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Use of curcumine, a pharmaceutically useful compound in organic reactions

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Curcumin, mainly isolated from turmeric, for long is known for its anti-inflammatory and antioxidant activity. It is also known to be effective against neoplasms, Alzheimer's disease, Hodgkin's disease. There are large numbers of references available in literature about its biological activity and mode of action etc. Contrary to the popular belief that turmeric to be used only in household or as a medicine, we found an entirely different dimension to the whole idea of its activity. Curcumin is found to be active as catalyst. When complexed with palladium, it acts as a catalyst for coupling reactions. It catalyzes efficiently the Heck and Suzuki reactions almost upto 90-95%. The respective products have been isolated in good yield. Thus Curcumin is found to act as an efficient ligand in catalysis study.

Biography

Sangeeta Jagtap received her M.Sc.in Organic Chemistry and is a recipient of Gold Medal from Bombay University (1992), India. She completed her Ph.D. from National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India, under the guidance of Dr. R. M. Deshpande. She worked as a visiting scholar at Stanford University, California, USA, under the guidance of Prof. Barry Trost. She has also completed a 'Post Graduate Diploma in Industrial Program in Pharmaceutical chemistry and Production' and has cleared many competitive examinations like NET, SET, GATE and the tests organized by BARC. Presently she is working as Associate Professor at Baburaoji Gholap College, Sangvi, Pune, India. Her research interests are methodology, organic synthesis and catalysis. She has publications in reputed journals like *Org. Lett., Tet. Lett., Cat. Today etc.* She has authored a book named 'Pharmaceutical, Medicinal and Natural Product Chemistry'.

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