

III. Organosilanes

Difficulties associated with use of tri-*n*-butyltin hydride have prompted chemists to search for alternative, hydrogen-atom sources, ones that avoid the problems associated with organotin compounds. Most attention has focused on organosilanes, compounds that do not have the toxicity associated with organotin reagents.⁴ Initially, the outlook was not promising because simple organosilanes are poor hydrogen-atom transfers when reacting with alkyl radicals and do not support chain reactions under normal conditions.⁴ Innovative ideas, however, have overcome these problems.

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