

# Chemical Reviews

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## Emerging Organic Reactions: Introduction

This is the second issue of *Chemical Reviews* that has been devoted to the general topic of organic synthesis since we began to publish thematic issues. While this underscores our commitment to serve this constituency of our readership, we hope that chemists in all disciplines will find this collection of articles of interest. It provides specialists and nonspecialists alike with an up-to-date perspective on this always rapidly evolving field.

As is evident from the list of titles, the reviews by Crich and Quintero, Daves and Hallberg, Hart and Ha, Hudlicky and Price, Finet, Marshall, McMurry, Weinreb and Scola, Matteson, and Midland focus on specific types of reactions. The last two authors have written complementary treatments of boron reagents in asymmetric synthesis. Addition chemistry, and reactions that lead to various carbocyclic and heterocyclic products, are also well represented.

Two reviews describe synthetic approaches to, and interesting properties of, specific classes of natural products (Miller; Perron and Albizati). One article treats the general concept of  $C_2$  symmetry in synthetic approaches to chiral molecules (Whitesell), another surveys uses of bridgehead intermediates in synthesis (Kraus, Hon, Thomas, Laramay, Liras, and Hanson), and another focuses upon steric effects of the ubiquitously utilized trimethylsilyl group (Hwu and Wang).

In summary, the 15 articles in this issue provide a contemporary overview of many of the frontier research topics in synthetic organic chemistry. Single issues, which can be purchased at a modest price, may be useful supplements to graduate courses in organic chemistry.

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