## fine chemicals

## Monascin

Code No.: BIA-M1973

Pack sizes: $\mathbf{0 . 5} \mathbf{~ m g}, \mathbf{2 . 5} \mathbf{~ m g}$


Synonyms : Monascoflavin, Monascoflavine

## Specifications

## CAS \#

Molecular Formula
Molecular Weight
Source
Appearance
Purity
Long Term Storage
Solubility
: 21516-68-7
: $\mathrm{C}_{21} \mathrm{H}_{26} \mathrm{O}_{5}$
: 358.43
: Penicillium sp.
: Orange to tan solid
: $\quad>95 \%$ by HPLC
: $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
: 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-y 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 tumorpromoting 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-y 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.
