An electroactive metabolite from amoxycillin

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2-Hydroxy-3-(p-hydroxyphenyl)-6-methylpyrazine (HHMP) is identified as the product obtained by acidic degradation of amoxycillin in the presence of formaldehyde. I.R., n.m.r. and elemental analysis data are reported. The polarographic reduction of HHMP is studied. The reduction occurs along one irreversible two-electron wave which corresponds to the azomethine group. The process is diffusion-controlled with a temperature coefficient of 1.93 % °C-1 and a diffusional activation energy of 3.49 kcal mol-1.