THE ENE REACTION OF TRIFLUOROMETHYL KETONES AND CONVERSION OF THE PRODUCTS TO TETRAHYDROFURAN DERIVATIVES

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The ene reaction of trifluoromethyl ketones with allyl compounds gave trifluoromethylated homoallyl alcohols. Hexafluoroacetone, bis(trifluoromethyl) ketone, reacted with terminal vinyl compounds only by heating, but the reaction of trifluoroacetone and 1,1,1-trifluoro-2-hexanone, mono(trifluoromethyl)ketones, did not proceed thermally at all. Some Lewis acids were examined as a catalyst, and AlCl₃ was found to be a good catalyst. Treatment of the ene products, (trifluoromethyl)homoallyl alcohols, with p-toluenesulfonic acid resulted in their cyclization to give many kinds of trifluoromethylated tetrahydrofuran derivatives. Some results of ene reactions and formation of tetrahydrofurans are shown in the chart.

$$R \stackrel{\wedge}{\longrightarrow} + CF_3COR' \longrightarrow R \stackrel{\wedge}{\longrightarrow} CF_3'$$

$$R \stackrel{\wedge}{\longrightarrow} CF_3$$

$$R \stackrel{\wedge}{\longrightarrow} CF_3$$

$$R : \stackrel{\wedge}{\bigcirc} I, \quad C_3H_7, \quad C_5H_{11}, \quad C_7H_{15}$$

$$R : CF_3, \quad CH_3, \quad C_4H_9.$$