



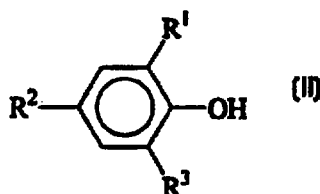
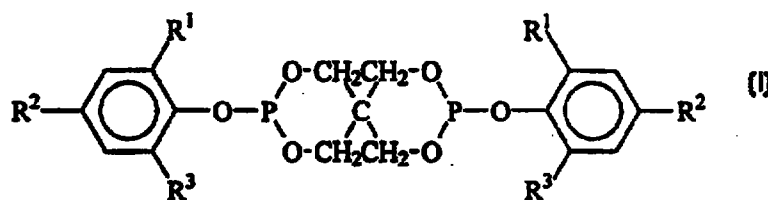
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(54) Title: PREPARATION OF SPIRO BIS-PHOSPHITES USING FINELY GROUND PENTAERYTHRITOL



(57) Abstract

A process for producing organo-phosphites of formula (I), wherein R^1 and R^2 are each 2,4-di-*tert*-butyl and R^3 is hydrogen is provided. The process involves heating a reaction mixture containing pentaerythritol wherein the pentaerythritol has an average particle size of about 250 microns or less, preferably the pentaerythritol has an average particle size of about 150 microns or less, phosphorous trihalide, a phenolic compound of formula (II), wherein each R^1 and R^2 is *t*-butyl and R^3 is hydrogen, a solvent selected from the group consisting of heptane, hexane, octane, xylene, toluene, and mixtures of the solvents containing at least one of the aforementioned and a catalyst. The process utilizing the aforementioned pentaerythritol particle size has the unexpected advantages of short reaction times as compared to the same process using a larger pentaerythritol particle size.