

ABSTRACT

A process for producing hinokitiol which comprises the step of obtaining 1-isopropylcyclopentadiene from cyclopentadiene and an isopropylating agent represented by the general formula $R - X$ wherein R is an isopropyl group and X is a halogen or the like (first step), reacting it with a dihaloketene to obtain a ketene adduct (second step), and decomposing the ketene adduct (third step), said first step comprising the following three steps:

- a) a preparation step of cyclopentadienyl metal;
- b) a step of obtaining isopropylcyclopentadiene by isopropylating the cyclopentadienyl metal in an aprotic polar solvent; and
- c) a step of isomerizing 5-isopropylcyclopentadiene in the product selectively to 1-isopropylcyclopentadiene with heat.