PREPARATION OF BUTADIENE CYCLOTETRAMERS ON COMPLEX NICKEL CATALYSTS

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UDC 542.97:541.64:547.315.2

We found that butadiene on the catalytic system:  $Ni(acac)_2-P(OPh)_3-Al(C_2H_5)_3$ , 1:1:3 (4) (60°C, 3 h), in the presence of bis(trimethylsilyl)acetylene, is converted in 90% yield to a mixture of cyclic oligomers that consists of trans, trans, trans-1,5,9-cyclodode-catriene (I), trans-1,5,9,13-cyclohexadecatetraene (II), and vinyl-trans-1,7,10-cyclotetradecatriene (III) in an 80:15:5 ratio. The mixture of cyclotetramers is easily isolated by fractional distillation through a column. After separation by preparative GLC the hydrocarbons had the following constants:

Hydrocarbon (II), bp 103° (1 mm);  $n_D^{2\circ}$  1.5058. Infrared spectrum ( $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 975, 3030, (trans-CH=CH—). NMR spectrum ( $\delta$ , ppm): 1.9 s (16H, -CH<sub>2</sub>—), 5.1 s (8H, -CH=CH—), m/e 216.

Hydrocarbon (III), bp 126° (0.8 mm);  ${\rm np}^{2\circ}$  1.5138. Infrared spectrum ( $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 920, 1000, 3085 (—C=CH<sub>2</sub>), 975, 3030 (trans-CH=CH—). NMR spectrum ( $\delta$ , ppm): 1.5 m (10H, —CH<sub>2</sub>—), 1.92 (8H, =C—CH<sub>2</sub>—), 2.3 (1H, C<sub>4</sub>—H), 5.1 (2H, —C=CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.0 (1H, H—C=C), m/e 216.

Only succinic acid is obtained by the ozonolysis of (II), while the ozonolysis of (III) gives succinic acid and 3-carboxypimelic acid.

Institute of Chemistry, Bashkir Branch of Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Ufa. Translated from Izvestiya Akademii Nauk USSR, Seriya Khimicheskaya, No. 11, p. 2624, November, 1975. Original article submitted July 15, 1975.

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