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Short Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Alain De Mesmaeker

Principal Chemistry Expert, Principal Syngenta Fellow

Born in Brussels, Belgium (1955)

Education:

Licence in Chemistry (1973-1978), Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium
(Intramolecular reactions of Norbornene derivatives; Prof. H. G. Viehe)

PhD in Chemistry (1978-1983), Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium (Synthesis and thermal isomerisation of capto-dative substituted cyclopropanes, Prof. H. G. Viehe)

Post-doctoral Research (1983-1985), Weizmann Institute of Sciences, Rehovot, Israel (Total synthesis of carbacyclic analogues of Clavulanic Acid using radical reactions, Prof. M. D. Bachi)

Industrial Research :

1985-1996: Team leader, Project Leader, Group Leader in Central Research Laboratories, Ciba-Geigy, Basel, Switzerland (Natural Products synthesis, Intramolecular ketene cycloadditions, Radical Chemistry, Carbohydrate Chemistry, Nucleic Acids Research and Antisense strategy (Amide backbone modifications for Antisense Oligonucleotides), Combinatorial Chemistry (Palladium catalyzed cross-coupling on solid-phase support)

1997-2000: Group Leader, Head of Research Chemistry, Novartis Crop Protection Research (Insecticides, Herbicides and Fungicides Projects)

2000-2008: Global Head of Research Chemistry, Syngenta Crop Protection (Switzerland, United Kingdom, India)

2008-present: Principal Chemistry Expert and Principal Syngenta Fellow (since 2010, Highest Scientific Level in Syngenta R&D), Syngenta Crop Protection and Crop Enhancement Research (Phytohormones), Stein, Switzerland

Member of several boards and organizing committees (for ex. Bürgenstock EUCHEM Conference on Stereochemistry, Swiss Chemical Society-Syngenta Symposium on Organic Chemistry, Jury member of the "Karrer Gold Medal Award" University of Zürich, Kontakt Gruppe für Forschungsfragen KGF, Werner Foundation, Board of Directors of the Swiss Chemical Society, Belgian Organic Synthesis Symposium BOSS)

Vice-President of the Swiss Chemical Society

88 Publications, > 50 Patents, > 50 Invited lectures