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| Author           | 大場, 和則(Oba, Kazunori)<br>中山, 宏(Nakayama, Hiroshi)<br>降旗, 一夫(Furihata, Kazuo)<br>島津, 昭(Shimazu, Akira)<br>遠藤, 豊成(Endo, Toyoshige)<br>瀬戸, 治男(Seto, Haruo)<br>大岳, 望(Otake, Noboru)                                   |
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## Nitropeptin, a New Dipeptide Antibiotic Possessing a Nitro Group

Kazunori OHBA\*, Hiroshi NAKAYAMA\*, Kazuo FURIHATA\*, Akira SHIMAZU\*,  
Toyoshige ENDŌ, Haruo SETO\* and Noboru ŌTAKE\*

大場和則\*, 中山 宏\*, 降旗一夫\*, 島津 昭\*, 遠藤豊成, 瀬戸治男\*, 大岳 望\*

*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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\* Insutitute of Applied Microbiology, The University of Tokyo.