

Book Reviews

Organic Synthesis. State of the Art, 2005–2007. By Douglas Taber. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Hoboken, NJ. 2008. xi + 228 pp. 16 × 24 cm. ISBN 978-0-470-28849-8. \$125.00.

This volume is the second of a series provided by Professor Taber. The first volume, published in 2006, is identical in format covering significant contributions to the field of organic synthesis during 2003–2005. The second volume covering the period 2005–2007 similarly includes both total synthesis and synthetic methods with cumulative author and reaction indices, in addition to the typical listing of contents. These volumes are significant in that they provide timely information that is easy to retrieve in a given area of synthetic organic chemistry. Topics are covered for approximately 6-month periods of time, so in the case of novel C–C bond formations, several chapters may exist in each volume for each time period. Novel and improved functional group transformations, new catalysts, and improved enantioselective methods are included. Total syntheses are also included, again both improved routes to compounds of interest and the synthesis of new chemical structures or natural products.

The series provides a rich source of information for the practicing chemist and highlights the diversity of reactions and methods in use. After a review of the series, it is easy for one to conclude that synthetic organic chemistry remains a continuing intellectual endeavor and is deserving of the attention this series brings to it. The volumes are especially useful for keeping up with the increasingly vast volume of information in this area of research. I look forward to future volumes.

This compilation should be welcomed by anyone involved in the practice, or teaching, of organic synthesis, as it represents an overview of recent significant advances in the field.

Ciro J. Spagnuolo

*Bristol Myers Squibb Company
Research and Development
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903*

JM801462K

10.1021/jm801462k