

Gmelin Handbook of Inorganic and Organometallic Chemistry, 8th Edition, Fe Supplement B18, Organoiron Compounds, VOL. XI, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1991, pp. 335. DM 1730. ISBN 3-540-93628-9

This volume is the first of two dealing with mononuclear organoiron compounds which contain, in the Gmelin style, ⁶L ligands, *i.e.* ligands with 6 carbon atoms bonded to the metal. However, it is limited to those with only one ⁶L ligand. It follows 17 volumes on mononuclear iron compounds, and the literature coverage is complete to mid 1990.

The presentation is, as usual with Gmelin, of the highest class. It is, in many ways, an extended compound list, with the addition of preparative methods, yields, spectral properties, and, where appropriate, sketches of structural formulae or representation of molecular structures. Discussion is brief and to the point. The empirical formula index and ligand formula index make the contents very easily accessible. This is an invaluable source book for anyone involved in organoiron chemistry, and should be available in all libraries.

*AFRC Nitrogen Fixation Laboratory,
University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RQ (UK)*

G.J. Leigh