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(54) Titre : DEPSIPEPTIDES AVEC CYCLE DE 18 ATOMES, RENFERMANT DE L'ACIDE LACTIQUE, AGENTS
ENDOPARASITICIDES; METHODE DE PREPARATION

(54) Title: LACTIC-ACID-CONTAINING CYCLIC DEPSIPEPTIDES HAVING 18 RING ATOMS AS ENDOPARASITICIDAL
AGENTS, AND PROCESS FOR THEIR PREPARATION

(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

The present invention relates to a process for the preparation of lactic-acid-containing, optically active, cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms with the aid of fungal strains of the species *Fusarium* or enzymatic preparations isolated therefrom.

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Lactic-acid-containing cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms as endoparasitocidal agents, and process for their preparation

A b s t r a c t

The present invention relates to a process for the preparation of lactic-acid-containing, optically active, cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms with the aid of fungal strains of the species *Fusarium* or enzymatic preparations isolated therefrom.

The present invention relates to a new process for the preparation of lactic-acid-containing cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms, some of these depsipeptides being known.

5 Certain lactic-acid-containing cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms (enniatis) and their use as endoparasiticides are already the subject of an earlier patent application (DE-OS (German Published Specification) 4 317 458).

10 A series of chemical and microbial processes exist for the preparation of cyclic depsipeptides which have 18 ring atoms and contain D-2-hydroxy-isovaleric acid.

(for example by synthesis, cf.: P. Quitt et al., *Helv. Chimica Acta* 46 (1963) pp. 1715-1720; P. Quitt et al.,

15 *Helv. Chimica Acta* 47 (1964) pp. 166-173 [enniatin A]; Pl. A. Plattner et al., *Helv. Chimica Acta* 46 (1963) pp. 927-935 [enniatin B]; Yu. A. Ovchinnikov et al., *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2 (1971) pp. 159-162; R. W. Roeske et al., *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* 57 (1974) pp. 554-561

20 [beauvericin]; for example by fermentation, cf.: R. Zocher et al., *J. Antibiotics* 45 (1992) pp. 1273-1277 [enniatis A, B and C]; A. Visconti et al., *J. Agric. Food Chem.* 40 (1992) pp. 1076-1082 [enniatin B₄]; Hiroshi Tomoda et al., *J. Antibiotics* 45 (1992) pp. 1207-1215

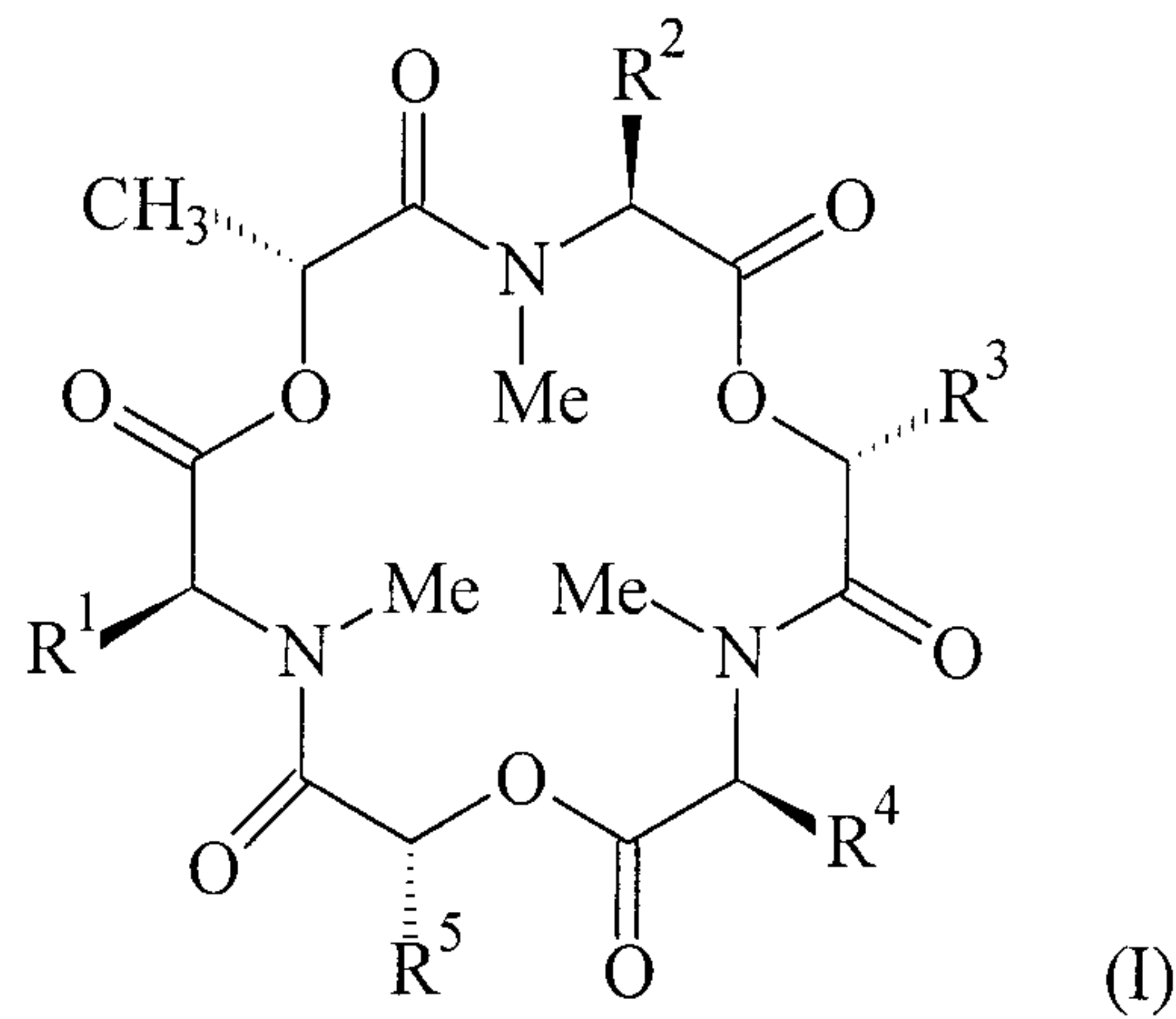
25 [enniatis A, A₁, B, B₁, D, E and F]).

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The fermentation of a cyclohexadepsipeptide which contains D-2-hydroxy-sec-caproic acid is described in a Japanese patent (cf. synthesis of MK 1688: JP Patent 02 229 177 A2; Ref. C.A. 114 (23): 227 487k).

5 However, nothing has been disclosed about synthesizing lactic-acid-containing cyclohexadepsipeptides (enniains) by means of fermentation.

The present invention, according to one aspect, relates to a use of a fungal strain of the species Fusarium 10 or an enzymatic preparation isolated therefrom for the preparation of a lactic-acid-containing, optically active, cyclic depsipeptide having 18 ring atoms, wherein the optically active, cyclic depsipeptide having 18 ring atoms is of the formula (I):



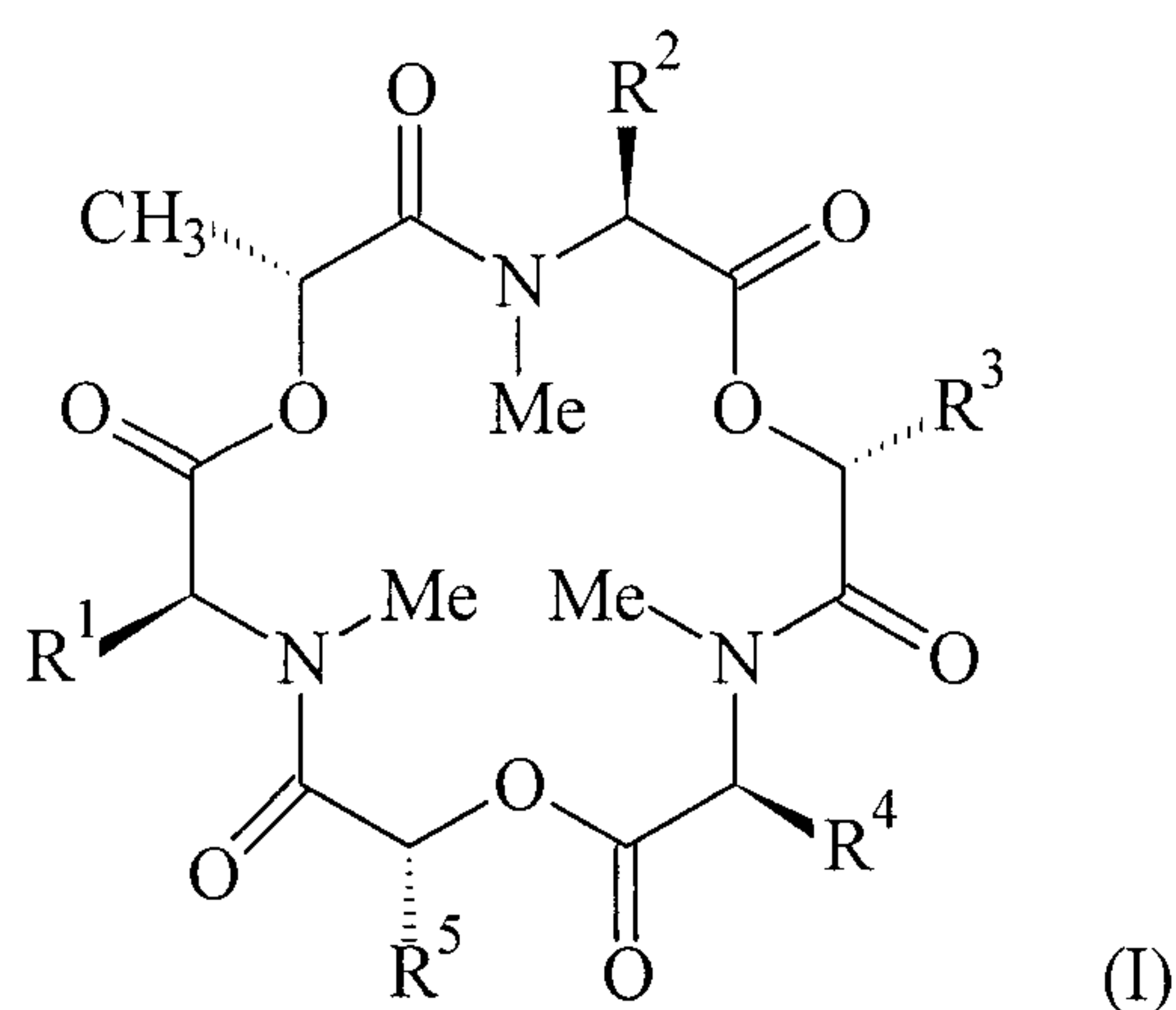
in which R¹, R² and R⁴ independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl, mercaptoalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, alkylsulphinylalkyl, alkylsulphonylalkyl, carboxyalkyl, 25 alkoxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, guanidinoalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, cyclic alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, or

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optionally substituted arylalkyl or hetarylalkyl, substituents being halogen, hydroxyl, alkoxy, alkyl, nitro or amino, R³ and R⁵ independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl, mercaptoalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, alkylsulphinylalkyl, alkylsulphonylalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, cyclic alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, or optionally substituted arylalkyl or hetarylalkyl, substituents being halogen, hydroxyl, alkoxy, alkyl, nitro or amino.

The present invention relates, in another aspect, to a process for the preparation of lactic-acid-containing, optically active, cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms with the aid of fungal strains of the species *Fusarium*, or enzymatic preparations isolated therefrom.

In the process according to the invention, the lactic-acid-containing, optically active, cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms (enniatiins) of the general formula (I)



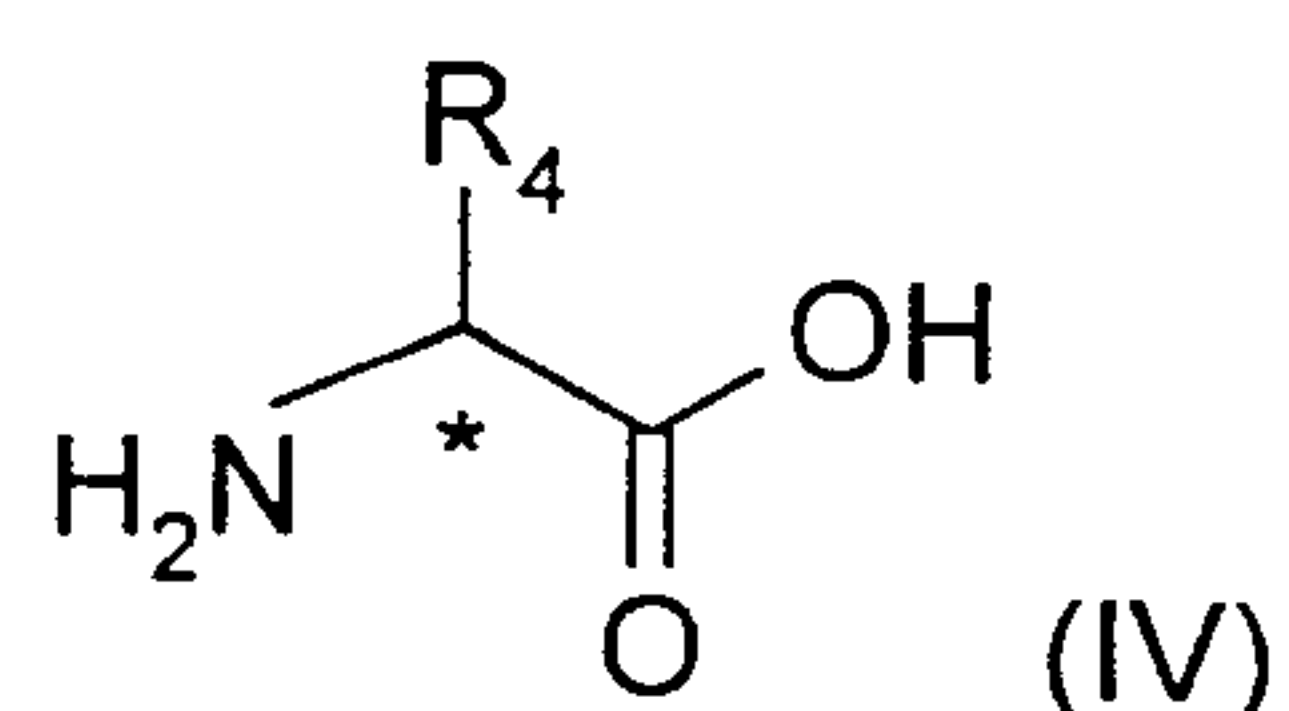
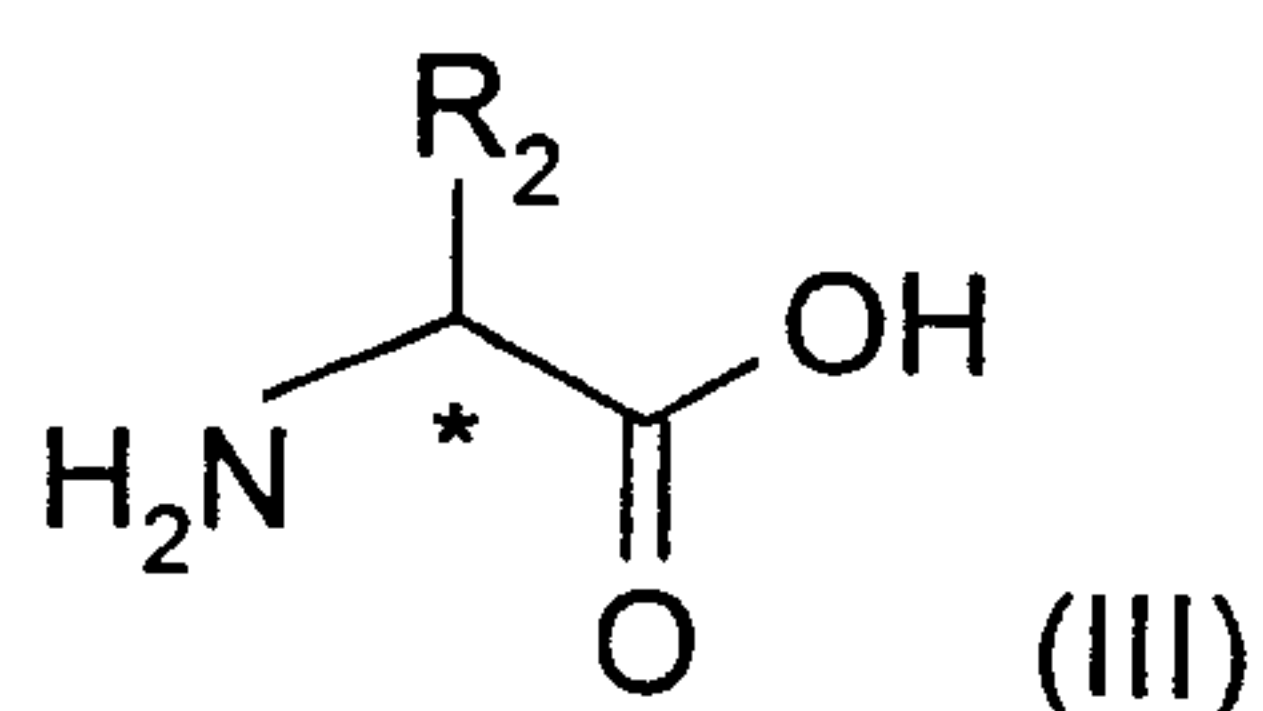
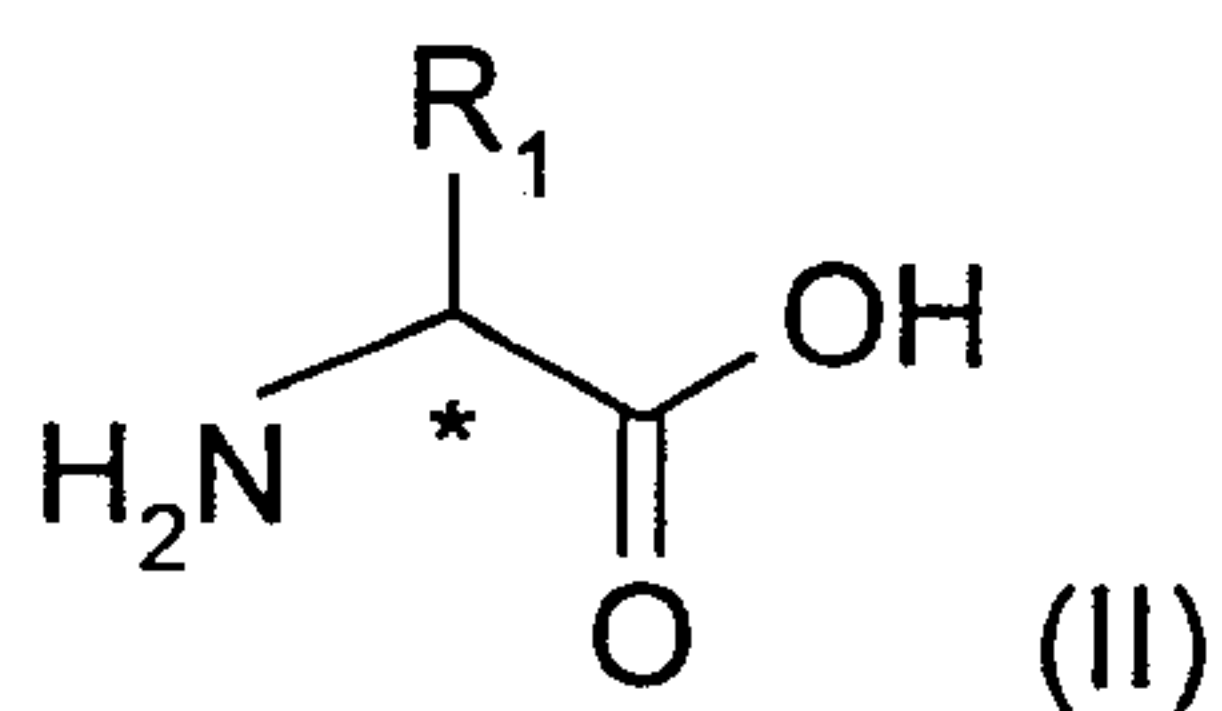
in which

R¹, R² and R⁴ independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl, mercaptoalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, alkylsulphinylalkyl, alkylsulphonylalkyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxy-carbonylalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, guanidinoalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, cyclic alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, and optionally substituted arylalkyl or hetarylalkyl, substituents which may be mentioned being halogen, hydroxyl, alkoxy, alkyl, nitro or amino,

R³ and R⁵ independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl, mercaptoalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, alkylsulphinylalkyl, alkylsulphonylalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, cyclic alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, and optionally substituted arylalkyl or hetarylalkyl, substituents which may be mentioned being halogen, hydroxyl, alkoxy, alkyl, nitro or amino,

are prepared by

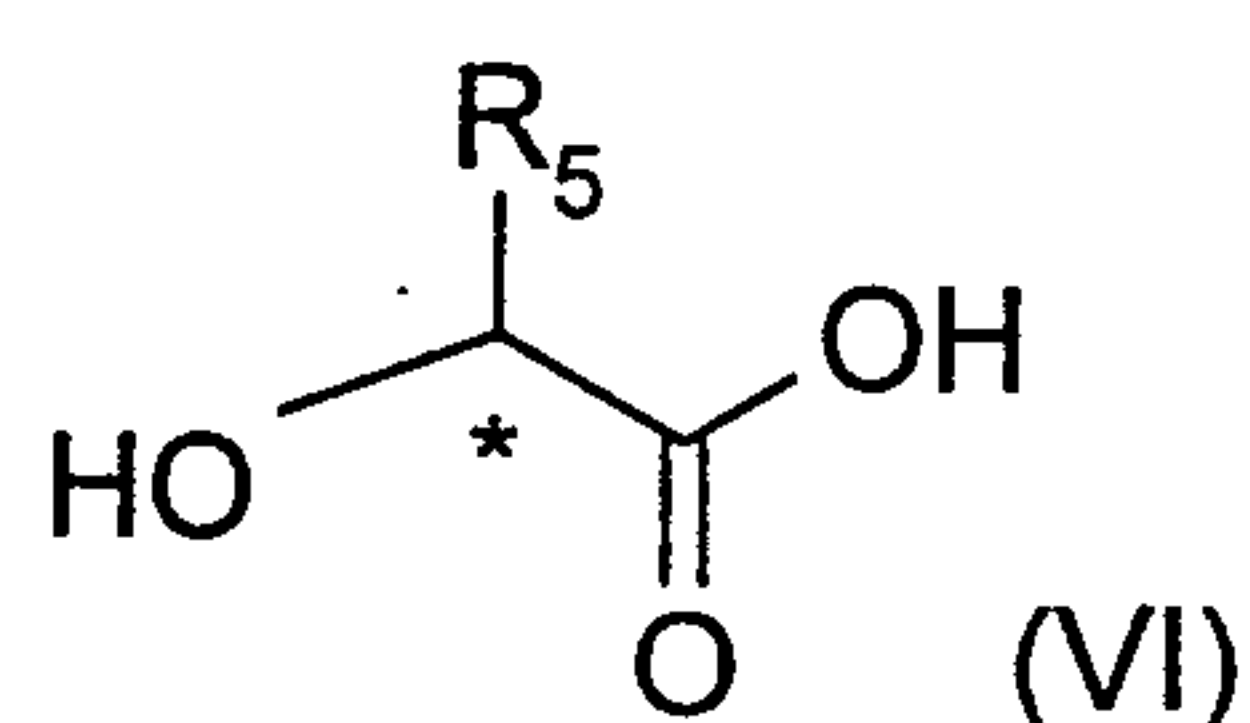
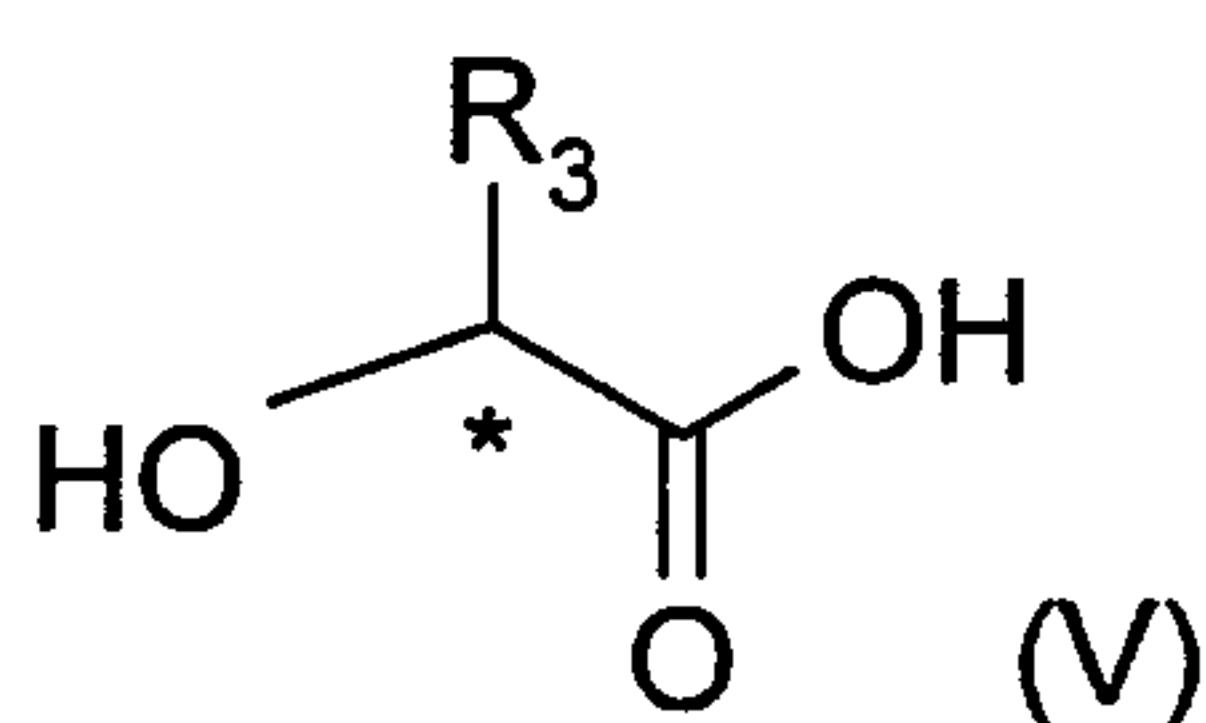
reacting optically active racemic amino acids of the formulae (II), (III) and (IV)



in which

R^1 , R^2 and R^4 have the abovementioned meaning,

5 with optically active or racemic 2-hydroxy-carboxylic acids of the formulae (V) and (VI)



in which

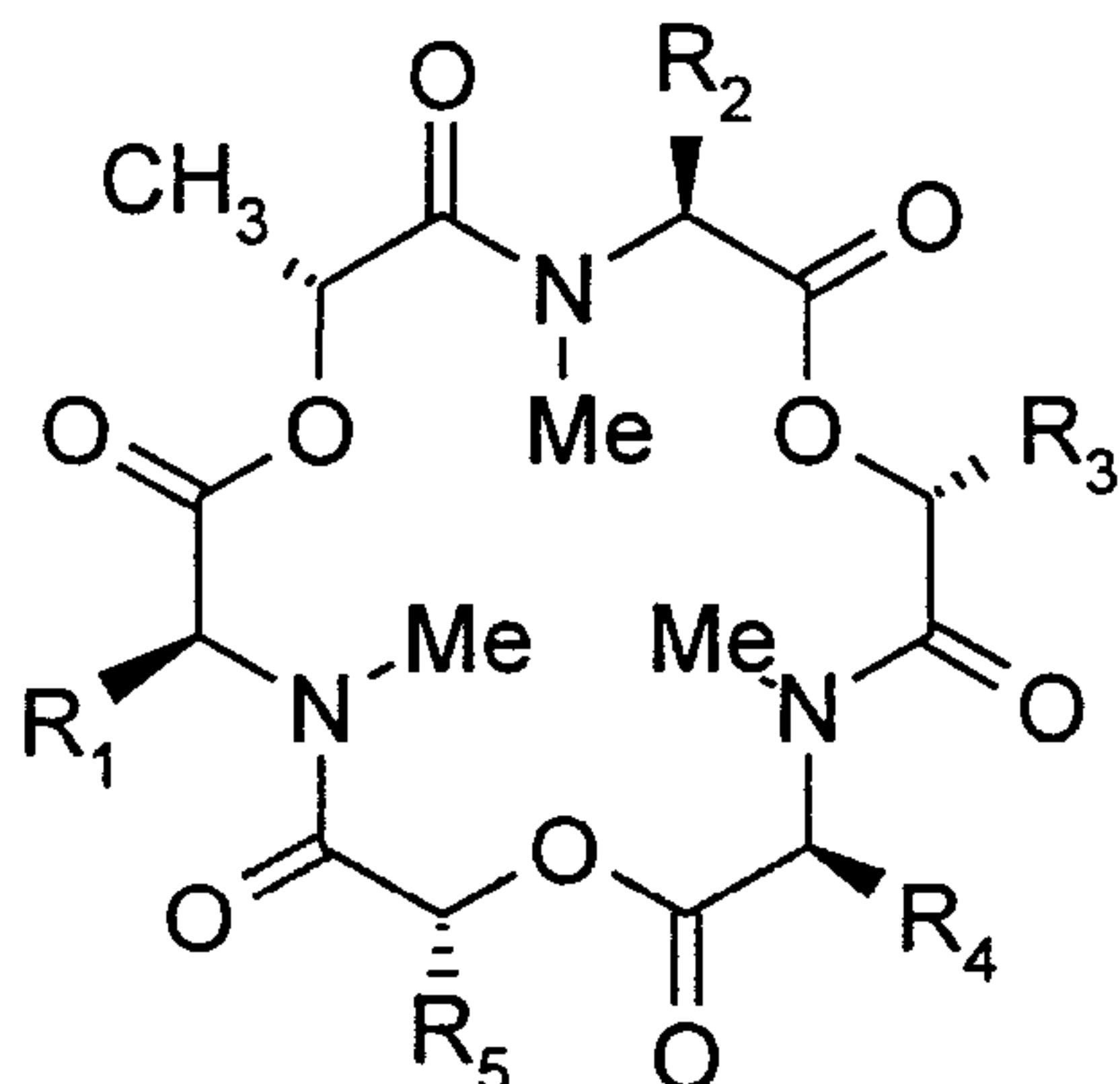
R^3 and R^5 have the abovementioned meaning,

10 and optically active or racemic lactic acid in the presence of fungal strains of the species *Fusarium* in suitable nutrient solutions or in a buffer system in the presence of synthetases isolated from microorganisms, and subsequently isolating the desired lactic-acid-containing cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms (enniatiins).

15 The lactic-acid-containing cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms (enniatiins) of the general formula (I) are

outstandingly suitable for combating endoparasites, in particular in the field of medicine and veterinary medicine

5 The general formula (I) provides a general definition of the lactic-acid-containing cyclic depsipeptides having 18 ring atoms (enniatiins) according to the invention.



(I)

Preferred compounds of the general formula (I) are those

in which

10 R¹, R² and R⁴ independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched C₁-C₈-alkyl, in particular methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, sec-pentyl, 1,2-dimethylpropyl, neo-pentyl, 1-ethyl-propyl,
 15 1,1,-dimethyl-propyl, hexyl, isohexyl, sec-hexyl, heptyl, isoheptyl, sec-heptyl, tert-heptyl, octyl, isooctyl, sec-octyl, hydroxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular hydroxymethyl, 1- and 2-hydroxyethyl,

mercapto-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular mercaptomethyl,
 C₁-C₄-alkylthio-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular methyl-
 thiomethyl, methylthioethyl, C₁-C₄-alkylsulphinyl-
 C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular methylsulphinylmethyl,
 5 methylsulphinylethyl, C₁-C₄-alkylsulphonyl-C₁-C₄-alkyl,
 in particular methylsulphonylmethyl, methyl-
 sulphonylethyl, carboxy-C₁-C₆-alkyl, in particular
 methoxycarbonylmethyl, ethoxycarbonylethyl,
 carbamoyl-C₁-C₆-alkyl, in particular carbamoylmethyl,
 10 carbamoylethyl, amino-C₁-C₆-alkyl, in particular
 aminopropyl, aminobutyl, C₁-C₄-alkylamino-C₁-C₆-alkyl,
 in particular methylaminopropyl, methylaminobutyl,
 C₁-C₄-dialkylamino-C₁-C₆-alkyl, in particular
 dimethylaminopropyl, dimethylaminobutyl, guanido-
 15 C₁-C₆-alkyl, in particular guanidopropyl, C₂-C₆-
 alkenyl, in particular vinyl, allyl, butenyl,
 hexenyl, C₃-C₇-cyclo-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular
 cyclopropylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexyl-
 methyl, cycloheptylmethyl, hetaryl-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in
 20 particular thien-2-yl-methyl, thien-3-yl-methyl,
 indol-3-yl-methyl, phenyl-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular
 phenylmethyl which can optionally be substituted by
 radicals from the series comprising halogen, in
 particular fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine,
 25 hydroxyl, nitro, amino, C₁-C₄-alkoxy, in particular
 methoxy or ethoxy and C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular
 methyl,

R³ and R⁵ independently of one another represent hydrogen,
 straight-chain or branched C₁-C₈-alkyl, in particular

methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl,
 sec-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, sec-pentyl,
 1,2-dimethylpropyl, neo-pentyl, 1-ethyl-propyl, 1,1-
 dimethyl-propyl, hexyl, isoheptyl, sec-hexyl, heptyl,
 5 isoheptyl, sec-heptyl, tert-heptyl, octyl, isooctyl,
 sec-octyl, hydroxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular
 hydroxymethyl, 1- and 2-hydroxyoxyethyl, mercapto-C₁-
 C₄-alkyl, in particular mercaptomethyl, C₁-C₄-alkyl-
 thio-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular methylthiomethyl,
 10 methylthioethyl, C₁-C₄-alkylsulphinyl-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in
 particular methylsulphinylmethyl, methylsulphinyl-
 ethyl, C₁-C₄-alkylsulphonyl-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular
 methylsulphonylmethyl, methylsulphonylethyl, C₂-C₆-
 alkenyl, in particular vinyl, allyl, butenyl,
 15 hexenyl, C₃-C₇-cyclo-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular cyclo-
 propylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexylmethyl,
 cycloheptylmethyl, hetaryl-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular
 thien-2-yl-methyl, thien-3-yl-methyl, phenyl-C₁-C₄-
 alkyl, in particular phenylmethyl which can
 20 optionally be substituted by radicals from the
 series comprising halogen, in particular fluorine,
 chlorine, bromine or iodine, hydroxyl, nitro, amino,
 C₁-C₄-alkoxy, in particular methoxy or ethoxy, and
 C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular methyl.

25 Particularly preferred compounds of the general formula
 (I) are those in which

R¹, R² and R⁴ independently of one another represent
 straight-chain or branched C₁-C₈-alkyl, in particular

methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl,
 sec-butyl, pentyl, sec-pentyl, 1,2-dimethyl-propyl,
 neo-pentyl, 1-ethyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-propyl,
 5 hexyl, isoheptyl, sec-hexyl, heptyl, isoheptyl, sec-
 heptyl, octyl, isooctyl, sec-octyl, hydroxy-C₁-C₄-
 alkyl, in particular hydroxymethyl, 1- and 2-
 hydroxyoxyethyl, mercapto-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular
 mercaptomethyl, C₁-C₄-alkylthio-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in par-
 10 ticular methylthiomethyl, methylthioethyl, C₂-C₆-
 alkenyl, in particular vinyl, allyl, butenyl,
 hexenyl, C₃-C₇-cyclo-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular cyclo-
 propylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexylmethyl or
 cycloheptylmethyl,

R³ and R⁵ independently of one another represent straight-
 15 chain or branched C₁-C₈-alkyl, in particular methyl,
 ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-
 butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, sec-pentyl, 1,2-dimethyl-
 propyl, neo-pentyl, 1-ethyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-
 propyl, hexyl, isoheptyl, sec-hexyl, heptyl, iso-
 20 heptyl, sec-heptyl, tert-heptyl, octyl, isooctyl,
 sec-octyl, hydroxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular
 hydroxymethyl, 1- and 2-hydroxyoxyethyl, C₁-C₄-alkyl-
 thio-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular methylthiomethyl, C₂-
 C₆-alkenyl, in particular vinyl, allyl, butenyl,
 25 hexenyl, C₃-C₇-cyclo-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular cyclo-
 propylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexylmethyl or
 cycloheptylmethyl.

Very particularly preferred compounds of the formula (I)

are those in which

5 R¹, R² and R⁴ independently of one another represent
 straight-chain or branched C₁-C₈-alkyl, in particular
 methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl,
 sec-butyl, pentyl, sec-pentyl, 1,2-dimethyl-propyl,
 10 neo-pentyl, 1-ethylpropyl, 1,1-dimethyl-propyl,
 hexyl, isohexyl, sec-hexyl, heptyl, isoheptyl, sec-
 heptyl, octyl, isooctyl, sec-octyl, C₂-C₆-alkenyl, in
 particular vinyl, allyl, butenyl, C₃-C₇-cyclo-
 C₁-C₄-alkyl, in particular cyclohexylmethyl,

15 R³ and R⁵ independently of one another represent
 straight-chain or branched C₁-C₈-alkyl, in particular
 methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl,
 sec-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, sec-pentyl, 1,2-
 20 dimethyl-propyl, neo-pentyl, 1-ethyl-propyl, 1,1-
 dimethyl-propyl, hexyl, isohexyl, sec-hexyl, heptyl,
 isoheptyl, sec-heptyl, tert-heptyl, octyl, isooctyl,
 sec-octyl, C₂-C₆-alkenyl, in particular vinyl, allyl,
 butenyl, hexenyl, C₃-C₇-cyclo-C₁-C₄-alkyl, in
 particular cyclohexylmethyl.

The following optically active compounds of the general
 formula (I) may be mentioned individually:

25 cyclo(-N-methyl-L-alanyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-isoleucyl-D-
 lactyl-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-lactyl-),
 cyclo(-N-methyl-L-alanyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-isoleucyl-D-
 lactyl-N-methyl-L-norvalyl-D-lactyl-),

cyclo(-N-methyl-L-alanyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-isoleucyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-leucyl-D-lactyl-),

cyclo(-N-methyl-L-alanyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-isoleucyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-norleucyl-D-lactyl-),

5 cyclo(-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-2-hydroxy-isovaleryl-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-lactyl-),

cyclo(-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-2-hydroxy-isovaleryl-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-2-hydroxy-isovaleryl-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-lactyl-),

10 cyclo(-N-methyl-L-alanyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-alloisoleucyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-alloisoleucyl-D-lactyl-),

cyclo(-N-methyl-L-alanyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-alloisoleucyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-alanyl-D-lactyl-),

15 cyclo(-N-methyl-L-alanyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-isoleucyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-2-amino-butyryl-D-lactyl-),

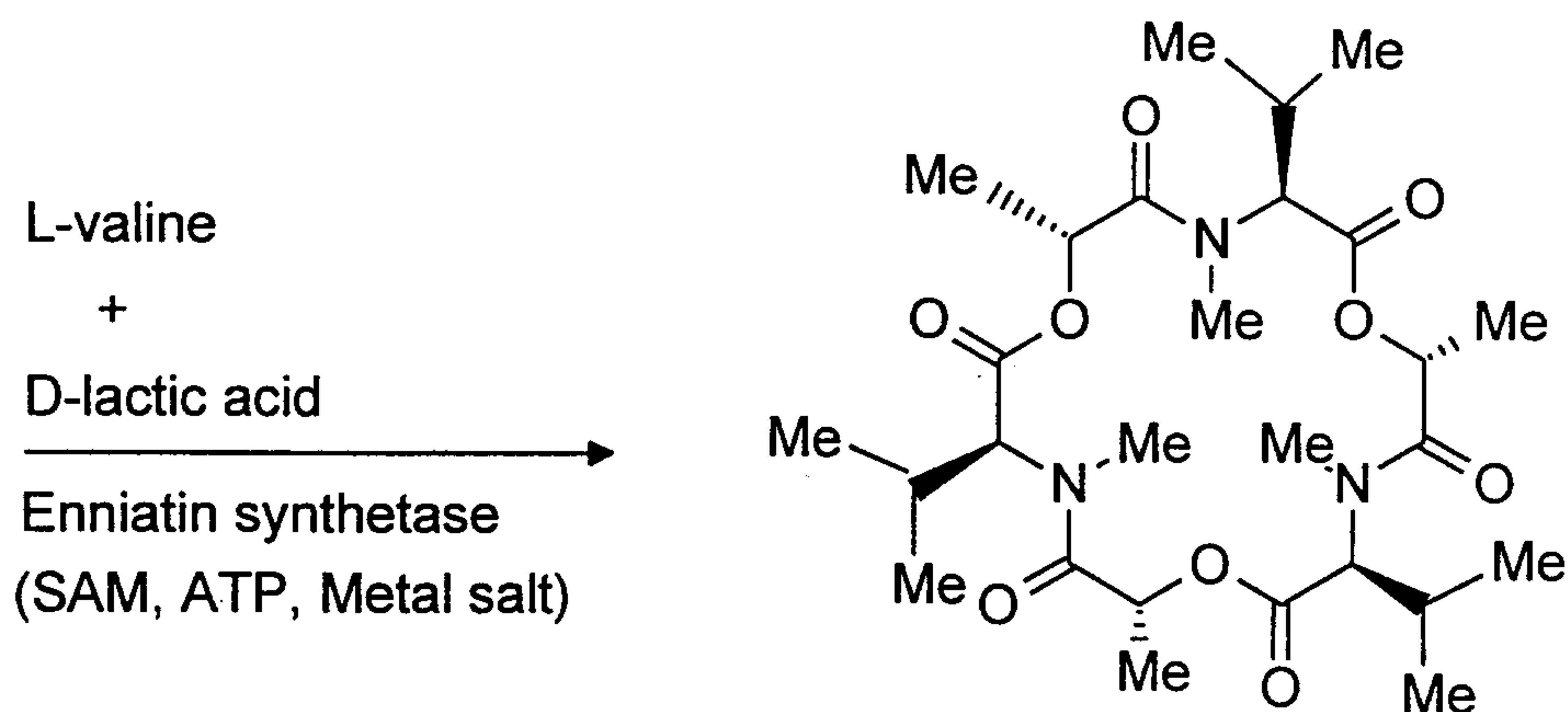
cyclo(-N-methyl-L-alanyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-alloisoleucyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-2-amino-butyryl-D-lactyl-).

20 Some of the compounds of the general formula (I) are known (cf., for example V. Z. Pletnev et al. Bioorg. Khim. 1 (2) (1975) pp. 160-165; ref. C.A. 83 (13): 114 872e; DE-OS (German Published Specification) 4 317 458 and can also be obtained by the chemico-synthetic processes described therein.

25

If, in the process according to the invention for the preparation of the lactic-acid-containing cyclic depsipeptides (enniatis) (I), L-valine (R^1 , R^2 and R^4 :

-isopropyl) is used as compounds of the formulae (II) to (IV) and D-lactic acid (R^3 and R^5 : -methyl) as compounds of the formulae (V) and (VI), the process can be described, for example, by the following equation:



5

SAM: S-adenosyl-L-methionine

ATP: Adenosine triphosphate

Metal salt: For example alkaline earth metal salt (Mg^{2+} salt) or Mn^{2+} salt.

10 Formulae (II) to (IV) provide general definitions of the amino acids required as starting compounds for carrying out the process according to the invention. In these formulae, R^1 , R^2 and R^4 preferably represent those radicals which have already been mentioned in connection with the description of the substances of the formula (I) according to the invention as being preferred for these substituents.

15

If the natural or synthetic amino acids which are used as starting substances are chiral, they can exist in the D

or L form. However, alpha-amino acids in the L configuration are preferred.

Examples which may be mentioned are:

5 Aad, Abu, jAbu, ABz, 2ABz, εAca, Ach, Acp, Adpd, Ahb,
 Aib, βAib, Ala, βAla, ΔAla,
 Alg, All, Ama, Amt, Ape, Apm, Apr, Arg, Asn, Asp, Asu,
 Aze, Azi, Bai, Bph, Can, Cit, Cys, (Cys)₂, Cyta, Daad,
 Dab, Dadd, Dap, Dapm, Dasu, Djen, Dpa, Dtc, Fel, Gln,
 10 Glu, Gly, Guv, hAla, hArg, hCys, hGln, hGlu, His, hIle,
 hLeu, hLys, hMet, hPhe, hPro, hSer, hThr, hTrp, hTyr,
 HyI, Hyp, 3Hyp, Ile, Ise, Iva, Kyn, Lant, Lcn, Leu, Lsg,
 Lys, βLys, ΔLys, Met, Mim, Min, nArg, Nle, Nva, Oly, Orn,
 Pan, Pec, Pen, Phe, Phg, Pic, Pro, ΔPro, Pse, Pya, Pyr,
 Pza, Qin, Ros, Sar, Sec, Sem, Ser, Thi, βThi, Thr, Thy,
 15 Thx, Tia, Tle, Tly, Trp, Trta, Tyr, Val, Nal, Tbg, Npg,
 Chg, Thia, (cf., for example, Houben-Weyl, Methoden der
 Organischen Chemie [Methods in Organic Chemistry], Vol-
 umes XV/1 and 2, Stuttgart, 1974).

20 Formulae (V) to (VI) provide general definitions of the
 2-hydroxy-carboxylic acids required as starting sub-
 stances for carrying out the process according to the
 invention.

25 In these formulae: R³ and R⁵ preferably represent those
 radicals which have already been mentioned in connection
 with the description of the substances of the formula (I)
 according to the invention as being preferred for these
 substituents.

If the 2-hydroxy-carboxylic acids which are used as starting substances are chiral, they can exist in the D or L form. However, the 2-hydroxycarboxylic acids which have the D configuration are preferred.

- 5 Examples which may be mentioned are the following:
Hyac, Hyba, Hydd, Hyde, Hyic, Hyiv, Hymb, Hypp, Hypr (Lac), Hytd, Hyud, Hyva, (cf., for example, Houben-Weyl, Methoden der Organischen Chemie [Methods in Organic Chemistry], Volumes XV/1 and 2, Stuttgart, 1974).
- 10 Fusarium strains which are suitable for carrying out the process according to the invention are the Fusarium strains which follow.

	<u>Fusarium strain</u>		isolated from
	<u>Fusarium acuminatum</u> BBA 61 148		blue lupin
5	<u>Fusarium arthrosporoides</u> BBA 64 134		bent grass (seeds)
	<u>Fusarium avenaceum</u> BBA 64 338 BBA 62 163		winter barley (seeds) cabbage
10	<u>Fusarium compactum</u> BBA 65 671		cotton
	<u>Fusarium crookwellense</u> BBA 64 297		wheat (stem base)
	<u>Fusarium ensiforme</u> BBA 64 683		sweet potato
15	<u>Fusarium equiseti</u> BBA 64 814		rye
	<u>Fusarium inflexum</u> BBA 63 203		field bean
	<u>Fusarium gibbosum</u>		
20	<u>Fusarium lateritium</u> BAA 65 090		wheat (stem base)
	<u>Fusarium meresmoides</u> BBA 64 329		rye (stem base)
	<u>Fusarium moniliforme</u>		
25	<u>Fusarium oxysporum</u> BBA 62 057 BBA 62 060 BBA 62 334 BBA 64 952	f. <u>lisi</u> f. <u>lycopersici</u> f. <u>lupini</u> f. <u>batatas</u>	pea tomato white lupin sweet potato
30			

	<u>Fusarium proliferatum</u>		
	BBA 63 625		dragon tree
	<u>Fusarium redolens</u>		
	BBA 62 390		gillyflower
5	<u>Fusarium sambucinum</u>		
	BBA 63 933		wheat
	BBA 62 397		potato
	NRRL-13 500		potato
	NRRL-13 503		potato
10	R-583		poligonum
	R-5390		potato
	R-7570		soil
	R-5455		cereals
	R-6380		potato
15	R-7843		pink
	R-5690		soil
	R-2633		potato
	R-6354		cereals
	<u>Fusarium scirpi</u>		
20	ETH 1536		grassland soil
	<u>Fusarium semitectum</u>		
	<u>Fusarium solani</u>		
	BBA 64 953		sweet potato
	BBA 62 420	f. pisi	pea
25	<u>Fusarium subglutinans</u>		
	<u>Fusarium tricinctum</u>		
	BBA 62 446		red clover
	<u>Fusarium udum</u>		
30	BBA 62 451		Cajanus inidians

Particular mention must be made of the Mintolyte *Fusarium* strains DSM 8938 and DSM 8939, which were deposited on 31.01.1994 at the Deutsche Sammlung für Mikroorganismen (DSM); (German Collection of Microorganisms) in Brunswick in accordance with the Budapest Treaty.

The process can also be carried out using synthetases isolated from microorganisms. The enniatin synthetases required for this purpose can be isolated from the *Fusarium* strains mentioned further above using processes known from the literature (cf. for example: R. Pieper, H. Kleinkauf, R. Zocher, J. Antibiot. 45(1993) pp. 1273-1277).

The fungal strains of the species *Fusarium* are fermented by methods known per se in the presence of suitable nutrient solutions. These nutrient solutions contain the salts which are required for the fungal growth, as well as carbon and nitrogen sources.

Suitable inorganic salts for carrying out the process according to the invention are all alkali metal salts, alkaline earth metal salts and metal salts with elements of sub-groups II to VIII of the Periodic Table.

Examples which may be mentioned are the acetates, chlorides, bromides, iodides, fluorides, nitrates, nitrites, phosphates, hydrogenphosphates, dihydrogenphosphates, phosphites, hydrogenphosphites, sulphates, hydrogensulphates, sulphites, hydrogensulphites,

carbonates or hydrogencarbonates of lithium, sodium, potassium, caesium, magnesium, calcium, barium, zinc, cadmium, scandium, titanium, zirconium, vanadium, niobium, chromium, molybdenum, manganese, iron, cobalt or nickel.

5

Substances which are preferably used are acetates, halides, phosphates, hydrogenphosphates, dihydrogenphosphates, nitrates of the alkali metals, in particular sodium and potassium, the sulphates of the alkaline earth metals, in particular magnesium, and metals of sub-groups II, VII and VIII of the Periodic Table, for example zinc, manganese and iron.

10

Carbon sources for carrying out the process according to the invention are carbohydrates and carbohydrate-containing products.

15

Examples which may be mentioned are the monosaccharides, such as pentoses, in particular ribose, the hexoses, in particular glucose and fructose, the oligosaccharides, such as disaccharides, in particular sucrose, maltose and lactose, the trisaccharides, in particular raffinose, as well as tetra-, penta- and hexasaccharides.

20

Monosaccharides, such as, for example, hexoses, in particular glucose, oligosaccharides, such as, for example, disaccharides, in particular sucrose are preferably used.

25

Suitable nitrogen sources for carrying out the process

according to the invention are amino acids and nitrogen-containing salts.

5 Examples which may be mentioned are the natural and synthetic amino acids which have been mentioned further above, or nitrogen-containing salts, such as ammonium nitrate, ammonium nitrite, or the nitrates and nitrites of the metals which have been mentioned further above.

10 The natural amino acids which have been mentioned further above, and nitrogen-containing salts, such as ammonium nitrate are preferably used.

15 The *Fusarium* strains used for the fermentative process are first grown by methods known per se in a medium which is composed of, for example, molasses/cornsteep liquor. After they have been grown, the spores formed are isolated by means of spore filters. To produce the preculture, a Fusarium defined medium (FDM), composed of a carbon source and inorganic salts, is inoculated with approximately 10^9 spores and refermented. After a few days, the FDM main culture can be prepared by inoculation with 1 ml of preculture, and fermentation can be carried out analogously.

20 The actual fermentation is then carried out in the presence of compounds of the formulae (II) to (IV) or (V) and (VI) and in the presence of optically active or racemic lactic acid.

The fermentation time is 1 to 30 days. The fermentation is carried out at temperatures between +5°C and +40°C, preferably between +15°C and +35°C, particularly preferably between +25°C and +30°C. The process is carried out under sterile conditions and under atmospheric pressure.

To carry out the process, the compounds of the formulae (V) and (VI) are generally employed at a concentration of 5 mM to 50 mM, preferably 5 mM to 15 mM.

After the fermentation has ended, the mycelium of the *Fusarium* culture is filtered off with suction, homogenized extracted repeatedly with an organic solvent, and then filtered. The culture filtrate obtained is extracted in the customary manner, dried and concentrated in vacuo.

The crude enniatins obtained can be purified in the customary manner by column chromatography or counter-current distribution. The optimum procedure must be determined in each individual case (cf. also the Preparation Examples).

If the process according to the invention is carried out in the presence of isolated synthetases, it is carried out using an aqueous buffer system in the presence of metal salts, S-adenosyl-L-methionine (SAM) and adenosine triphosphate (ATP).

Metal salts which may be mentioned are: acetates, chlorides, bromides, iodides, fluorides, nitrates, phosphates, hydrogenphosphates, phosphites, hydrogenphosphites, sulphates, hydrogensulphates, sulphites, hydrogensulphites, carbonates and hydrogencarbonates of lithium, sodium, potassium, caesium, magnesium, calcium or barium.

Salts which are preferably used are alkaline earth metal salts, such as, for example, magnesium chloride, magnesium sulphate or magnesium acetate.

The process according to the invention is carried out in an aqueous buffer solution.

Examples which may be mentioned are commercially available buffer solutions, for example for a pH of 1.0, in particular glycine/hydrochloric acid, for a pH of 2.0 to 4.0, in particular citrate/hydrochloric acid, for a pH of 5.0 to 6.0, in particular citrate/sodium hydroxide solution, for a pH of 7.0, in particular phosphate, for a pH of 8.0, in particular borate/hydrochloric acid, and for a pH of 9.0 to 10.0, in particular boric acid/potassium chloride/sodium hydroxide solution.

It is preferred to operate within the "physiological range", i.e. at a pH of 6.0 to 9.0, for which it is preferred to use a phosphate buffer solution, in particular potassium hydrogenphosphate/disodium hydrogenphosphate or potassium hydrogenphosphate/

dipotassium hydrogenphosphate.

To carry out the process, 2 mM to 8 mM, preferably 3 mM to 5 mM of compounds of the formulae (II) to (VI), optically active or racemic lactic acid and S-adenosyl-L-methionine (SAM), 3 mM to 9 mM, preferably 4 mM to 6 mM, of adenosine triphosphate (ATP), 2 mM to 25 mM, preferably 5 mM to 15 mM, of alkaline earth metal salt, 10 mM to 100 mM, preferably 40 mM to 60 mM of buffer, are generally employed together with 100 µg to 1000 µg, preferably 200 µg to 600 µg, of isolated enniatin synthetase in vitro.

The reaction time of the enzymatic in-vitro synthesis is 2 minutes to 24 hours. The enzymatic in-vitro synthesis is carried out in a temperature range of 0°C to +50°C, preferably at +10°C to +35°C, particularly preferably between +20°C and +30°C.

It proceeds in a pH range of 6.5 to 8.5, preferably at 7.0 to 8.0, the pH being kept at a constant 7.3 during the entire reaction by adding a buffer.

The process is preferably carried out under sterile reaction conditions and under atmospheric pressure.

The enzymatic in-vitro synthesis can be stopped by diluting with water.

For working up, the aqueous phase is extracted repeatedly

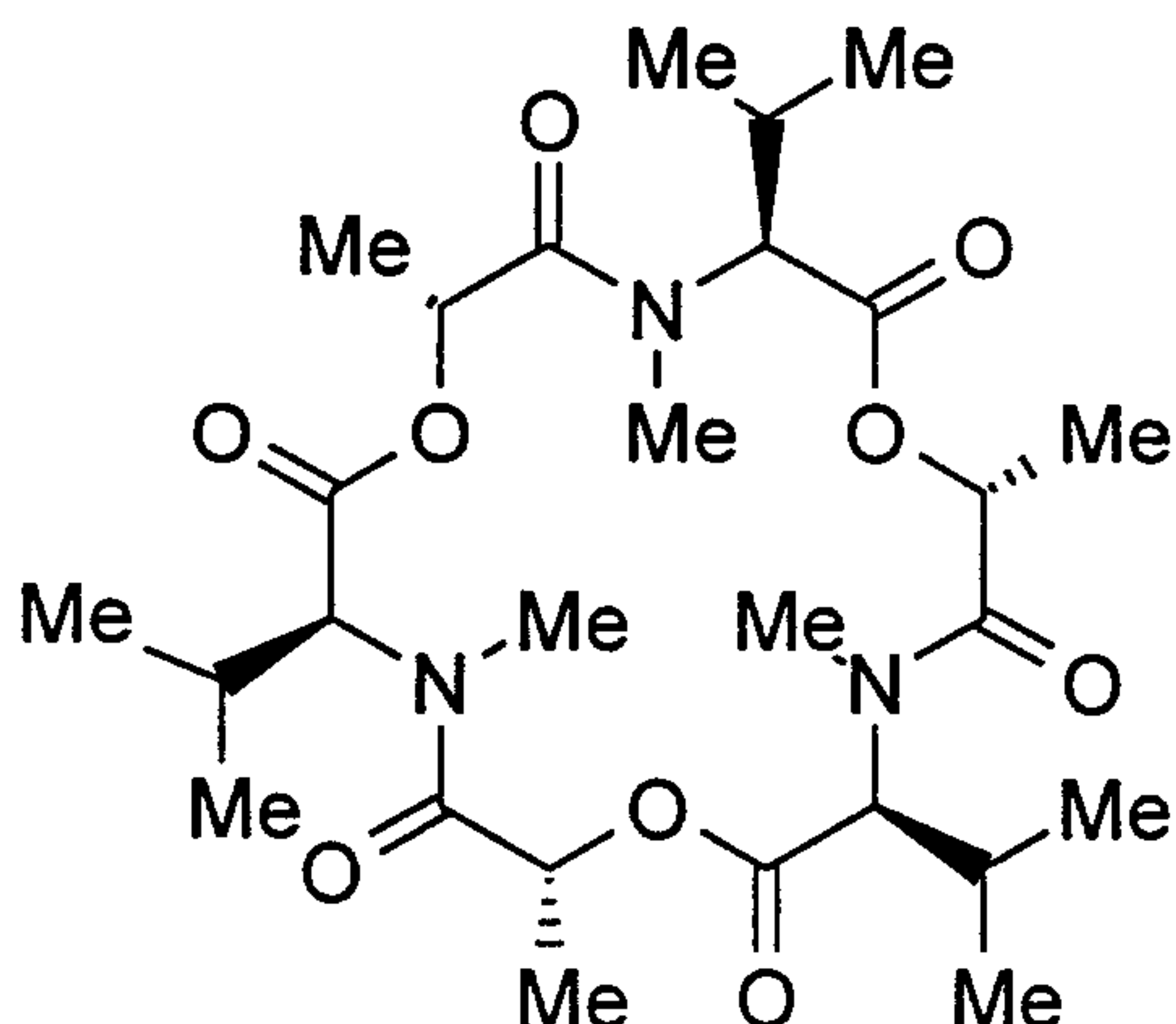
with an organic solvent, and the extract is dried and concentrated in vacuo.

5 The crude enniatins obtained can be purified in the customary manner by column chromatography or by counter-current distribution. Again, the ideal procedure will have to be determined in each individual case (cf. also the Preparation Examples).

Preparation Examples

Example 1:

10 Preparation of cyclo(-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-valyl-D-lactyl-)



In-vivo incorporation of D-lactic acid

15 D-lactic acid is added under sterile conditions to a 2-day-old main culture of Fusarium scirpi, at a concentration of 10 mM, and the fermentation is continued

for another 3 days. The mycelium of the *Fusarium* culture is then filtered off with suction, and the filtrate is extracted three times using ethyl acetate. The mycelium is homogenized twice in a mortar using acetone, and the homogenate is subsequently subjected to filtration with suction. The culture filtrate is extracted by shaking three times with in each case 100 ml of ethyl acetate, and the combined organic phases, together with the acetone extract are evaporated to dryness.

Alternatively, the entire *Fusarium* culture can be extracted overnight in approximately twice its volume of ethyl acetate.

To concentrate the enniatin by column chromatography, the crude enniatin, which is dissolved in a small amount of chloroform, is applied to an Al_2O_3 column (30 x 2 cm) and eluted stepwise.

Enzymatic in-vitro synthesis

300-500 μg of purified enniatin synthetase in 50 mM of phosphate buffer (pH 7.3) are incubated for 10 minutes at 28°C in a total volume of 1.5 ml in the presence of 4 mM L-valine, 4 mM D-lactic acid, 4 mM S-adenosyl-L-methionine (SAM), 5 mM adenosine triphosphate (ATP) and 10 mM MgCl_2 .

After adding of 2 ml of water.

the mixture is extracted repeatedly using 2 ml portions

portions of ethyl acetate. The organic phase is dried using sodium sulphate and then concentrated in vacuo.

The product which has been obtained by a) or b) is purified by means of preparative HPLC (RP 18/75-80% methanol).

5

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 0.83; 1.03 (d, 18H, 3 x - $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$); 1.45 (d, 9H, 3 x -O- $\text{CH}-\text{CH}_3$); 2.27 (m, 3H, 3 x - $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$); 3.06 (s, 9H, 3 x -N- CH_3); 4.43 (d, 3H, 3 x -N- $\text{CH}-\text{CO}-$); 5.62 (q, 3H, 3 x -O- $\text{CH}-\text{CO}-$) ppm

10

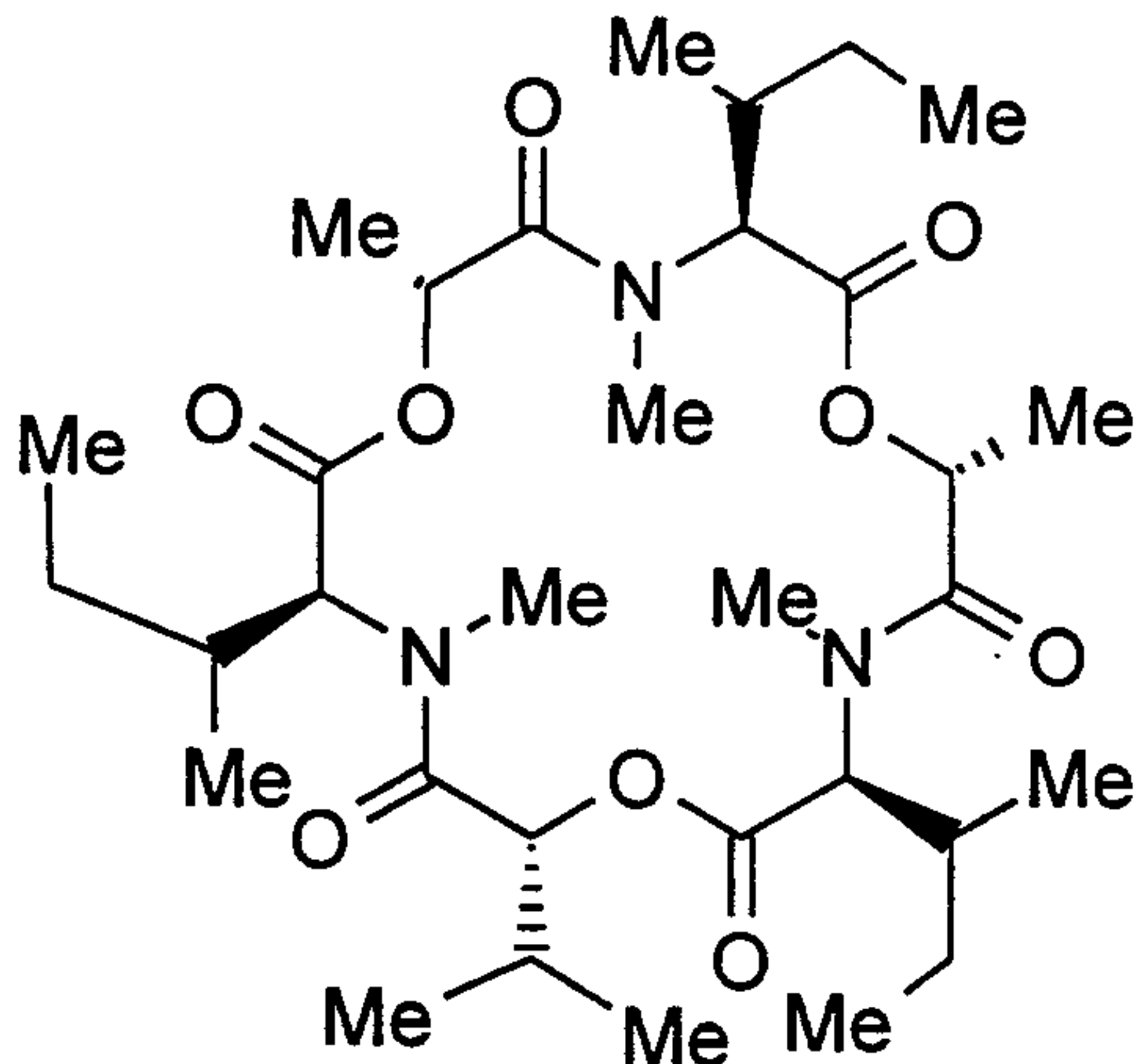
^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 16.5 (3 x - CH_3 , D-Lac); 18.5; 20.1 (6 x - CH_3 , MeVal); 27.8 (3 x - $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$, L-MeVal); 32.9 (3 x -N- CH_3 , L-MeVal); 63.1 (3 x -N- $\text{CH}-\text{CO}-$, L-MeVal); 66.3 (3 x -O- $\text{CH}-\text{CO}-$, D-Lac); 169.2 (3 x - $\text{C}=\text{O}$, amide); 169.8 (3 x - $\text{C}=\text{O}$, ester) ppm

15

EI MS m/z (%): 555 (M^+ , 32); 482 (20); 353 (1); 268 (34); 168 (100); 86 (53)

Example 2

Preparation of cyclo(-N-methyl-L-isoleucyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-isoleucyl-D-lactyl-N-methyl-L-isoleucyl-D-2-hydroxy-isovaleryl-)



5

In-vivo incorporation of D-lactic acid

D-lactic acid is added under sterile conditions to a 2-day-old main culture of Fusarium sambucinum, at a concentration of 10 mM, and the fermentation is continued for another 3 days. The mycelium of the Fusarium culture is then filtered off with suction, and the filtrate is extracted three times using ethyl acetate. The mycelium is homogenized twice in a mortar using acetone, and the homogenate is subsequently subjected to filtration with suction. The culture filtrate is extracted by shaking three times with in each case 100 ml of ethyl acetate, and the combined organic phases, together with the acetone extract are evaporated to dryness.

10

15

Concentration and purification of the enniatin are carried out as described in Example 1.

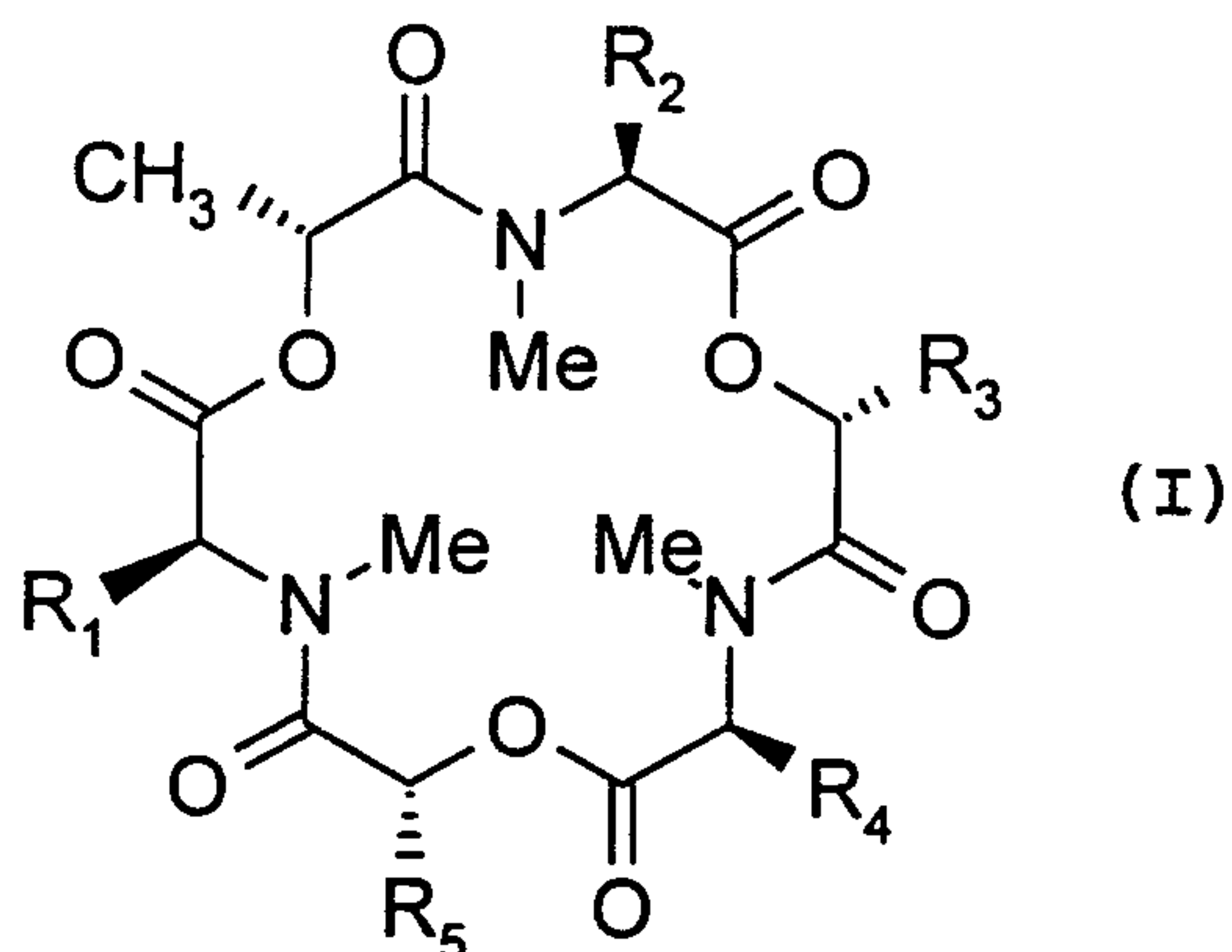
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃), δ): 18.4; 18.0 (2 × -CH₃, D-HyIv); 16.8; 15.8 (2 × -CH₃, D-Lac); 16.7; 15.3; 11.4; 5 10.6; 10.3; 10.0 (6 × -CH₃, L-Melle); 25.0; 24.9; 24.4 (3 × -CH₂-, L-Melle); 34.7; 34.1; 32.3 (3 × -CH(CH₃)-, L-Melle); 35.6; 31.6; 31.2 (3 × -N-CH₃, L-Melle); 29.9 (-CH(CH₃)₂, D-HyIv); 74.0; 67.5; 66.1 (3 × -O-CH-CO-, D-HyIv); 65.1; 60.5; 59.5; (3 × -N-CH-CO-, L-Melle); 10 169.2; 169.1; 169.0 (3 × -C=O, amide); 170.6; 170.1; 169.8 (3 × -C=O, ester) ppm

EI MS m/z (%): 625 (M⁺, 23); 552 (14); 409 (5); 296 (20); 182 (43); 100 (100)

15 Analogously, the compounds of the general formula (I) listed in Table I below can be prepared in the form of LDLDL stereoisomers.

Table 1

Examples of compounds of the general formula (I)



Ex.- No.	Radical R ¹	Radical R ²	Radical R ³	Radical R ⁴	Radical R ⁵	Physical data ^{a)}
3	-s-C ₄ H ₉	-s-C ₄ H ₉	-CH ₃	-s-C ₄ H ₉	-CH ₃	33.9 (-N-CH ₃); 61.9 (-N-CH-); 66.4 (-O-CH-); 169.3 (-CO-N-); 169.9 (-CO-O-); 598 (M ⁺ +H, 12); 597 (37); 541 (42); 524 (14; 182 (100)
4	-i-C ₄ H ₉	-i-C ₄ H ₉	-CH ₃	-i-C ₄ H ₉	-CH ₃	32.0 (-N-CH ₃); 55.8 (-N-CH-); 67.0 (-O-CH-); 169.4 (-CO-N-); 170.5 (-CO-O-); 597 (M ⁺ , 22); 524 (7); 381 (1); 296 (15); 182 (100); 100 (78)
5	-CH ₃	-s-C ₄ H ₉	-CH ₃	-s-C ₄ H ₉	-CH ₃	32.8; 33.9; 34.2 (-N-CH ₃); 56.2; 59.9; 60.5 (-N-CH-); 66.0; 66.3; 67.7 (-O-CH-); 168.7; 169.7; 170.1 (-CO-N-); 169.0; 170.0; 170.4 (-CO-O-); 555 (M ⁺ , 64); 499 (37); 428 (12); 357 (19); 182 (100); 100 (52)
6	-CH ₃	-s-C ₄ H ₉	-CH ₃	-CH ₃	-CH ₃	31.8; 33.8; 34.6 (-N-CH ₃); 168.1; 168.7; 169.9 (-CO-N-); 170.0; 170.4; 170.5 (-CO-O-); 513 (M ⁺ , 42); 440 (22); 255 (29); 213 (60); 182 (75); 58 (100)
7	-i-C ₄ H ₉	-i-C ₄ H ₉	-i-C ₄ H ₉	-i-C ₄ H ₉	-i-C ₄ H ₉	611 (M ⁺ , 29); 528 (15); 196 (100)

a) ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ); FAB-MS or EI MS m/z (%)

Spore culture, precultures and main cultures

The Fusarium strain in question is grown in a medium composed of molasses/cornsteep liquor (30 g and 10 g/l, respectively).

5 The culture is grown in 500 ml Erlenmeyer flasks (100 ml of medium) at 100 rpm (26 to 28°C). After 4 to 5 days, the spores which have formed are isolated by means of a spore filter. These spores can be kept for weeks at 4°C.

10 To prepare a preculture, a flask containing 200 ml of FDM (75.0 g of sucrose, 12.75 g of NaNO₃, 15.0 g of NaCl, 7.5 g of MgSO₄ · 7 H₂O, 4.0 g of KH₂PO₄ · 7 H₂O, 10 g of ZnSO₄ per litre) is inoculated with 10⁹ spores and fermented as above.

15 After 2 to 3 days, FDM main cultures are prepared by using in each case 1 ml of preculture as inoculum, and fermented as above.

Preparations for the in-vitro synthesis aimed at producing enniatin

20 2- to 3-day-old main cultures are first examined for their enniatin titers to ensure that the cells are actively synthesizing. To this end, 3 to 5 ml of culture are sampled under sterile conditions and extracted repeatedly using in each case 2 ml of ethyl acetate. After evaporating the organic phase, the enniatin is examined directly by HPLC (RP 18.80% methanol).

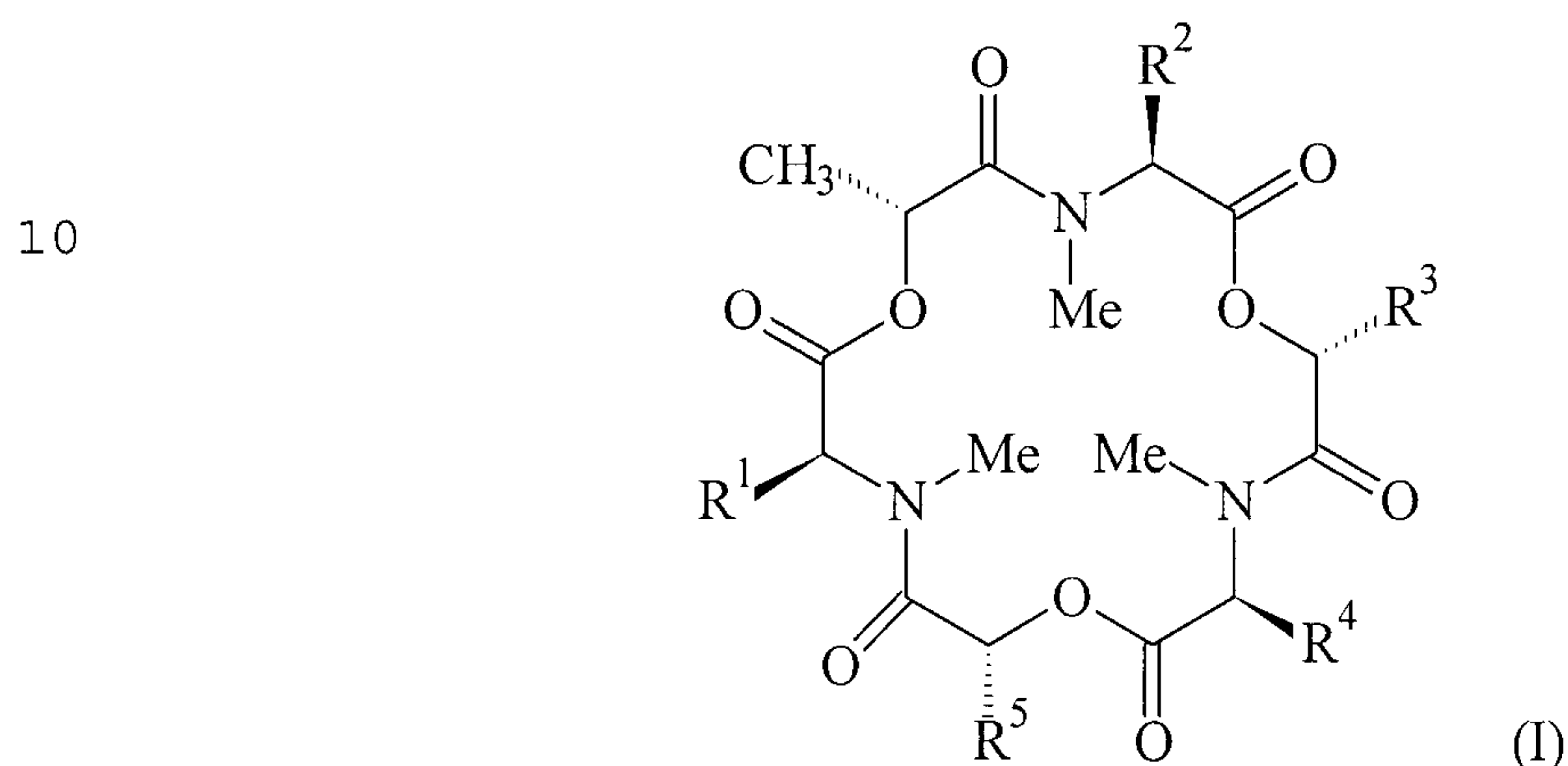
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5 The main cultures in question are treated under sterile conditions with the corresponding precursor hydroxy- or amino acid to an end concentration of 10 mM, and the fermentation is continued as described in Example 1 (total fermentation time approximately 1 week).

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alkylsulphanylalkyl, alkylsulphonylalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, cyclic alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, or optionally substituted arylalkyl or hetarylalkyl, substituents being halogen, hydroxyl, alkoxy, alkyl, nitro or amino.

2. A process for the preparation of a lactic-acid-containing, optically active, cyclic depsipeptide having 18 ring atoms of the formula (I)



in which

15 R^1 , R^2 and R^4 independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl, mercaptoalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, alkylsulphanylalkyl, alkylsulphonylalkyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, guanidinoalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, cyclic alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, or optionally substituted arylalkyl or hetarylalkyl, substituents being halogen, hydroxyl, alkoxy, alkyl, nitro or amino,

25

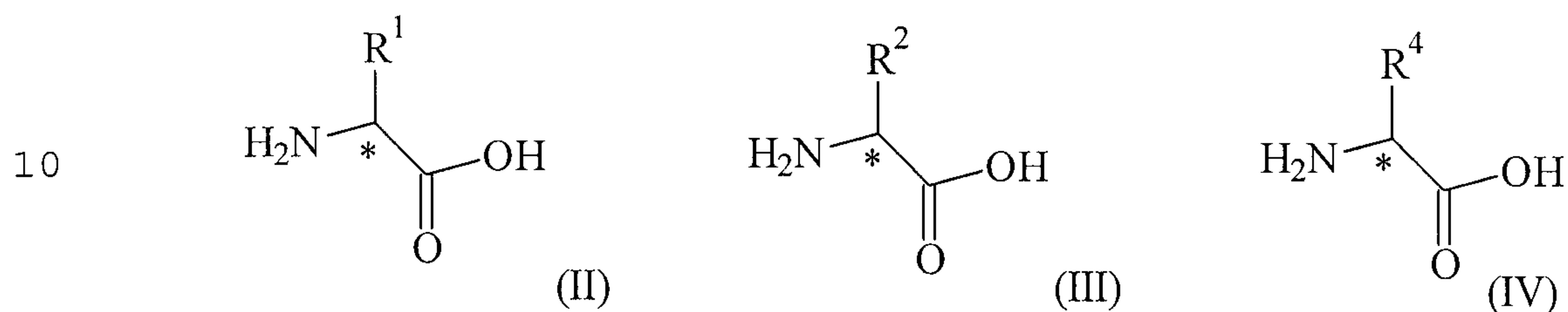
R^3 and R^5 independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl, mercaptoalkyl, alkylthioalkyl,

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alkylsulphanylalkyl, alkylsulphonylalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, cyclic alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, or optionally substituted arylalkyl or hetarylalkyl, substituents being halogen, hydroxyl, alkoxy, alkyl, nitro or amino,

the process comprising reacting:

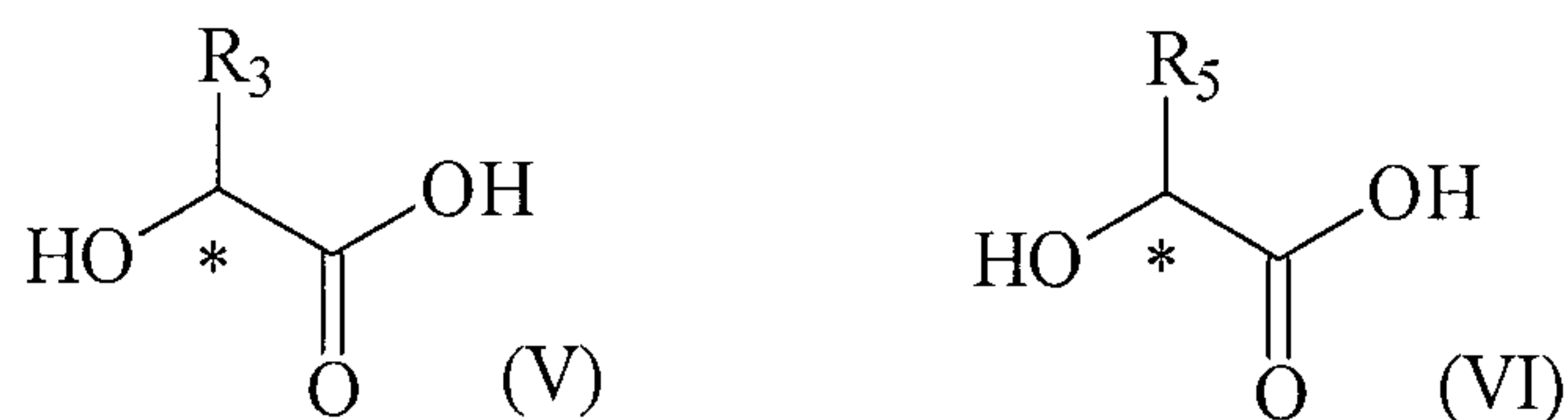
(i) an optically active or racemic amino acid of the formula (II), (III) or (IV)



in which

R^1 , R^2 and R^4 have the abovementioned meaning,

(ii) an optically active or racemic 2-hydroxy-15 carboxylic acid of the formula (V) or (VI)



in which

20 R^3 and R^5 have the abovementioned meaning, and

(iii) an optically active or racemic lactic acid,

wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of a fungal strain of the species *Fusarium* in a suitable nutrient solution or in a buffer system in the

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presence of a synthetase isolated from a fungal strain of the species *Fusarium*.

3. The process according to claim 2, wherein

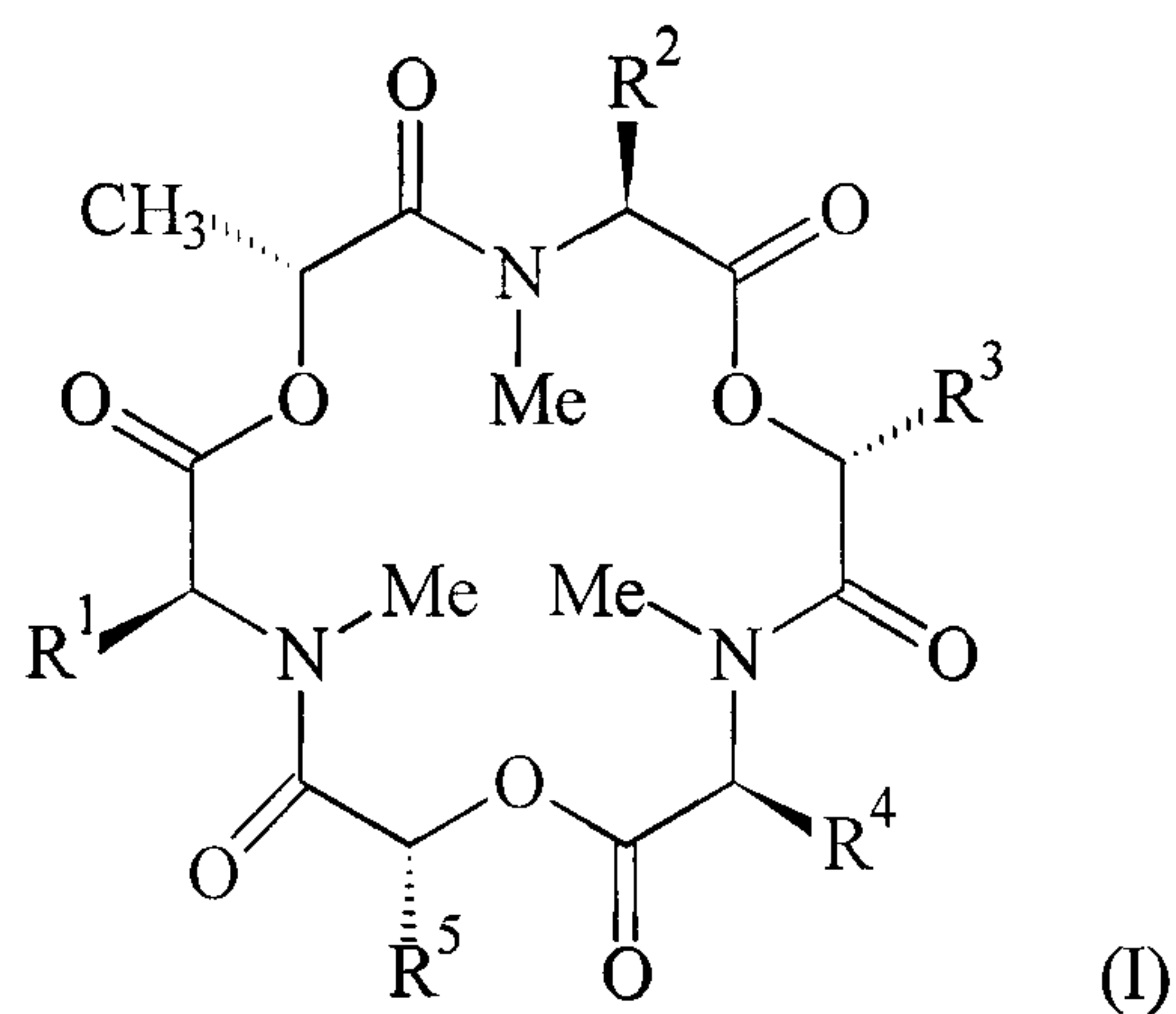
R^1 , R^2 and R^4 independently of one another
 5 represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, hydroxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, mercapto- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylthio- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylsulphinyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylsulphonyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, carboxy- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, carbamoyl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, amino- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylamino- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl,
 10 C_1 - C_4 -dialkylamino- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, guanido- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, or C_3 - C_7 -cyclo- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl,

R^3 and R^5 independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, hydroxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, mercapto- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylthio- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl,
 15 C_1 - C_4 -alkylsulphinyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylsulphonyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, C_3 - C_7 -cyclo- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, hetaryl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, phenyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl which can optionally be substituted by a halogen radical, hydroxyl, nitro, amino, C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl.

20 4. The process according to claim 3, wherein the phenyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl is optionally substituted by fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methoxy, ethoxy or methyl.

5. A process for the preparation of a lactic-acid-containing optically active, cyclic depsipeptide having 18
 25 ring atoms of the formula (I):

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in which

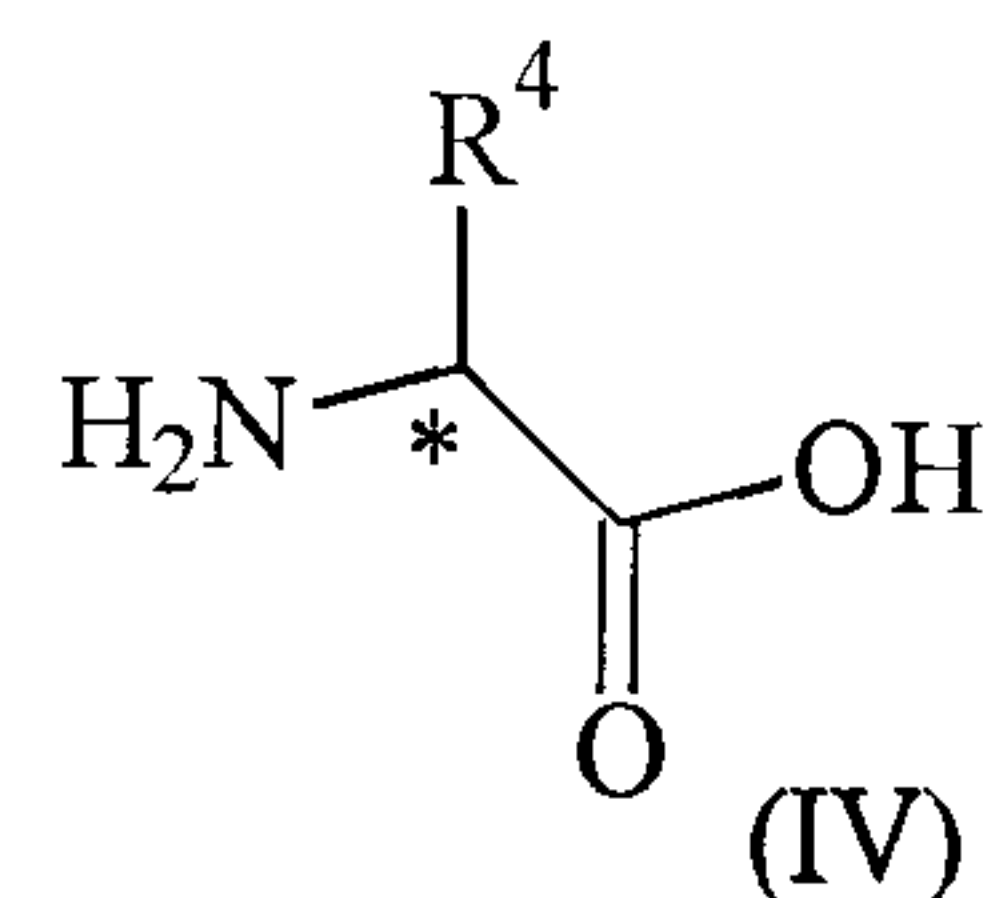
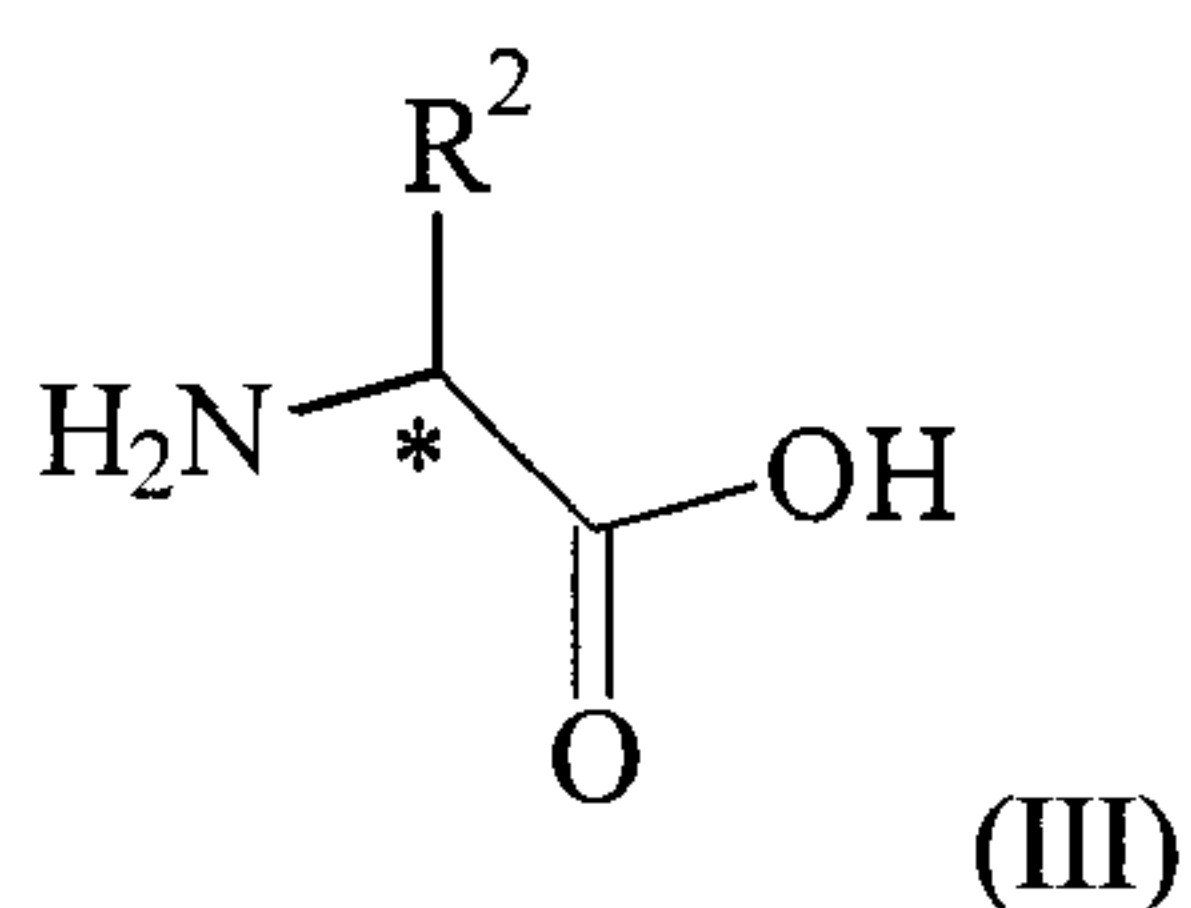
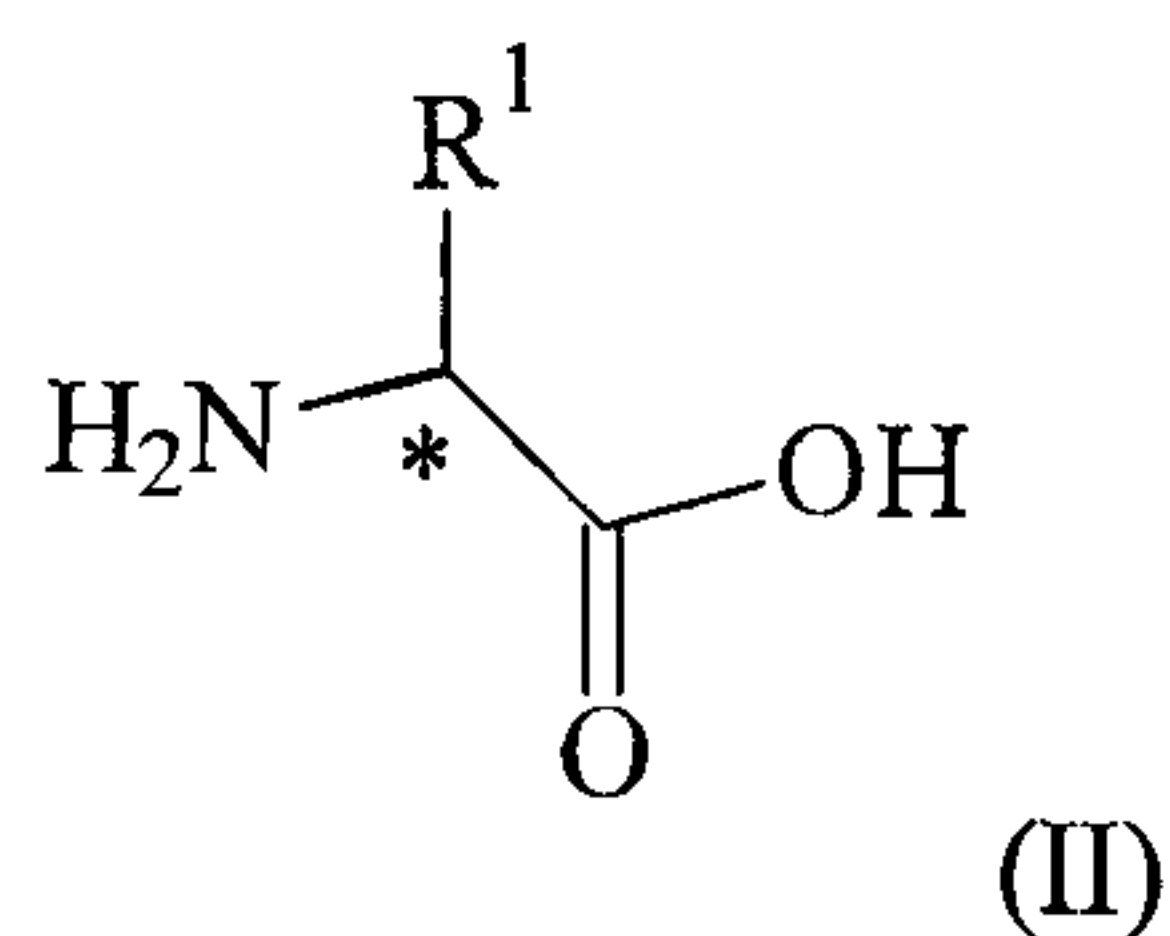
R^1 , R^2 and R^4 independently represent straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, aminoalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, or cyclic alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms; and

R^3 and R^5 independently represent straight-chain alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, or alkylthioalkyl each having up to 6 carbon atoms;

said process comprising reacting:

(i) an optically active or racemic amino acid of the formula (II), (III) or (IV):

20



in which

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straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms; and

R^3 and R^5 independently represent straight-chain alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms.

5 8. The process according to claim 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7, wherein the fungal strain is Fusarium DSM 8938.

9. The process according to claim 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7, wherein the fungal strain is Fusarium DSM 8939.

10. The use according to claim 1, wherein

10 R^1 , R^2 and R^4 independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, hydroxy- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, mercapto- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylthio- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylsulphinyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylsulphonyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, carboxy- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, carbamoyl-
15 C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, amino- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 alkylamino- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -dialkylamino- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, guanido- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, or C_3 - C_7 -cyclo- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl,

R^3 and R^5 independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, hydroxy-
20 C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, mercapto- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylthio- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylsulphinyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkylsulphonyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, C_3 - C_7 -cyclo- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, hetaryl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, phenyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl which can optionally be substituted by a halogen radical, hydroxyl, nitro, amino, C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy,
25 or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl.

11. The use according to claim 10, wherein the phenyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl is optionally substituted by fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methoxy, ethoxy or methyl.

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12. The use according to claim 1, wherein

R¹, R² and R⁴ independently represent straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, aminoalkyl, straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, or cyclic alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms; and

R³ and R⁵ independently represent straight-chain alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, or alkylthioalkyl each having up to 6 carbon atoms.

13. The use according to claim 1, wherein

R¹, R² and R⁴ independently represent straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, or straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms; and

R³ and R⁵ independently represent straight-chain alkyl or hydroxyalkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms.

14. The use according to claim 1, wherein

R¹, R² and R⁴ independently represent straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms, or straight-chain or branched alkenyl having up to 6 carbon atoms; and

R³ and R⁵ independently represent straight-chain alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms.

15. The use according to claim 1, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14, wherein the fungal strain is Fusarium DMS 8938.

16. The use according to claim 1, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14, wherein the fungal strain is Fusarium DMS 8939.