

PHYTOCHEMISTRY

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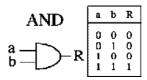
REVIEW

Update in bioinformatics. Toward a digital database of plant cell signalling networks: advantages, limitations and predictive aspects of the digital model

pp 267-276

Marcela Beatriz Treviño Santa Cruz, Dominique Genoud, Jean-Pierre Métraux, Thierry Genoud*

The properties of a digital modeling of signal transduction networks and the potential



benefits of this method for creating a computer database of plant signalling events within a 'digital plant' project are presented.

FULL PAPERS

PROTEIN BIOCHEMISTRY

Starter substrate specificities of wild-type and mutant polyketide synthases from Rutaceae

pp 277–284

Richard Lukačin, Stephan Schreiner, Katrin Silber, Ulrich Matern*

Chalcone and acridone synthases catalyse similar condensations of 4-coumaroyl-CoA and N-methylanthraniloyl-CoA, respectively, with three malonyl-CoAs, and the enzyme polypeptides show 75–85% sequence homology. Mutant chalcone synthases were generated from *Ruta* CHS1 with the aim to confer acridone synthase activity. Homology modeling and docking studies suggested that a Phe267Val and further conformational changes in the periphery of the polypeptide backbone are essentially required.

MOLECULAR GENETICS AND GENOMICS

A geraniol-synthase gene from Cinnamomum tenuipilum

pp 285-293

Tao Yang, Jing Li, Hao-Xin Wang, Ying Zeng*

A cDNA clone from *Cinnamomum tenuipilum* was isolated, functionally expressed in *Escherichia coli* and thereby identified as a single copy gene coding for a geraniol synthase. The CtGES is more abundantly expressed in leaves of a geraniol chemotype than in those of either linalool or farnesol chemotypes.

METABOLISM

Metabolism of geraniol in grape berry mesocarp of *Vitis vinifera* L. cv. Scheurebe: demonstration of stereoselective reduction, *ElZ*-isomerization, oxidation and glycosylation

Fang Luan, Armin Mosandl, Andreas Münch, Matthias Wüst*

The metabolism of deuterium labeled geraniol 5 in grape mesocarp of *Vitis vinifera* L. cv. Scheurebe was studied by in vivo-feeding experiments. Stereoselective reduction to (S)-citronellol 9, stereoselective biosynthesis of the potent odorant cis-(2S,4R)-rose oxide 11 and E/Z-isomerization to nerol 7 could be demonstrated.

pp 295-303

Biosynthesis of mono- and sesquiterpenes in carrot roots and leaves (*Daucus carota* L.): metabolic cross talk of cytosolic mevalonate and plastidial methylerythritol phosphate pathways

Daniela Hampel, Armin Mosandl, Matthias Wüst*

The biosynthesis of the monoterpenes terpinolene and myrcene and the sesquiterpene β -caryophyllene in roots and leaves of two carrot varieties were investigated.

pp 305-311

Visible light-induced oxidation of unsaturated components of cutins: a significant process during the senescence of higher plants

Jean-François Rontani*, Adélaïde Rabourdin, Franck Pinot, Sylvie Kandel, Claude Aubert

Visible light-induced oxidation of 18-hydroxyoleic acid (a cutin component) was observed in senescent leaves of parsley. The photoproducts thus formed were then detected in different natural samples.

pp 313-321

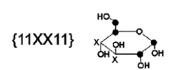
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Metabolic flux analysis in complex isotopolog space. Recycling of glucose in tobacco plants

Christian Ettenhuber, Tanja Radykewicz, Waltraud Kofer, Hans-Ulrich Koop, Adelbert Bacher, Wolfgang Eisenreich*

Tobacco plants grown on agar were supplied with [U-¹³C₆]glucose via the root system. Fourteen glucose isotopologs from leaf extract were analysed by ¹³C NMR and interpreted in terms of their metabolic history.

pp 323–335



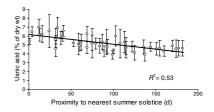
ECOLOGICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

Seasonal trends in usnic acid concentrations of Arctic, alpine and Patagonian populations of the lichen *Flavocetraria nivalis*

pp 337-344

Jarle W. Bjerke*, Arve Elvebakk, Erwin Domínguez, Arne Dahlback

Variations in usnic acid concentrations in four widely separated populations of the lichen *Flavocetraria nivalis* are modestly correlated with time of season, as measured by the proximity in time to nearest summer solstice.



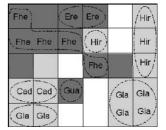
CHEMOTAXONOMY

Sesquiterpene lactone-based classification of three Asteraceae tribes: a study based on self-organizing neural networks applied to chemosystematics

pp 345-353

Fernando B. Da Costa*, Lothar Terfloth, Johnann Gasteiger

Encoded 3D structures of sesquiterpene lactones of three tribes of the family Asteraceae were projected into self-organizing maps allowing the prediction of occurrence of structures in taxa.



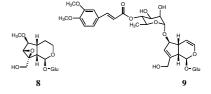
BIOACTIVE PRODUCTS

Anti-protozoal and plasmodial FabI enzyme inhibiting metabolites of *Scrophularia lepidota* roots

pp 355-362

Deniz Tasdemir*, Nadide Deniz Güner, Remo Perozzo, Reto Brun, Ali A. Dönmez, Ihsan Çalıs, Peter Rüedi

Nine iridoid glycosides, two of which (8, 9) are new, an iridoid-related aglycone (10) and a phenylethanoid glycoside, angoroside C (11), were isolated from the roots of *S. lepidota*. Compound 9 showed remarkable leishmanicidal activity (IC₅₀ 6.1 μ g/ml), while 10 exhibited anti-malarial (40.6 g/ml) and plasmodial FabI inhibitory potential (IC₅₀ 100 μ g/ml). 10 is the second anti-malarial natural product targeting the FabI enzyme of *Plasmodium falciparum*.



CHEMISTRY

Isolation and structural characterisation of 8–O–4/8–O–4- and 8–8/8–O–4-coupled dehydrotriferulic acids from maize bran

pp 363-371

Carola Funk, John Ralph, Hans Steinhart, Mirko Bunzel*

The isolation of two dehydrotriferulic acids from maize bran fiber demonstrates that ferulate trimers contribute to a strong network within the plant cell wall. These trimers do not contain a 5–5-coupled dimeric unit, hinting that more than two polysaccharide chains may be coupled by ferulate oligomers.

Alkaloids from Nerine filifolia

pp 373-382

Jerald J. Nair, William E. Campbell, Reto Brun, Francesc Viladomat, Carles Codina, Jaume Bastida*

The alkaloids N-demethylbelladine, 6α -methoxybuphanidrine and filifoline are described for the first time from bulbs of N-erine filifolia (Amaryllidaceae). The nicotinate ester in filifoline was observed to reverse molecular ellipticity as expressed in the shape of the CD curve.

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^{*} Corresponding author