Facile Syntheses of Novel Acyclic Polycarboxylic Acids

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The synthesis of novel di- and tricarboxylic acids is described. Starting from diethanolamine, a series of *N*-substituted diethanol derivatives were prepared which were converted in the subsequent reaction step into the corresponding carboxylic acids by treatment with chloroacetic acid. *N*,*N*-bis[2-(carboxymethoxy)ethyl]glycine was obtained by *N*-alkylation of glycine ethylester with ethyl 2-(2-bromoethoxy)acetate.

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