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Ester reduction ...

... with manganese catalysis is enabled by balancing the reactivity of the Mn(I) species with simple bidentate P,N ligands and the alkoxide base. In their Communication on page 7531 ff., E. A. Pidko and co-workers report highly active Mn-based catalyst systems for selective ester hydrogenation. Their performance is the result of a delicate balance between the complex catalytic and deactivation paths, which depend on the choice of the solvent, base, and the reaction conditions.



van Putten R, Uslamin EA, Garbe M, Liu C, Gonzalez-de-Castro A, Lutz M, Junge K, Hensen EJM, Beller M, Lefort L, and **Pidko EA**. *ANGEWANDTE CHEMIE INTERNATIONAL EDITION*, **2017**, *56*, 7531-7534. Non-Pincer-Type Manganese Complexes as Efficient Catalysts for the Hydrogenation of Esters.