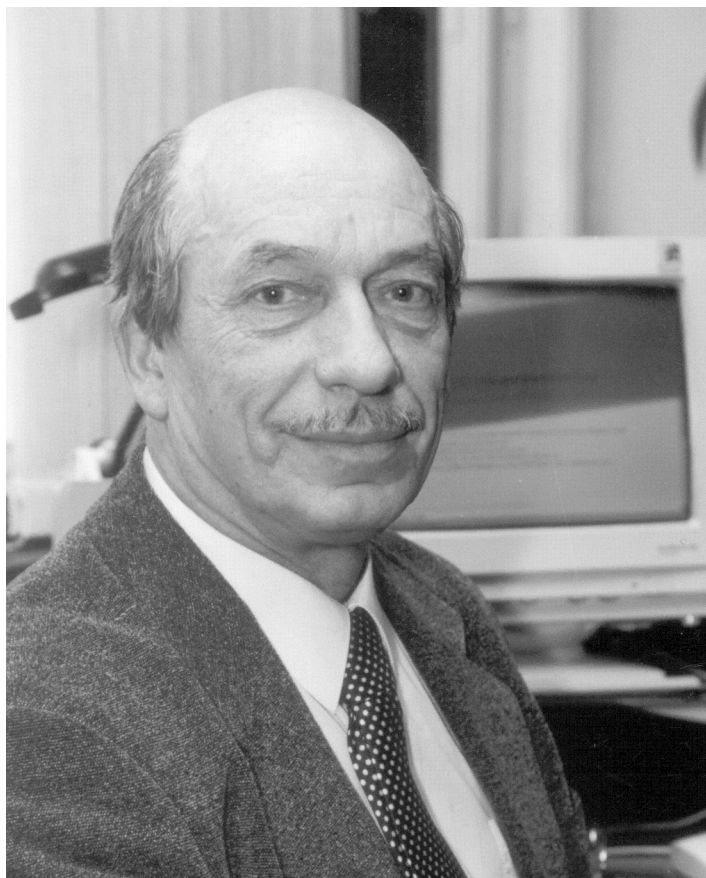


===== ANNIVERSARY =====

On the 65th Anniversary of B. A. Trofimov



The Editorial Board, editorial staff, authors, and readers of the *Russian Journal of Organic Chemistry* congratulate **Boris Aleksandrovich Trofimov**, Member of the Editorial Board of the journal, Full Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, on occasion of his 65th birthday and wish him good health and great success in research to the glory of the Russian chemical science.

Boris Aleksandrovich Trofimov was born on October 2, 1938, in Chita. In 1955, he finished secondary school with a Gold Medal and entered Chemical Department at the Irkutsk State University, where he studied with enthusiasm, persistence, and brilliancy. Already at that time the main characteristics of his personality developed as indefatigable striving for knowledges and remarkable capacity for work. While deeply absorbing the fundamentals of chemistry, he even then took strong preference for organic chemistry that remained forever.

In 1961, B.A. Trofimov graduated with honors from the university (under the guidance of Prof. A.V. Kalabina) and started to work in the team of Prof. M.F. Shostakovskii (a disciple of Academician A.E. Favorskii, one of the founders of the Russian classical chemical school) at the former Irkutsk Institute of Organic Chemistry, Siberian Division, Academy of Sciences of the USSR (now Favorskii Irkutsk Institute of Chemistry, Siberian Division, Russian Academy of Sciences). All his further creative life is connected with this institute, where he had grown from senior laboratory assistant to doctor of chemical sciences, professor, head of the institute, and Full Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

B.A. Trofimov is the author and co-author of more than 850 publications, among which 49 reviews, more than 500 inventions, and 9 monographs; some of his works were published abroad (the complete bibliography amounts to almost 2000 items). Since 1994, B.A. Trofimov is at the head of the Irkutsk Institute of Chemistry. Under conditions of reduced financial support, he succeeded in conserving working capacity of the research staff, especially of highly qualified specialists, and the main research lines of the institute, which hold leading positions in the world. As the head of the institute and scientist, B.A. Trofimov endeavors to combine his administrative and research activities so that to minimize detriments to science, by hardly loading his working and free time.

The main fields of B.A. Trofimov's research are organic synthesis on the basis of acetylene, chemistry of unsaturated organic chalcogenides, organophosphorus and heterocyclic compounds (especially the chemistry of pyrrole derivatives), mechanisms of addition to multiple bonds neighboring to heteroatoms and functional groups, prototropic and sigmatropic rearrangements of unsaturated heteroatom systems. Having formulated the concept of superbasicity, B.A. Trofimov and his disciples were the first to systematically apply superbasic catalysts and reagents to the chemistry of acetylene and its derivatives. This allowed them to discover and develop a number of general reactions and approaches which are widely used now in fine organic synthesis and in the preparation of industrially important products.

Under the guidance of B.A. Trofimov and with his direct participation, new efficient methods for synthesizing vinyl and alkynyl ethers, sulfides, selenides, and tellurides, *O*-vinyloximes, pyrroles, *N*-vinyl-, *N*-ethynyl-, and *N*-allenylazoles, iminodihydrofurans, hydroxyalkynoic acids, vinyloxyallenes, vinyloxy-1,3-butadienes, and vinylacrylamides have been developed on the basis of theoretical and experimental studies on direct vinylation and ethynylation with acetylene. B.A. Trofimov discovered the general reaction of ketone oximes with acetylene, leading to pyrroles and *N*-vinylpyrroles, which got his name and is now referred to as Trofimov's reaction in monographs and textbooks. This reaction has recently been applied to modification of steroids via introduction of pyrrole fragments.

The research and administrative activities of B.A. Trofimov have received public recognition in our country and abroad. He is a member of the Asian-Pacific Academy of Materials, a honorary member of the Florida Center of Heterocyclic Compounds (USA), a member of the Editorial Board of such journals as *Sulfur Reports*, *Sulfur Letters*, *Zhurnal organicheskoi khimii* (*Russian Journal of Organic Chemistry*), and *Arkivoc*, a member of numerous research and scientific councils, Expert Council at the Highest Certification Committee, National Committee of Russian Chemists, Bureau of the Scientific Council on Organic and Organometallic Chemistry (Russian Academy of Sciences), and Interbranch Scientific Council on the Convention of Chemical and Biological Weapons at the Russian Academy of Sciences and Russian Armament Agency, and the head and coordinator of a series of research and contract studies in collaboration with foreign universities and other enterprises. In 2002, B.A. Trofimov organized at the Irkutsk Institute of Chemistry a joint laboratory with Samsung corporation. He constantly communicates with greatest chemists in various countries and is frequently invited as plenary lecturer to international conferences and symposia.

B.A. Trofimov is not only a great scientist but also a prominent teacher. Among his disciples there are 20 doctors and 62 candidates of science. Studies performed by B.A. Trofimov and his disciples and co-workers were awarded with prizes of the Siberian Division of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR for Fundamental and Applied Chemical Research (1984, 1985, 1990) and prizes of the *Nauka* International Academic Publishing House (1998, 1999). He was awarded with the Gold (1979), Silver (1987), and two Bronze Medals (1972, 1978) of the USSR Exhibition of Advances in Industry and Agriculture for his invention activity and with the Butlerov Prize (1997). B.A. Trofimov was decorated "Sign of Honor" Order in 1986, "Friendship" Order in 1999, and Medal "For Heroic Labor" in 1971.