well-known procedures.

Non-limiting examples of the compounds of this invention are:

- propyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-tribromophenoxy)benzoate;
- phenyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',5'-trifluorophenoxy)benzoate;
- 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-triiodophenoxy)benzoic acid;
- 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoyl chloride;
- 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzamide;
- N-ethyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzamide;
- N-isopropyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzamide;
- N,N-dimethyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzamide;
- ethylammonium 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate;
- ethanolammonium 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',3',4',5',6'-pentachlorophenoxy)benzoate;
- n-pentyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate;
- 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichlorophenoxy)benzoic acid;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(2'-chlorophenoxy)benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-chloro-3'-methylphenoxy)benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(3'-methylphenoxy)benzoate;
- ethyl 2-nitro-5-(2',6'-dichlorophenoxy)benzoate;
- isopropyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichloro-6'-methylphenoxy)benzoate;
- ethyl 2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-fluorophenoxy)benzoate;
- 2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-fluorophenoxy)benzoic acid;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dinitrophenoxy)benzoate;
- 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dinitrophenoxy)benzoic acid;
- 2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-nitrophenoxy)benzoic acid;
- isopropyl 2-nitro-5-[3'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoate;
- isopropyl 2-nitro-5-[3',5'-dicarbomethoxyphenoxy]benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(2'-methoxyphenoxy)benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-chloro-2'-nitrophenoxy)benzoate;
- 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichloro-6'-fluorophenoxy)benzoic acid;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichloro-6'-fluorophenoxy)benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dicarbomethoxyphenoxy)benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-cyano-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(3'-carbomethoxy-4'-hydroxymethoxy)benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-[4'-chloro-2'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(3'-carbomethoxy-4'-nitrophenoxy)benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-chloro-2',6'-dibromophenoxy)benzoate;
- methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dicyanophenoxy)benzoate;

methyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-dimethylamino-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoate;
 ethyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-amino-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoate;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-methyl-4'-methylthiophenoxy]benzoate;
 N,N-dimethyl 2-nitro-5-[2',6'-dimethyl-4'-methylthiophenoxy]benzamide;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-methyl-4'-methylsulfonylphenoxy]benzoate;
 ethyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-chloro-4'-methylsulfinylphenoxy]benzoate;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-[4'-(N-trifluoromethylsulfonamido)phenoxy]benzoate;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-cyanophenoxy)benzoate;
 ethyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-carboethoxyphenoxy)benzoate;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-hydroxyphenoxy)benzoate;
 2-nitro-5-[2'-t-butylphenoxy]benzoic acid;
 2-nitro-5-[2'-carboxyphenoxy]benzoic acid;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-aminophenoxy)benzoate;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-diethylaminophenoxy)benzoate;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-(2'-methylaminophenoxy)benzoate;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-mercaptophenoxy)benzoate;
 ethyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-methylthiophenoxy)benzoate;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-(2'-sulfonamidophenoxy)benzoate;
 ethyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-methylsulfinylphenoxy)benzoate;
 methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-methylsulfonylphenoxy)benzoate;
 and
 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichlorophenoxy)thiobenzoic acid.

The following example illustrates the preparation of a typical compound of this invention and demonstrates a method for product recovery.

EXAMPLE 1

Methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate

A stirred solution of methyl 5-chloro-2-nitrobenzoate (17.0 g., 0.079 mole) and the potassium salt of 2,4,6-trichlorophenol (18.6 g., 0.079 mole) in dimethyl sulfoxide (100 ml.) was heated at 90° C. for 17 hours. The cooled reaction mixture was diluted with water (500 ml.) and then extracted with ether (3×100 ml.). The combined ether fractions were washed with 10% sodium hydroxide solution (2×30 ml.) and then with a saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution. The ether solution was dried (Na₂SO₄) and the solvent evaporated to give a dark oil. Two crystallizations (petroleum ether) gave 1.91 g. of a pale yellow solid. M.P. 101°-103° C.

IR (Nujol): C=O 1723, C—O 1240, and 1260 cm.⁻¹
 NMR (CDCl₃): methyl 3.91 p.p.m. (3H), quartet 6.96 p.p.m. (1H, J=2.5 and 8 c.p.s.), doublet 7.05 p.p.m. (1H, J=2.5 c.p.s.), broad singlet 7.05 p.p.m. (2H), and doublet 8.01 p.p.m. (1H, J=8 c.p.s.).

EXAMPLES 2 THROUGH 24

Using procedures similar to that described in Example 1, twenty-three other compounds within the scope of this invention were prepared.

These compounds are:

- (2) 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoic acid, M.P. 184°-189° C.
- (3) sodium 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. >300° C.
- (4) methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 100°-103° C.
- (5) methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 84°-86° C.

- (6) ethyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 60°-64° C.
- (7) methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dibromophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 98°-100° C.
- (8) methyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-chloro-2'-methylphenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 70-72° C.
- (9) methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dimethylphenoxy)benzoate, oil
- (10) 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichlorophenoxy)benzamide, M.P. 130°-133° C.
- (11) isopropyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 71°-74° C.
- (12) ethyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 83°-85° C.
- (13) isopropyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 59°-62° C.
- (14) methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)thiobenzoate, M.P. 96°-100° C.
- (15) methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichloro-6'-methylphenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 85°-89° C.
- (16) methyl 2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-fluorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 67°-70° C.
- (17) isopropyl 2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-fluorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 48°-51° C.
- (18) n-methyl 2-nitro-5-(2',4'-dichlorophenoxy)benzamide, M.P. 137° C.
- (19) ethyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-nitrophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 75°-82° C.
- (20) methyl 2-nitro-5-(3'-methyl-4'-nitrophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 75°-82° C.
- (21) isopropyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-nitro-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoate, oil
- (22) ethyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-nitro-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoate, oil
- (23) methyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-chloro-4'-nitrophenoxy]benzoate, M.P. 97°-102° C.
- (24) 2-nitro-5-(2'-chloro-4'-nitrophenoxy)benzoic acid, M.P. 185° C.

EXAMPLE 25

2-nitro-5-[2'-nitro-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoic acid

A stirred solution of 4-chloro-2-nitrobenzotrifluoride (22.55 g., 0.1 mole) and the potassium salt of 3-methyl-4-nitrophenol (19.12 g., 0.1 mole) in dimethyl acetamide (75 ml.) was heated at 150° for 4 hours. The cooled reaction solution was diluted with water (300 ml.) to precipitate a brown solid which was filtered and dried to give 28.9 g (85%) of 4-nitro-3-tolyl-2'-nitro- α,α,α -trifluoro-4'-tolyl ether, which had an M.P. of 82°-85° C.

To a stirred solution of the above diphenyl ether product (25.0 g., 0.073 mole) and sodium dichromate (35.8 g., 0.12 mole) in glacial acetic acid (200 ml.) was added concentrated sulfuric acid (60 ml., 1.15 moles) over about 30 minutes. The temperature was maintained below 70° C. during the addition and then raised to 110° C. for 15 hours. The reaction solution was cooled to 60° C. and extracted with hot chloroform. The extract was evaporated to dryness to give an oily solid, which was leached free of starting material with an ether-ligroin mixture. The resulting off-white solid acid weighed 13.6 g (51%), M.P. 185°-187°.

EXAMPLE 26

2-nitro-5-[2'-nitro-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]-benzoic acid methyl ester

A stirred solution of the acid from Example 6 (3.5 g., 0.0094 mole) in a 25 wt. percent/vol. solution of boron-trifluoride in methanol (50 ml.) was refluxed for 10 hours. The cooled solution was poured onto water (250 ml.) and the resulting oil separated and dried to give 3.4 g. (93.5%) of the desired product.

COMPARATIVE EXAMPLES

- A series of compounds were prepared which are position isomers of the compounds of Examples 1 through 4. Each compound is designated by the number of the corresponding isomeric compound of Examples 1 through 4, followed by (a) or (b). These compounds are:
- (1a) methyl 5-nitro-2-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 128°-133° C.
 - (2a) 5-nitro-2-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoic acid, M.P. 175°-177° C.
 - (2b) 4-nitro-2-(2',4',5'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoic acid, M.P. 190°-193° C.
 - (3a) sodium 5-nitro-2-(2',4',6'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. >300° C.
 - (4a) methyl 5-nitro-2-(2',4',5'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 104°-106° C.
 - (4b) methyl 4-nitro-2-(2',4',5'-trichlorophenoxy)benzoate, M.P. 127°-131° C.

As is apparent from the data in the table set forth hereinafter, the compounds embodied herein in which the nitro group is in the 2-position and the substituted phenoxy group is in the 5-position exhibit markedly higher effectiveness as herbicides than do the comparable compounds in which the nitro groups and the substituted phenoxy group are in different positions.

The compounds of this invention can be applied in various ways to achieve herbicidal action. They can be applied, per se, as solids or in vaporized form, but are preferably applied as the toxic components in pesticidal compositions of the compound and a carrier. The compositions can be applied as dusts, as liquid sprays, or as gas-propelled sprays and can contain, in addition to a carrier, additives such as emulsifying agents, binding agents, gases compressed to the liquid state, odorants, stabilizers, and the like. A wide variety of liquid and solid carriers can be used. Non-limiting examples of solid carriers include talc, bentonite, diatomaceous earth, pyrophyllite, fuller's earth, gypsum flours derived from cotton seeds and nut shells, and various natural and synthetic clays having a pH not exceeding about 9.5. Non-limiting examples of liquid carriers, include water; organic solvents, such as alcohols, ketones, amides and esters; mineral oils, such as kerosene, light oils, and medium oils and vegetable oils, such as cottonseed oil.

In practice, herbicidal application is measured in terms of pounds of herbicide applied per acre. The compounds of this invention are effective herbicides

when applied in herbicidal amounts, i.e., at rates between about 0.2 pound and about 10 pounds per acre.

HERBICIDAL EFFECTIVENESS	
Method of propagating test species	
Crabgrass	<i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i> .
Yellow foxtail grass	<i>Setaria glauca</i> .
Johnson grass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i> .
Barnyard grass	<i>Echinochloa crus-galli</i> .
Amaranth pigweed	<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i> .
Turnip	Brassica sp.
Cotton	<i>Gossypium hirsutum</i> var. DPL smooth leaf.
Corn	<i>Zea mays</i> var. Golden Bantam.
Bean	<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i> var. Black Valentine.

All crop and weed species are planted individually in 3" plastic pots containing potting soil. Four seeds of each of corn, cotton, and snapbeans are seeded to a depth equal to the diameter of the seed. All other species are surface seeded and sprinkled with screened soil in an amount sufficient to cover the seeds. Immediately after planting, all pots are watered by sub-irrigation in greenhouse trays. Pots for the pre-emergence phase are seeded one day before treatment.

Planting dates for the post-emergence phase are varied so that all the seedlings will reach the desired state of development simultaneously. The proper state of seedling development for treatment in the post-emergence phase is as follows:

Grasses: 2 inches in height.

Pigweed and turnips: 1 or 2 true leaves visible above cotyledons.

Cotton: first true leaf 1 inch in length; expanded cotyledons.

Corn: 3 inches-4 inches in height.

Beans: primary leaves expanded, growing point at primary leaf node.

Method of Treatment

Spray applications are made in a hood containing movable belt and fixed spray nozzle. For passage through the spray hood, one pot of each species (pre-emergence phase) is placed on the forward half of a wooden flat and one pot of established plants (post-emergence phase) is placed on the rear half of the flat. Treatments are moved to the greenhouse after spraying. Watering during the observation period is applied only by sub-irrigation.

Compounds are screened initially at a rate of application equivalent to four or eight pounds per acre. Two weeks after treatment the pre- and post-emergence percent effectiveness is visually rated. Subsequent testing is carried out at 2.1 and 0.5 pounds per acre.

Herbicidal testing of the compounds of Examples 1 through 7 and of the comparative compounds provided the results set forth in the table. The plants are tabulated using the following abbreviations:

TABLE

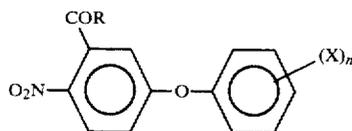
		Crabgrass — CG					Pigweed — PW				
		Yellow foxtail grass — YF					Turnip — TP				
		Johnson grass — JG					Cotton — CT				
		Barnyard grass — BG					Corn — CN				
		Bean — BN									
PRE/POST-EMERGENCE HERBICIDAL ACTIVITY OF CERTAIN SUBSTITUTED PHENOXYBENZOIC ACIDS AND DERIVATIVES THEREOF											
Compound of Example	Compound concentration, lbs/acre	CG	YF	JG	BG	PW	TP	CT	CN	BN	
1	4	100/100	100/100	60/50	60/70	100/100	80/100	0/100	0/40	30/100	
	2	100/100	80/100	30/70	20/80	100/100	0/100	90/100	30/20	70/100	
	1	100/90	80/100	20/60	0/60	100/100	30/90	0/100	0/20	80/100	
	0.5	40/50	60/80	30/60	0/40	100/70	0/80	40/20	0/20	30/70	
1a (Comparative)	4	20/20	0/20	0/20	0/20	20/0	0/30	100/0	50/0	20/80	
2	4	70/70	—/—	70/90	60/70	—/—	100/100	0/100	0/70	80/70	
2a (Comparative)	4	20/30	0/20	20/30	0/20	—/20	30/90	50/20	0/0	50/70	
2b (Comparative)	4	0/30	40/0	30/30	20/20	20/20	0/50	40/20	80/30	80/0	
3	4	50/80	—/—	30/60	40/60	—/—	95/100	50/100	0/40	50/100	
3a (Comparative)	4	0/20	0/20	0/20	0/20	50/50	0/60	100/0	30/0	50/40	
4	4	90/60	—/—	80/90	50/50	—/—	40/70	80/70	0/50	80/80	
4a (Comparative)	8	30/30	0/20	20/30	0/20	30/30	40/0	0/30	0/0	60/0	
4b (Comparative)	4	20/20	0/20	0/20	0/20	0/20	0/60	30/50	0/30	0/60	
5	4	100/95	—/—	90/90	90/90	—/—	80/100	50/80	0/40	50/100	
6	4	100/80	—/—	80/50	50/70	100/100	40/90	30/100	0/100	100/100	
7	8	80/60	—/—	50/40	60/50	100/100	20/100	30/90	0/50	100/100	
8	8	50/60	—/—	20/30	0/20	100/100	0/40	0/40	0/30	100/100	
9	8	30/30	—/—	0/40	20/20	90/90	20/50	0/70	0/40	100/90	
10	4	80/70	—/—	40/40	40/30	100/100	20/70	100/40	0/20	100/100	
11	4	60/70	—/—	30/60	20/50	90/100	0/50	30/70	0/30	80/60	
12	8	90/90	—/—	90/90	60/90	100/100	0/100	0/100	0/100	0/100	
	4	100/90	—/—	90/100	60/60	100/100	0/100	30/90	0/70	30/100	
	2	100/100	100/—	40/60	80/70	—/100	30/100	80/70	0/70	100/100	
	1	100/100	—/—	40/90	50/80	—/—	30/100	20/80	0/20	50/80	
13	8	70/90	—/—	30/90	20/80	90/100	0/30	30/70	0/20	100/100	
14	4	70/80	—/—	20/90	0/40	100/100	70/100	90/90	20/20	0/80	
15	8	100/100	100/—	50/70	50/—	—/100	70/90	0/90	0/30	50/100	
	4	90/90	0/—	40/60	0/60	—/—	60/90	100/60	0/40	0/100	
	2	90/70	—/—	30/40	20/70	—/—	70/60	0/60	0/50	0/100	
16	8	100/90	100/100	80/100	100/90	100/100	100/100	40/100	80/40	80/100	
	4	100/100	100/100	100/100	80/80	100/100	70/100	40/90	20/80	80/100	
	2	100/100	100/100	90/100	80/90	100/100	80/100	30/90	0/80	0/90	
	0.8	90/60	100/80	70/50	40/50	100/100	40/100	80/60	30/20	50/100	
17	8	100/40	90/40	70/40	50/30	100/100	0/60	0/80	0/30	0/90	
	4	100/90	100/100	80/90	50/70	100/100	0/40	0/50	0/30	0/90	
	2	100/90	100/90	30/90	30/90	100/100	20/30	0/50	0/30	0/90	
	1	60/50	100/80	90/60	20/30	100/100	0/40	90/30	30/0	80/80	
18	8	90/80	—/—	60/80	70/40	—/—	90/100	30/80	0/80	0/100	
19	10	40/30	—/—	90/—	—/—	—/—	0/90	—/60	—/—	—/60	
20	10	50/20	—/—	90/—	—/—	—/—	20/20	—/30	—/—	—/40	
21	3	100/—	100/—	100/—	30/—	—/—	50/—	30/—	0/—	0/—	
22	1	90/—	100/—	100/—	30/—	—/—	30/—	50/—	60/—	0/—	
23	10	80/—	100/—	100/—	30/—	—/—	80/—	—/—	—/—	—/—	
24	10	100/—	—/—	30/—	—/—	—/—	100/—	—/—	—/—	—/—	
25	8	80/60	90/100	50/40	30/60	100/100	100/100	30/50	0/30	30/90	
26	8	100/80	100/90	40/20	90/60	100/100	90/90	0/50	0/20	70/90	
	4	100/90	100/100	70/90	80/50	100/100	100/100	0/50	0/20	0/90	
	2	90/70	100/100	60/60	40/70	100/100	90/90	0/50	0/30	0/90	

*Herbicidal activity is measured in percent effectiveness.

Although the present invention has been described with preferred embodiments, it is to be understood that modifications and variations may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of this invention, as those skilled in the art will readily understand.

What is claimed is:

1. A compound having the formula:



wherein X is a [member] combination of the members selected from the group consisting of nitro and trifluoromethyl, wherein both of said members must be present, R is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and

alkoxy of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, n is an integer of [1] 2 to 5 [], and in which a compound R is alkoxy when X is nitro].

2. A compound as defined in claim 1, having the name 2-nitro-5-[2'-nitro-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoic acid methyl ester.

3. A compound as defined in claim 1, having the name 2-nitro-5-[2'-nitro-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoic acid.

4. A compound as defined in claim 1, having the name ethyl 2-nitro-5-(4'-nitrophenoxy)benzoate.]

5. A compound as defined in claim 1, having the name isopropyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-nitro-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoate.

6. A compound as defined in claim 1, having the name ethyl 2-nitro-5-[2'-nitro-4'-(α,α,α -trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]benzoate.

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