

An amino acid conjugate of jasmonic acid, i.e. Njasmonoylisoleucine (JA-Ile) was obtained from culture media of the fungus Gibberella fujikuroi in 1970 (1). JA-Ile and several other JA conjugates were subsequently isolated from plants, and a series of N-(jasmonoyl)amino acids was prepared by organic synthesis (2). Interest in JA-amino acid conjugates was stimulated by the finding of an enzyme in Arabidopsis which activates JA by conjugating it to isoleucine (3). Recent studies of JA-amino acid conjugates have focussed on socalled COI1 (coronatineinsensitive 1) and JAZ (jasmonate ŹIM-domain) proteins and the JA-Ile-promoted interaction between JAZ and COI1 (4-6). The bacterial product coronatine, a molecular mimick of JA-Ile (7), and other chemically prepared analogs of JA-Ile (8) are important tools in this research.

JA-Ile (O-1803-35) synthesized by Lipidox is the coupling product of (-)-JA and (S)-Ile obtained following preparative reversed.phase HPLC and crystallization from ethyl acetate.

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