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## Nitropeptin, a New Dipeptide Antibiotic Possessing a Nitro Group

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*Streptomyces xanthochromogenes* 6257-MC<sub>1</sub> was isolated from a soil sample collected at Matsushima, Japan, and was found to produce a new antifungal antibiotic, nitropeptin. It is a water soluble, acidic compound of C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>Na showing  $\lambda$  max 242 nm ( $\epsilon$  9,800) in alkaline solution. From the acid hydrolyzate L-leucine was identified and the total structure was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra, mainly by 2D-COSY, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C shift correlation and <sup>1</sup>H spin decoupling experiments. Nitropeptin, characterized as N-L-leucyl- $\beta$ -nitroglutamic acid, was regarded as an antimetabolite of glutamine. It showed protective effect against rice plant disease caused by *Pyricularia oryzae* in a green house test (94% at 200 ppm). LD<sub>50</sub> in mice was 50–100 mg/kg (iv).

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