

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Ruzička, Leopold(Lavoslav) Stephen

1887 - 1976

DEGREE: PhD

DATE: 1910

PLACE: TU Karlsruhe

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Staudinger

Nobel Prize 1939; isolated first examples of large ring compounds (8-30 carbon atoms); isolated and characterized pyrethrins (insecticides; descendants of the cockroaches Ruzička used to test his compounds roam the ETH chemistry building to this day); established structures of important perfume constituents; first partial synthesis of androsterone and testosterone; established structural link between terpenes and steroids; formulated biogenetic isoprene rule for biochemical synthesis of terpenes.

1. *Biog. Mem. Fell. Roy. Soc.* **1980**, 26, 411-501.
2. Asimov, I. *Asimov's Biographical Encyclopedia of Science and Technology (2nd Ed.)*; Doubleday: 1982; p712.
3. *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*; Charles Scribner's Sons: 1970-1990; vol. 18, p764-765.
4. *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1983**, 66, 1307-1342.
5. *Chimia* **1990**, 44, 1-21.
6. *Ann. Rev. Biochem.* **1973**, 42, 1-20.