The Coupling-Isomerization Approach to Enimines and the First Sequential Three-Component Access to 2-Ethoxy Pyridines*

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The coupling-isomerization reaction (CIR) of electron-deficient halides **1** with *N*-[1-(hetero)aryl-prop-2-ynyl] tosyl amides **2** leads to the formation of *N*-tosyl enimines **3**, in good to excellent yields. These electron deficient heterodienes are perfectly suited for Diels-Alder reactions with inverse electron demand. In the sense of a one-pot reaction a three-component CIR-cyclocondensation sequence of **1**, **2a**, and diethyl ketene acetal gives rise to the formation of 2-ethoxy 6-(*p*-anisyl)pyridines **4** in moderate to good yields.

Key words: Alkynes, Catalysis, Cross-Couplings, Cyclocondensation, Pyridines