

Book review

Gmelin Handbook of Inorganic and Organometallic Chemistry (8th Edition)

Nickel, Organonickel Compounds, Supplement Volume 2, Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg, 1994, 215 + xi pages, DM 1340.

ISBN 3-540-93706-4

This is a relatively small volume by the standards of Gmelin, covering mononuclear nickel compounds containing two, three, or four single-carbon ligands. These are 1L donors on the Gmelin system, and some are joined via carbon-based or other groups to form metal-lacycles. The last section contains a discussion of mononuclear complexes containing carbenes or carbyne as the only 1L ligands. The discussion of complexes containing only one 1L ligand is contained in Supplement Volume 1, published in 1993.

The literature has been covered to the end of 1993, and most of the data up to mid-1994 have been cited.

The usual impeccable Gmelin presentation makes for easy access to the contents, which appear to be essentially comprehensive. It is difficult to say much that is original or illuminating about the present volume. Certainly it will be of great value to anyone working in organonickel chemistry or wishing to write a critical review. The cost of the volume works out at just over 6 DM per page, which is within the normal region for Gmelin publications. Much to my delight, I believe that I have discovered a mistake, if only in the preface. There seem to be limits even to Gmelin efficiency!

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