

## PRODUCT DATA SHEET

Code No.: BIA-M1973

Pack sizes: 0.5 mg, 2.5 mg



Synonyms

Monascin

Monascoflavin, Monascoflavine

## Specifications

CAS #	:	21516-68-7
Molecular Formula	:	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>26</sub> O <sub>5</sub>
Molecular Weight	:	358.43
Source	:	Penicillium sp.
Appearance	:	Orange to tan solid
Purity	:	>95% by HPLC
Long Term Storage	:	-20°C
Solubility	:	Soluble in methanol or DMSO

## **Application Notes**

Monascin (monascoflavin) is a yellow-orange pigment isolated from the fungus, Monascus purpureus used to produce red yeast rice. The structure of monascin was elucidated in 1960. Monascin has a broad bioprofile, including anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, antidiabetic, immunomodulatory, neuroprotective and antitumor effects. Monascin is a PPAR-γ agonist and attenuates proinflammatory mediators, including inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) and cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) expression as well as nitric oxide (NO) and prostaglandin E(2) (PGE2) formation caused by ovalbumin-induced inflammation in the human THP-1 monocyte cell line. Monascin inhibits the skin tumor-initiating effects of peroxynitrite or UVB and the tumor-promoting effects of 12-O-tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate in a mouse model.

## References

- 1. Monascoflavin. Ohashi M. et al. Bull Chem Soc Jpn. 1960, 33, 1630.
- 2. Monascus-fermented metabolite monascin suppresses inflammation via PPAR-γ regulation and JNK inactivation in THP-1 monocytes. Hsu W-H. et al. Food Chem Toxicol. 2012, 50, 1178.
- 3. Anti-tumor-initiating effects of monascin, an azaphilonoid pigment from the extract of Monascus pilosus fermented rice (red-mold rice). Akihasa T. et al. Chem Biodiversity 2005, 2, 1305.
- 4. Alleviation of metabolic syndrome by monascin and ankaflavin: the perspective of Monascus functional foods. Lin C-H. et al. Food Funct. 2017, 8, 2102.

Updated: 11 June 2021

© Copyright BioAustralis 2021