
Volume Editor's Preface

This volume of **Science of Synthesis** is concerned with the organometallic, metalloorganic, and organic chemistry of the elements in groups 13 and 2 with the exception of boron, which will be discussed thoroughly in Volume 6 of **Science of Synthesis**.

The chemistry of these main group organometallics and metalloorganics has been studied over a long period of time. However, the most important achievements have occurred rather recently. In fact, recent advances in various analytical technologies have allowed us to understand details of many reactions involving these classical reagents. In light of the clear elucidation of various mechanisms, we now recognize the real role and usage of these metal reagents to be even greater than first anticipated many years ago.

The structure of this volume follows that established in the other organometallic volumes of **Science of Synthesis**, i. e. the material is organized into methods for the synthesis of the product class in question, with each method usually including a discussion of the scope of the method, examples, and an experimental procedure. The product classes are ordered according to the **Science of Synthesis** guidelines. A further section titled *Applications [of the Product Class] in Organic Synthesis* is utilized when the product class is employed as a reagent or catalyst in organic transformations. Synthetically important but uncharacterized complexes are also described in this section.

Finally, I should like to thank everyone who has contributed to this volume, in particular Dr. Joe P. Richmond for his great help at the planning stage of this volume. I am most grateful to the authors for their willingness to devote their time and effort to provide us with these valuable contributions. I would also like to thank Ms Kayo Ota for various secretarial work related to this volume. Finally, I gratefully acknowledge the efforts of Dr. M. Fiona Shortt de Hernandez and Dr. Claire Twomey and the team at Thieme for their support, patience, and hard work during the course of this project.

Volume Editor

Hisashi Yamamoto

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