



PARMA SUMMER SCHOOL

26 – 28 SEPTEMBER 2023, Parma

Innovative food products

Microalgae and cyanobacteria: opportunities and constraints

Vitor Vasconcelos/Director CIIMAR- Professor U Porto



UNIVERSITÀ
DI PARMA



SCHOOL OF ADVANCED
STUDIES ON
FOOD AND NUTRITION



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

Cyanobacteria are everywhere.

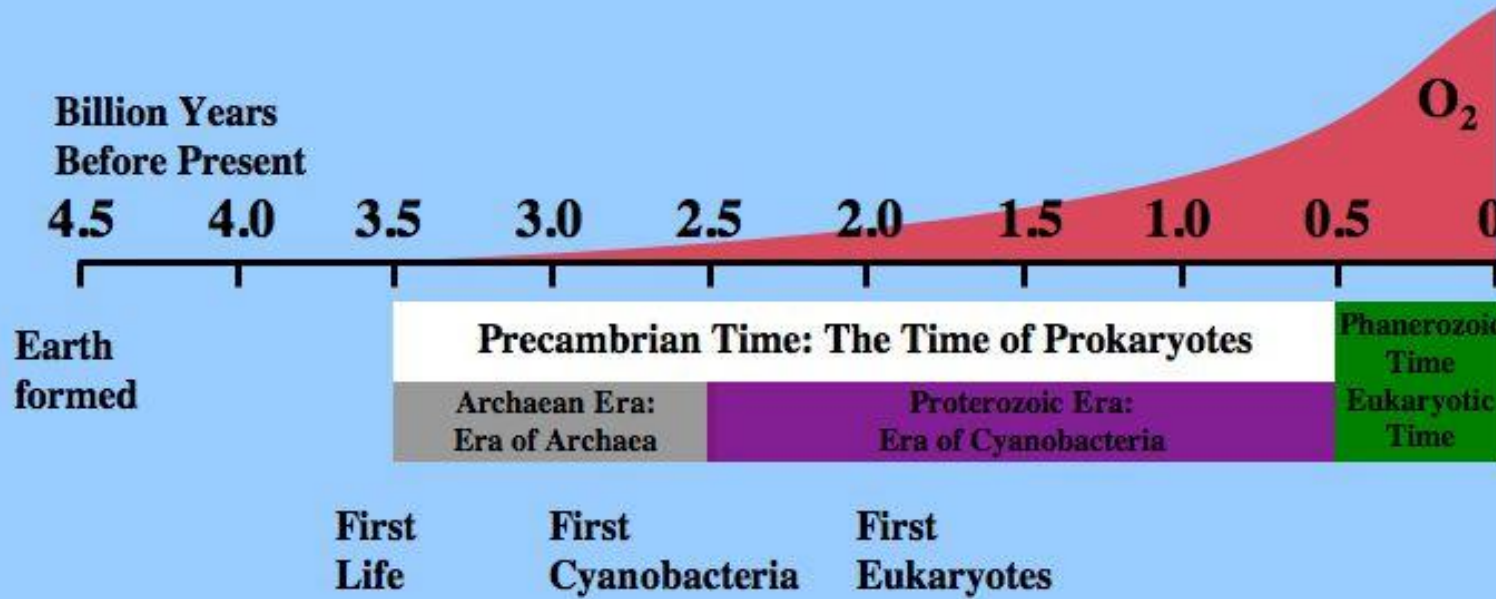
Cyanotoxins as ecological drivers or drug leads?

Other cyanobacterial metabolites.

Nutraceuticals now and in the future?

Culture collections as sustainable sources

Timeline of Planet Earth



(http://plantphys.info/plant_biology/lehtml/cyanobacteria/)



(http://plantphys.info/plant_biology/lehtml/cyanobacteria/)

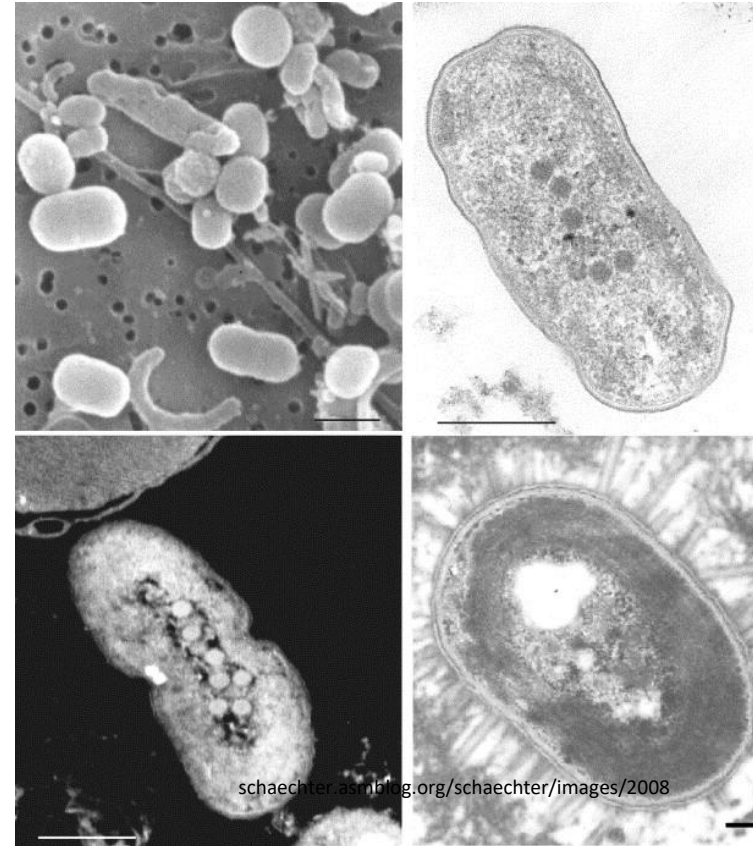


OXYGEN PRODUCTION IN THE OCEAN

Picocyanobacteria are the highest oxygen producers in the ocean

50% of Earth oxygen

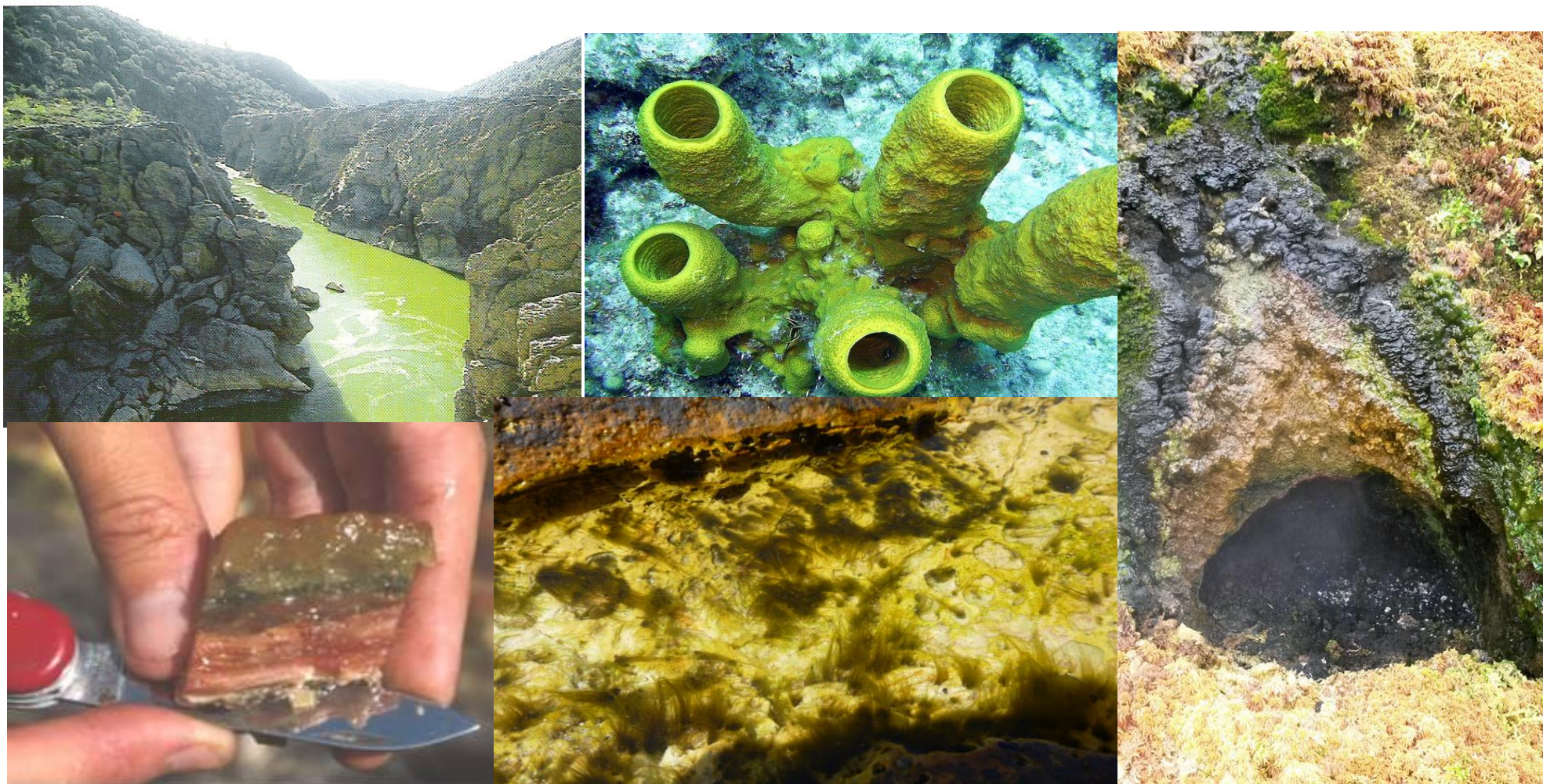
Prochlorococcus and *Synechococcus*



Cyanobacteria blooms in Portugal



Cyanobacteria habitats

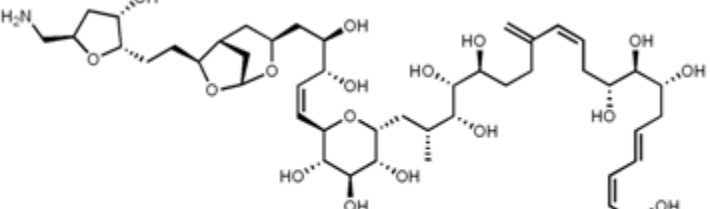




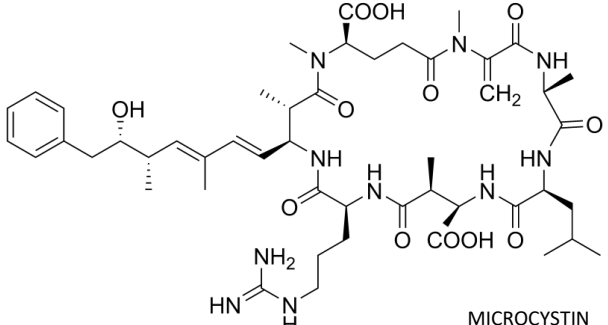
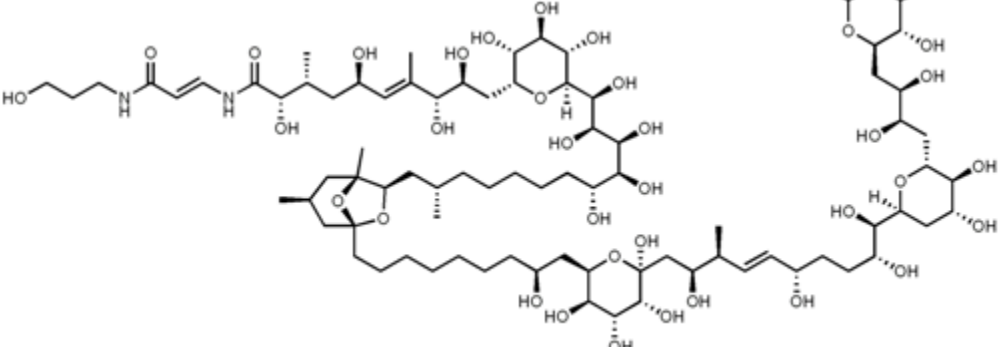
PARMA SUMMER SCHOOL

Food Safety Aspects of
Integrated Food Systems

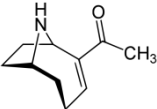
CYANOTOXINS



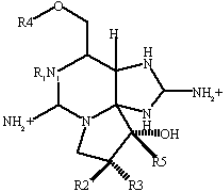
PALYTOXIN



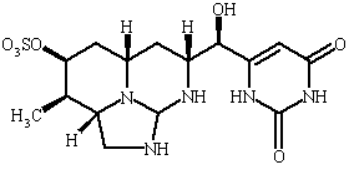
MICROCYSTIN



ANATOXIN-A



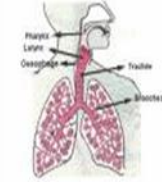
SAXITOXIN - GENERAL STRUCTURE



CYLINDROSPERMOPSIN

RISKS FOR HUMAN HEALTH EXPOSURE TO CYANOTOXINS

- **INHALATION**



- **INGESTION (WATER AND FOOD)**



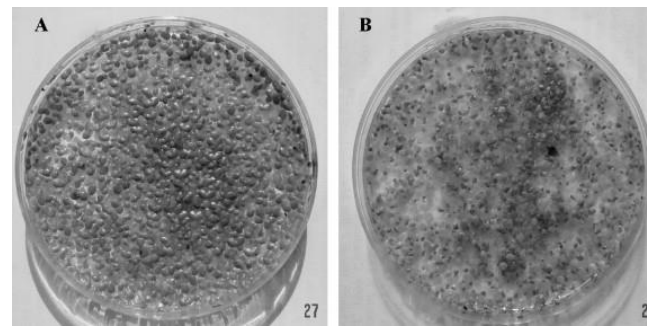
- **CONTACT (RECREATION)**



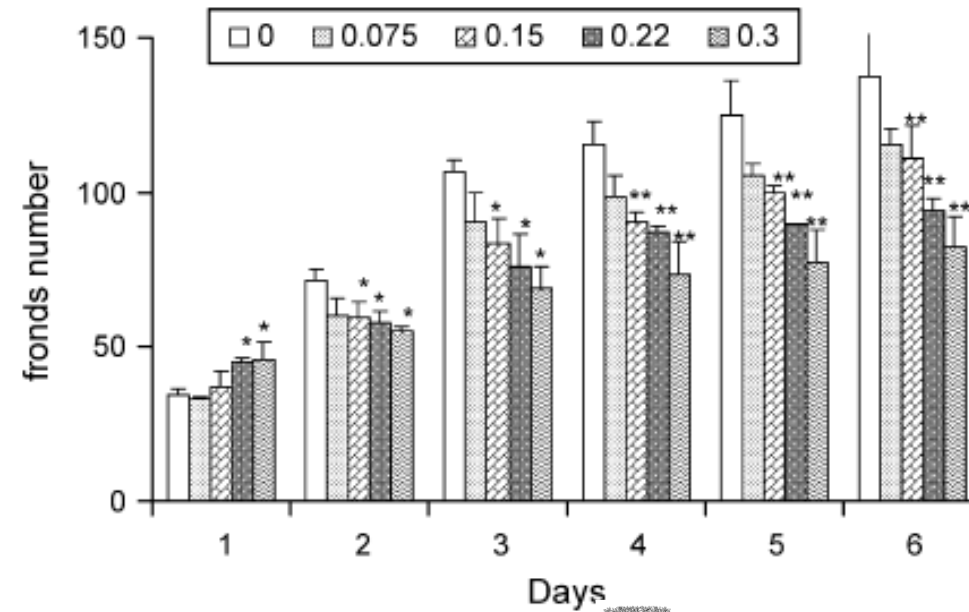
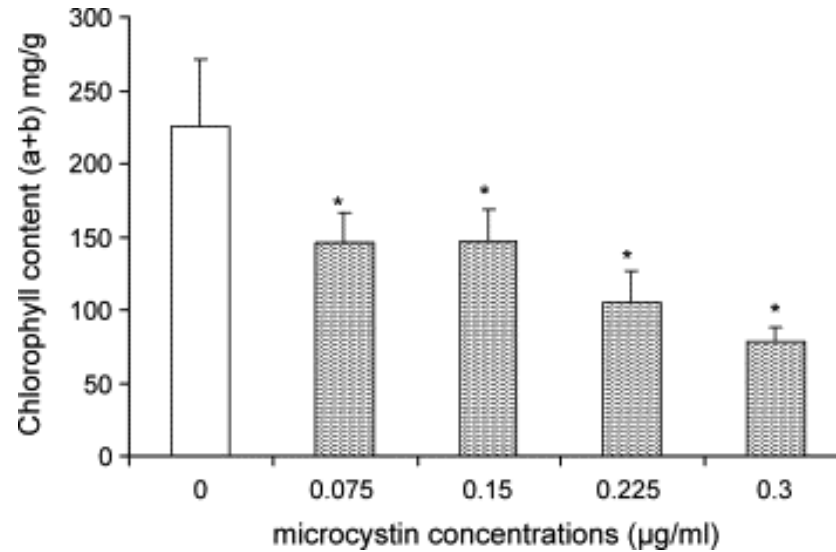
**INTRAVENOUS
(HEMODIALYSIS)**



Allelopathy towards plants



Effects of MC on *Lemna* growth and chlorophyll content



Aquatic Toxicology 83 (2007) 284–294

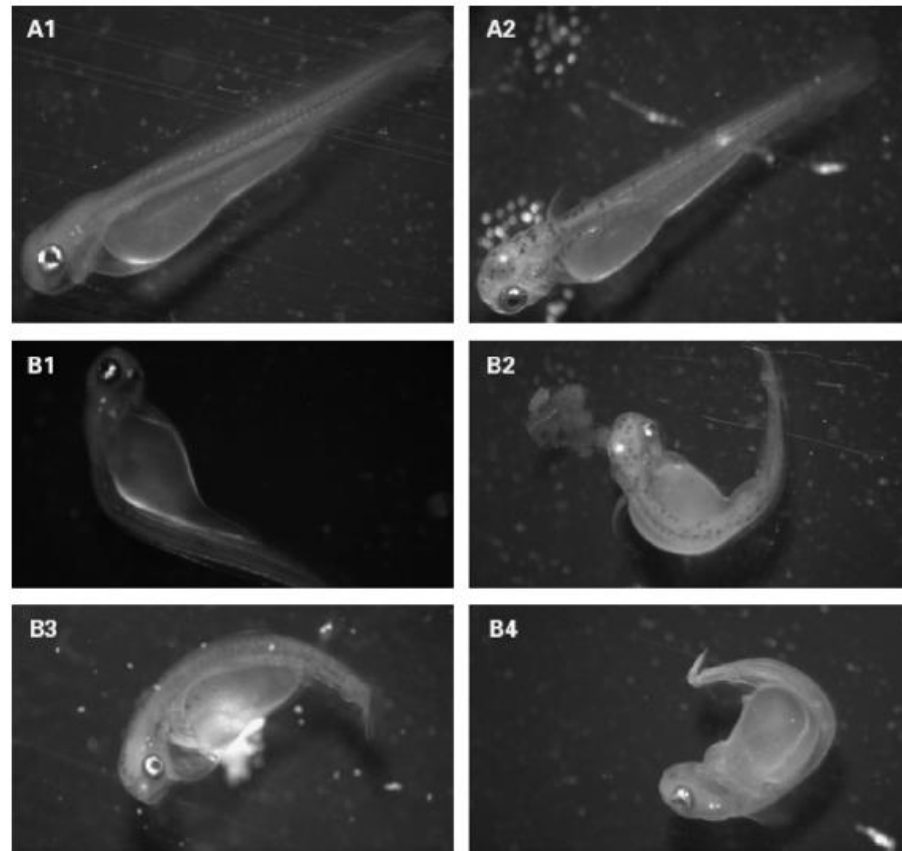


www.elsevier.com/locate/aquatox

Phytotoxic effects of cyanobacteria extract on the aquatic plant
Lemna gibba: Microcystin accumulation, detoxication
and oxidative stress induction

Sana Saqrane^a, Issam El ghazali^a, Youness Ouahid^c, Majida El Hassni^b, Ismail El Hadrami^b,
Lahcen Bouarab^a, Francisca F. del Campo^c, Brahim Oudra^a, Vitor Vasconcelos^{d,e*}

Anatoxin-a in carp development



Effects of cyanobacterial extracts containing anatoxin-a and of pure anatoxin-a on early developmental stages of carp

J. Osswald^a, A.P. Carvalho^{a,b}, J. Claro^c, V. Vasconcelos^{a,b,*}

^a Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research (IMAR/CIMAR), University of Porto, Rua dos Bragas 289, 4050-123 Porto, Portugal
^b Department of Zoology and Anthropology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Porto, Prta: a Gomes Teixeira, 4099-002 Porto, Portugal
^c Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

- Carp eggs exposure for 4 days to anatoxin-a extracts showed no deaths but malformations
- Pure toxins had little effects compared to extracts

Fig. 1. Examples of post-hatching (within 24 h after hatchment) skeletal deformities observed in carp larvae: A1, A2—normal larvae; B1, B2, B3, and B4—larvae exposed to pure anatoxin-a.



Toxins 2014, 6, 1837-1854; doi:10.3390/toxins6061837

OPEN ACCESS

toxins

ISSN 2072-6651

www.mdpi.com/journal/toxins

Article

Exposure of *Lycopersicon Esculentum* to Microcystin-LR: Effects in the Leaf Proteome and Toxin Translocation from Water to Leaves and Fruits

Daniel Gutiérrez-Praena ^{1,†}, Alexandre Campos ^{2,†,*}, Joana Azevedo ^{2,3}, Joana Neves ²,
Marisa Freitas ^{2,3}, Remedios Guzmán-Gullén ¹, Ana María Cameán ¹, Jenny Renault ⁴
and Vitor Vasconcelos ^{2,5}

Table 2. Concentration of MC-LR determined in the different tomato plant tissues including fruits. Not analyzed (ND); concentrations below the limit of detection of the equipment (LD, 0.58 µg/L).

Tissue	Treatment	MC-LR (µg/kg FW Tissue)	
		Week 1	Week 2
Root	C	ND	<LD
	MCE	ND	1635.21 ± 941.11
	MCP	ND	<LD
Leaves	C	<LD	<LD
	MCE	12,298.18 ± 8962.03	nd
	MCP	ND	<LD
Green tomato	C	<LD	<LD
	MCE	5.41 ± 0.49	<LD
	MCP	5.15 ± 0.93	<LD
Mature tomato	C	<LD	<LD
	MCE	10.52 ± 6.48	<LD
	MCP	10.83 ± 0.94	<LD

Tomato plants exposed to MC-LR accumulated high levels of toxin in fruits

Extracts and pure toxin had similar accumulation levels

MC accumulation in aquatic animals

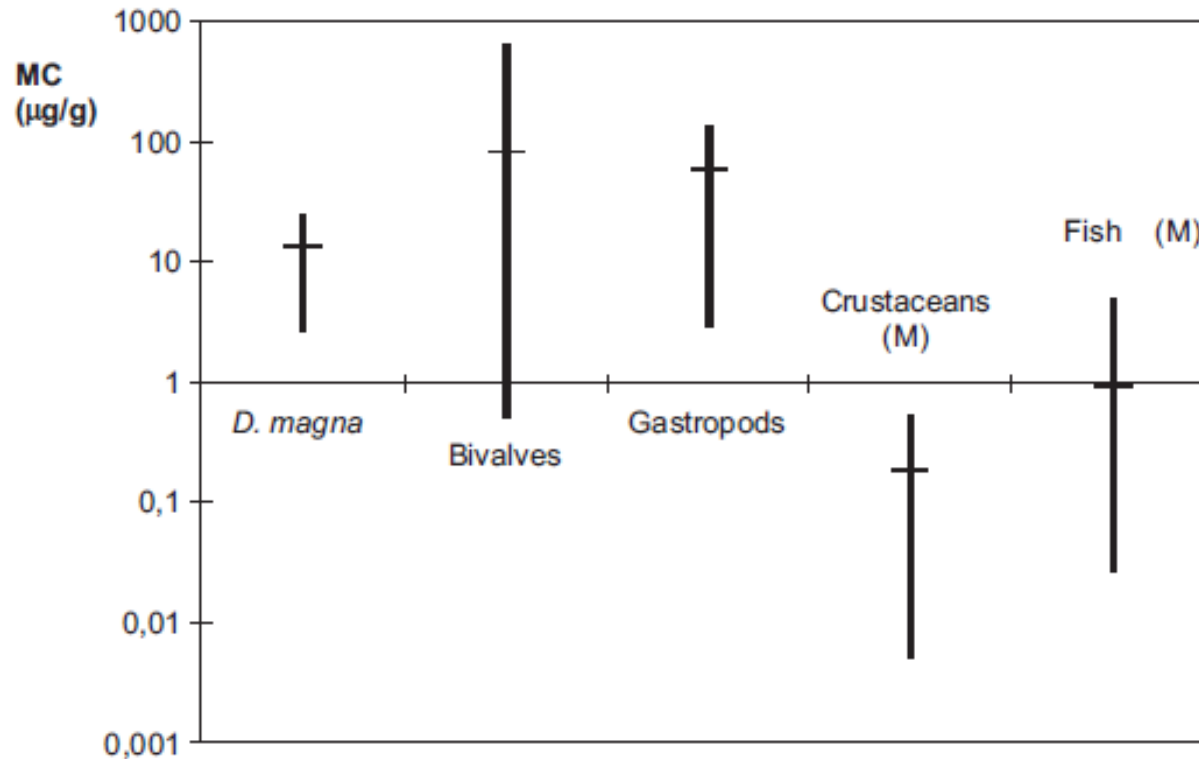


FIGURE 1. Average, maximum, and minimum concentration of MC in different animal species in laboratorial and field conditions (data from Tables 1 to 5) (horizontal bar represents average and M, muscle).

Martins and Vasconcelos, 2009. J Toxicol. Env. Health Part B: 12:62-82

Other examples of cyanobacteria products as drug leads

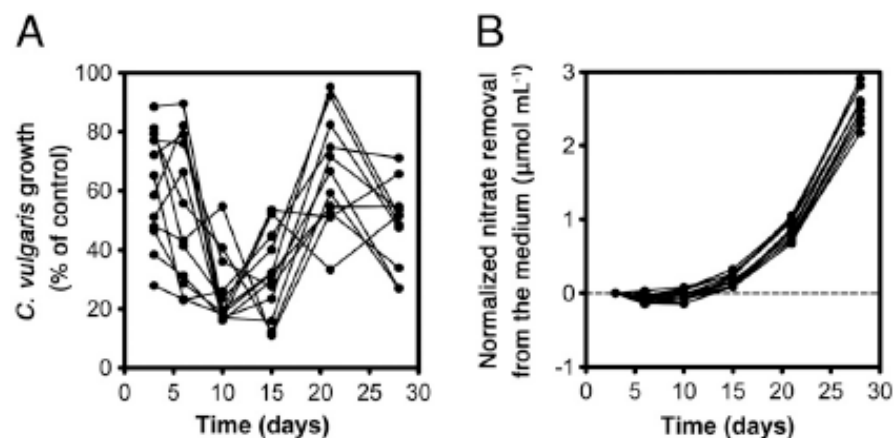


Fig. 1. Allelopathic activity of filtrates from OSC grown at different cell densities. (A) Growth of *C. vulgaris* in the OSC filtrates retrieved at different growth stages. (B) Growth profile of the OSC cultures, as inferred from nitrate removal from the medium.

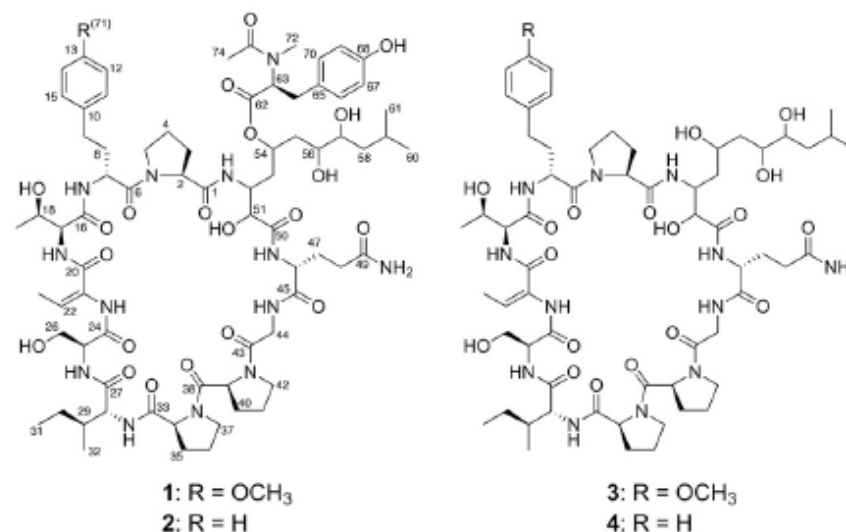


Fig. 2. Major secondary metabolites isolated from OSC biomass or media. Numbering corresponds to portoamide A (1).

PNAS | June 22, 2010 | vol. 107 | no. 25 | 11183–11188

Synergistic allelochemicals from a freshwater cyanobacterium

Pedro N. Leão^{a,b,1}, Alban R. Pereira^{b,1}, Wei-Ting Liu^c, Julio Ng^d, Pavel A. Pevzner^d, Pieter C. Dorrestein^{b,c,e}, Gabriele M. König^f, Vitor M. Vasconcelos^{a,g,2}, and William H. Gerwick^{b,e,2}

Mar. Drugs 2019, 17, 111; doi:10.3390/md17020111

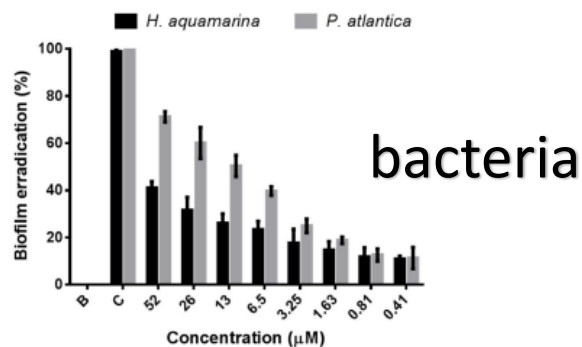


Figure 5. Antibiofilm dose–response activity of portoamides towards the marine bacteria *Halomonas aquamarina* and *Pseudoalteromonas atlantica*. B: 0.1% DMSO; C: 4:100 dilution of penicilin-streptomycin-neomycin stabilized solution (Sigma P4083).

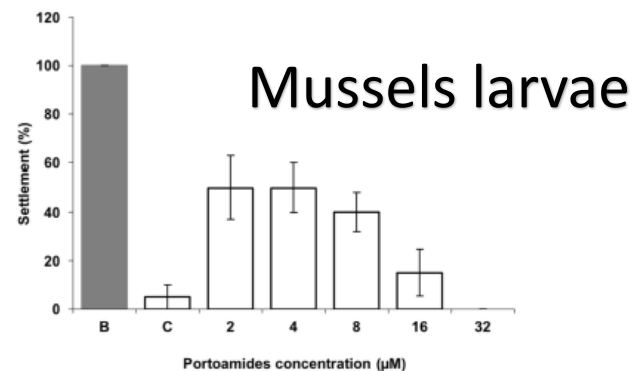


Figure 1. Dose–response antisettlement activity of portoamides towards plantigrade larvae of the mussel *Mytilus galloprovincialis*. B: DMSO control (0.01%); C: 5 μM CuSO₄ as the positive control.

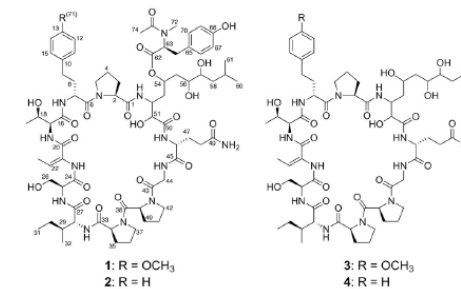


Fig. 2. Major secondary metabolites isolated from OSC biomass or media. Numbering corresponds to portoamide A (1).

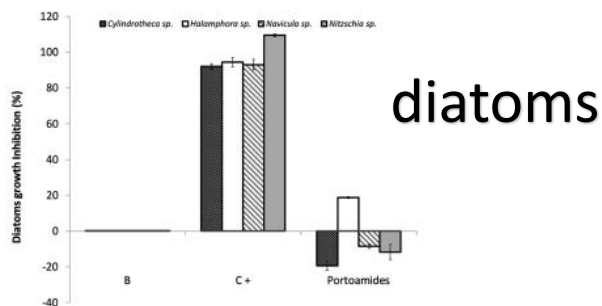


Figure 4. Antimicroalgal activity of portoamides at a concentration of 6.5 μM towards four biofilm-forming marine diatoms *Cylindrotheca* sp., *Halomphora* sp., *Nitzschia* sp. and *Navicula* sp. (B: 0.1% DMSO); 3.55 μM cycloheximide was used as the positive control (C+).

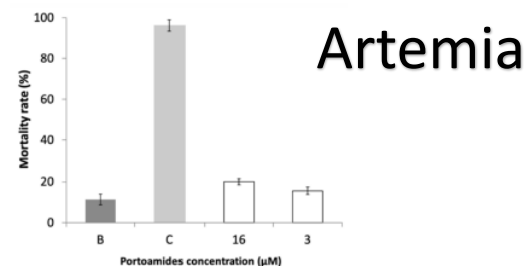


Figure 7. Mortality rate of *Artemia salina* nauplii after 48 h of exposure to portoamides. B: 1% DMSO in filtered seawater. C: K₂Cr₂O₇ at a concentration of 13.6 μM.

Mar. Drugs 2008, 6(1), 1–11

OPEN ACCESS

Marine Drugs

ISSN 1660-3397

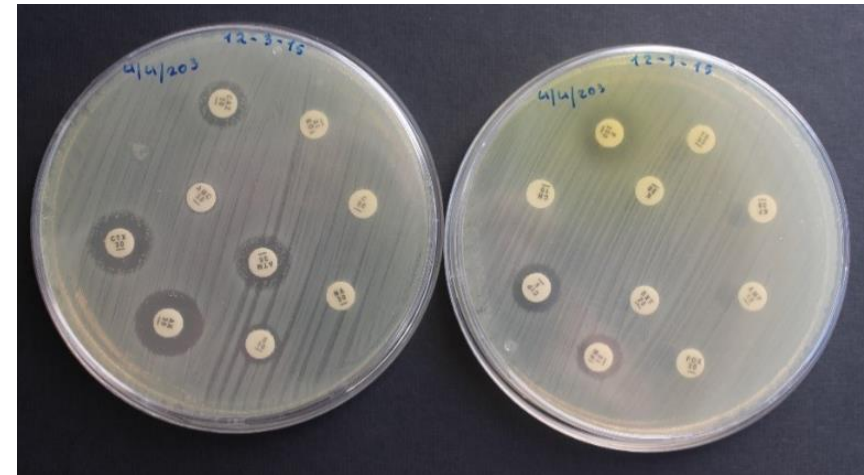
www.mdpi.org/marinedrugs

Full Paper

Antimicrobial and Cytotoxic Assessment of Marine Cyanobacteria - *Synechocystis* and *Synechococcus*

Rosário E. Martins ^{1,2,3}, Miguel F. Ramos ¹, Lars Herfindal ⁴, José A. Sousa ^{1,2},
Kaja Skærven ⁴ and Vitor M. Vasconcelos ^{1,2,*}

- (1) Departamento de Zoologia e Antropologia, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade do Porto, Praça Gomes Teixeira, 4099-002 Porto, Portugal
- (2) Centro Interdisciplinar de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental, CIMAR/CIIMAR, Rua dos Bragas 289, 4050-123 Porto, Portugal
- (3) Escola Superior de Tecnologia da Saúde do Porto, Rua João de Oliveira Ramos 87, 4000-294 Porto, Portugal
- (4) Department of Biomedicine, University of Bergen, Jonas Lies vei 91, N-5009 Bergen, Norway



Article

Inhibition of Bacterial and Fungal Biofilm Formation by 675 Extracts from Microalgae and Cyanobacteria

Virginio Cepas ¹, Yuly López ¹, Yaiza Gabasa ¹, Clara B. Martins ², Joana D. Ferreira ², Maria J. Correia ², Lília M.A. Santos ², Flávio Oliveira ³, Vitor Ramos ³, Mariana Reis ³, Raquel Castelo-Branco ³, João Morais ³, Vitor Vasconcelos ^{3,4}, Ian Probert ⁵, Emilie Guilloud ⁵, Mohamed Mehiri ⁶ and Sara M. Soto ^{1,*}

Antibiotics 2019, 8, 77; doi:10.3390/antibiotics8020077

Antibiotics 2019, 8, 77

4 of 12

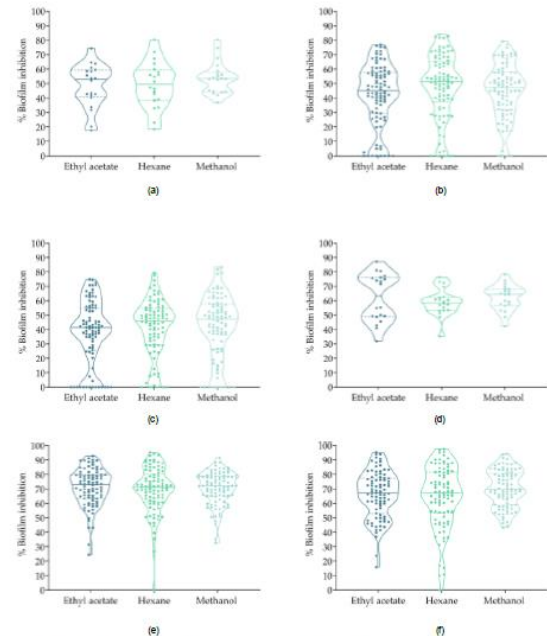


Figure 2. Individual biofilm inhibition ratios of Charophyta, Chlorophyta, and Cyanobacteria extracts against *E. cloacae* and *C. parapsilopsis*, represented as percentages. (a) Charophyta against *E. cloacae*; (b) Chlorophyta against *E. cloacae*; (c) Cyanobacteria against *E. cloacae*; (d) Charophyta against *C. albicans*; (e) Chlorophyta against *C. albicans*; (f) Cyanobacteria against *C. albicans*.

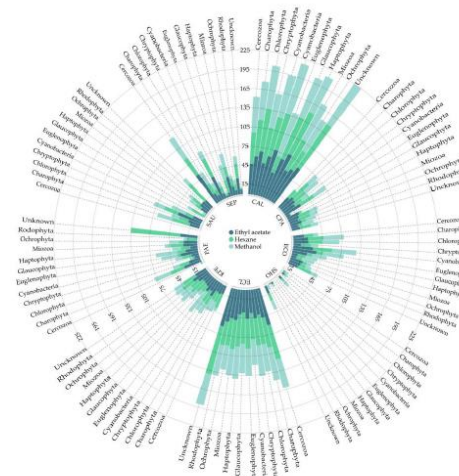


Figure 1. Circular dot plot representing the biofilm inhibition ratio (%) of each bacterium in relation to the solvent employed (ethyl acetate, hexane, and methanol), according to the microalgae and cyanobacteria phylum. CAL: *C. albicans*; CPA: *C. parapsilopsis*; ECO: *E. coli*; SHO: *S. hominis*; ECL: *E. cloacae*; KPE: *K. pneumoniae*; PAE: *P. aeruginosa*; SAU: *S. aureus*; SEP: *S. epidermidis*.

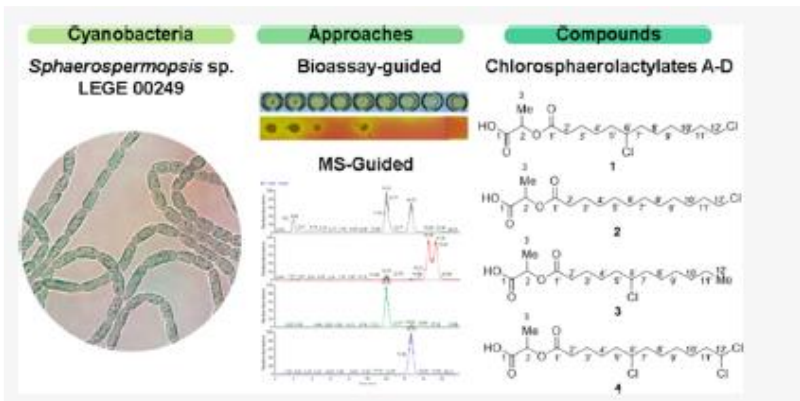
LEGE-CC, ACOI and ROSTOC CC

Looking for antimicrobial extracts against infections in prosthesis and catheters

NoMorFilm PARTNERS

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	





Chlorosphaerolactylates A–D: Natural Lactylates of Chlorinated Fatty Acids Isolated from the Cyanobacterium *Sphaerospermopsis* sp. LEGE 00249

Ignacio Gutiérrez-del-Río,[#] Nelly Brugerolle de Fraissinette,[#] Raquel Castelo-Branco,[#] Flavio Oliveira, João Morais, Saúl Redondo-Blanco, Claudio J. Villar, María José Iglesias, Raquel Soengas, Virginio Cepas, Yuly López Cubillos, Giacomo Sampietro, Liliana Rodolfi, Felipe Lombó, Sara M. Soto González, Fernando López Ortiz,^{*} Vitor Vasconcelos, and Mariana A. Reis^{*}

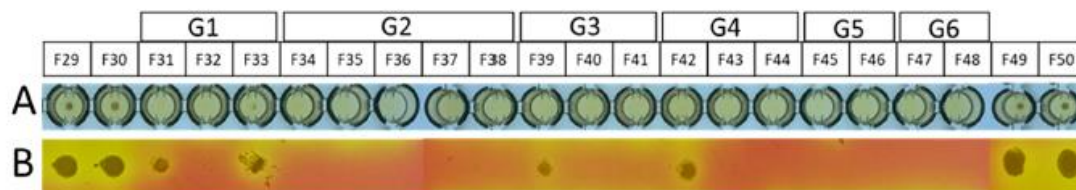
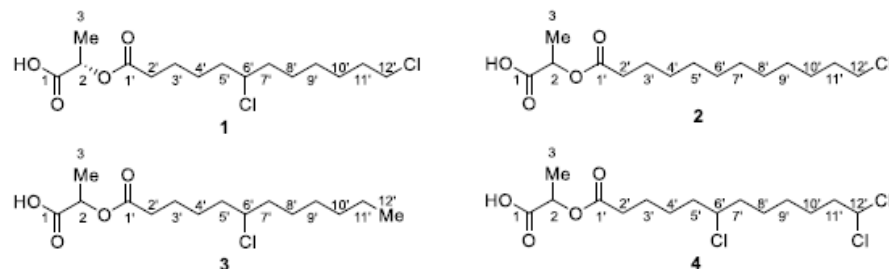


Figure 1. Bioassay-guided discovery of antibacterial compounds. Schematic representation of a 96-well plate containing active fractions: (A) microbial sediments obtained after the microdilution antibiotic susceptibility test; (B) result of the bactericidal assay after the upper wells were subcultured onto a solid agar medium (MSA). Inhibition of *S. aureus* S54F9 growth was observed in fractions F32, F34–38, F40, F41, F43–F48. The groups G1–G6 were defined according to their chemical composition after HRESIMS analyses.

Chlorosphaerolactylates

Patented
knowledge

Chart 1



Antitumor Activity of Hierridin B, a Cyanobacterial Secondary Metabolite Found in both Filamentous and Unicellular Marine Strains

Pedro N. Leão^{1,2,*}, Margarida Costa¹, Vitor Ramos¹, Alban R. Pereira², Virgínia C. Fernandes³,
Valentina F. Domingues³, William H. Gerwick^{2,4}, Vitor M. Vasconcelos^{1,5}, Rosário Martins^{1,6,7}

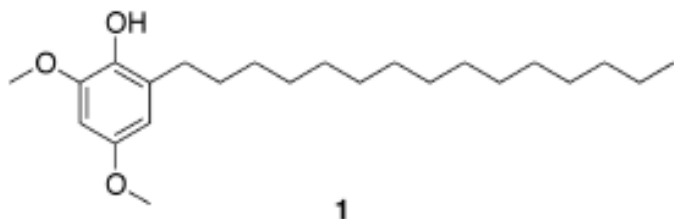


Figure 1. Structure of hierridin B (1).
doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0069562.g001

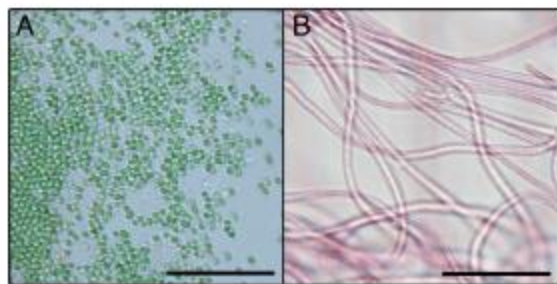


Figure 3. Microphotographs of the two cyanobacterial strains known to produce 1. A – *Cyanobium* sp. LEGE 06133; B – *Phormidium ectocarpi* SAG 60.90. Scale bar = 20 μ m.
doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0069562.g003

Table 1. Cytotoxicity of 1 towards a panel of human cell lines. (+ growth inhibition observed, – no growth inhibition observed).

Cell line	Type	Growth inhibition (IC ₅₀)
HepG2	hepatocellular carcinoma	– (n/a)
HT-29	colon adenocarcinoma	+ (100.2 μ M)
MG63	osteosarcoma	– (n/a)
PNT2	normal prostate epithelium	– (n/a)
RKO	colon adenocarcinoma	– (n/a)
SHSY5Y	neuroblastoma	– (n/a)
SKBR3	breast adenocarcinoma	– (n/a)
T47D	breast ductal carcinoma	– (n/a)

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0069562.t001

Article

Hierridin B Isolated from a Marine Cyanobacterium Alters VDAC1, Mitochondrial Activity, and Cell Cycle Genes on HT-29 Colon Adenocarcinoma Cells

Sara Freitas ¹, Rosário Martins ^{1,2,3,4}, Margarida Costa ¹, Pedro N. Leão ¹, Rui Vitorino ^{5,6}, Vitor Vasconcelos ^{1,3} and Ralph Urbatzka ^{1,*}

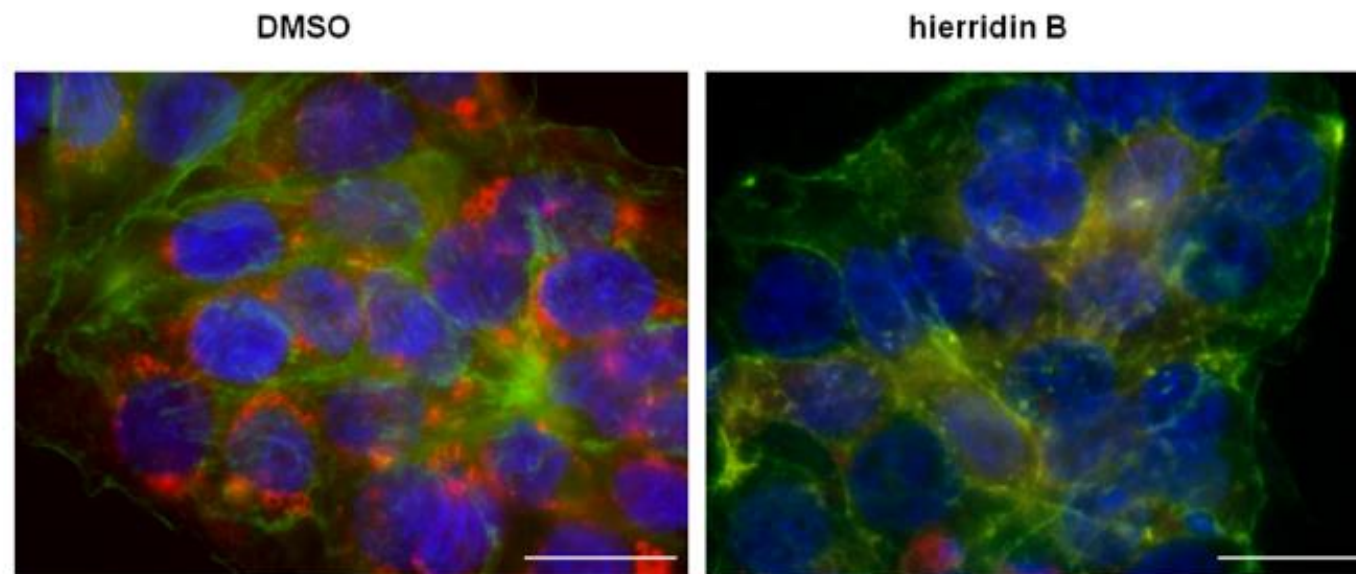


Figure 4. Overlay of three fluorescent channels (blue, nucleus, Hoechst 33342; green, cytoplasm, acti-stain 488; red, mitochondria, MitoTracker CMXRos) from HT-29 colon adenocarcinoma cells exposed to solvent control (DMSO) and hierridin B. Scale bar corresponds to 20 μ m.

ANTICANCER PARMASUMMER SCHOOL

PORTOAMIDES, AGAIN

Food Safety Aspects of Integrated Food Systems

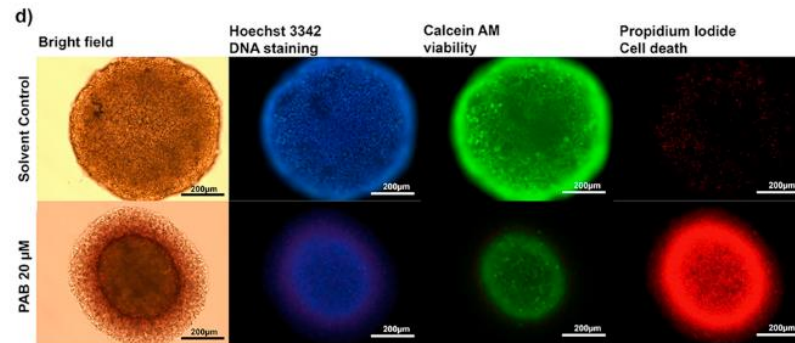
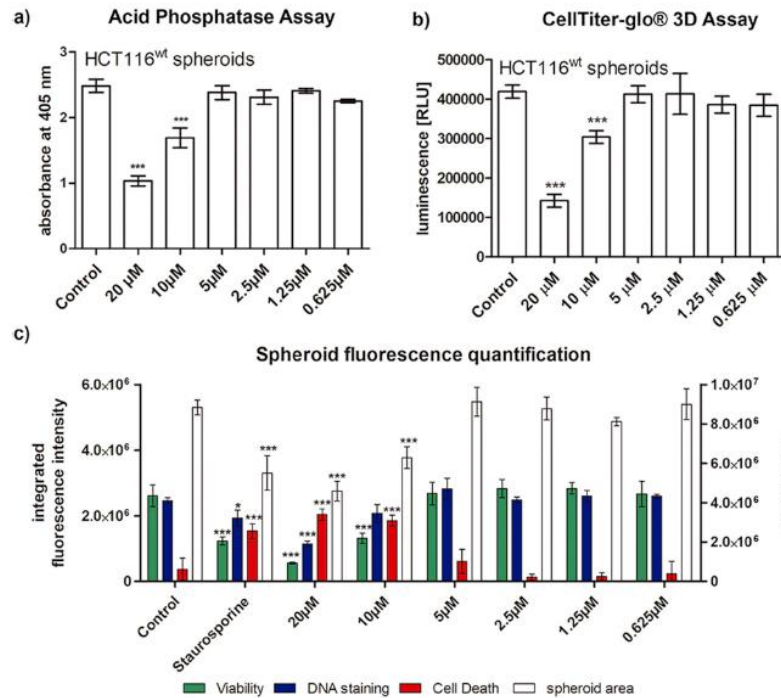
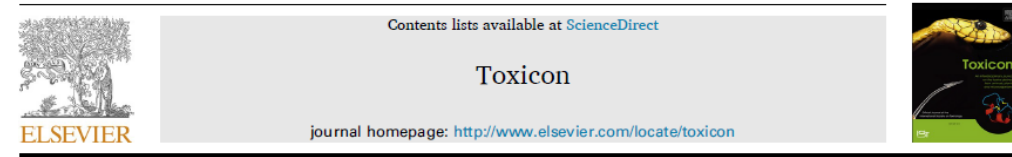


Fig. 2. Viability of HCT116 spheroids after 48 h exposure to PAB. a) Acid Phosphatase assay resulted in an IC_{50} of 12.67 μ M. b) CellTiter-glo® 3D viability assay resulted in an IC_{50} value of 15.21 μ M $n > 3$, mean \pm standard deviation; statistical differences to the control were indicated by $*** = p < 0.001$. c) Quantification of fluorescence in spheroids after 48 h of exposure to PAB. Calcein AM (green) shows activity of cellular esterases (viability), Hoechst 33342 nuclear condensation (blue) and PI (red) dead cells (cell death). Staurosporine 500 nM was used as positive control. $n = 3$, mean \pm standard deviation. $**p < 0.01$, $***p < 0.001$. d) Microscopy images of spheroids exposed to 20 μ M PAB after 48 h, followed by fluorescent staining with Hoechst 33342, Calcein AM and PI general cell death. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the Web version of this article.)

Toxicol 175 (2020) 49–56



Portoamides A and B are mitochondrial toxins and induce cytotoxicity on the proliferative cell layer of *in vitro* microtumours

Maria Lígia Sousa ^{a,b}, Tiago Ribeiro ^{a,b}, Vítor Vasconcelos ^{a,b}, Stig Linder ^{c,d}, Ralph Urbatzka ^{a,*}

In conclusion, PAB reduced the viability of HCT116 colon cancer cells grown as monolayer or as multicellular spheroid. PAB can penetrate the spheroids and its effects were more prominent on the outer layer. The uptake of PAB seems to be energy-independent. In both cases, PAB disturbed the energy metabolism of cells by targeting mitochondrial function suggesting that PAB act as mitochondrial toxin. However, our data clearly demonstrate that PAB affected both carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic cells and exerted systemic toxicity on zebrafish larvae. Its future application will be dependent on a targeted transfer to cancer cells, to avoid prominent side effects.

Nutraceuticals now and in the future?

LOW PROCESSING – LOW PRICE





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Food Safety Aspects of
Integrated Food Systems

Multiplex PCR: several primer pairs simultaneously

Detection of contamination in food supplements

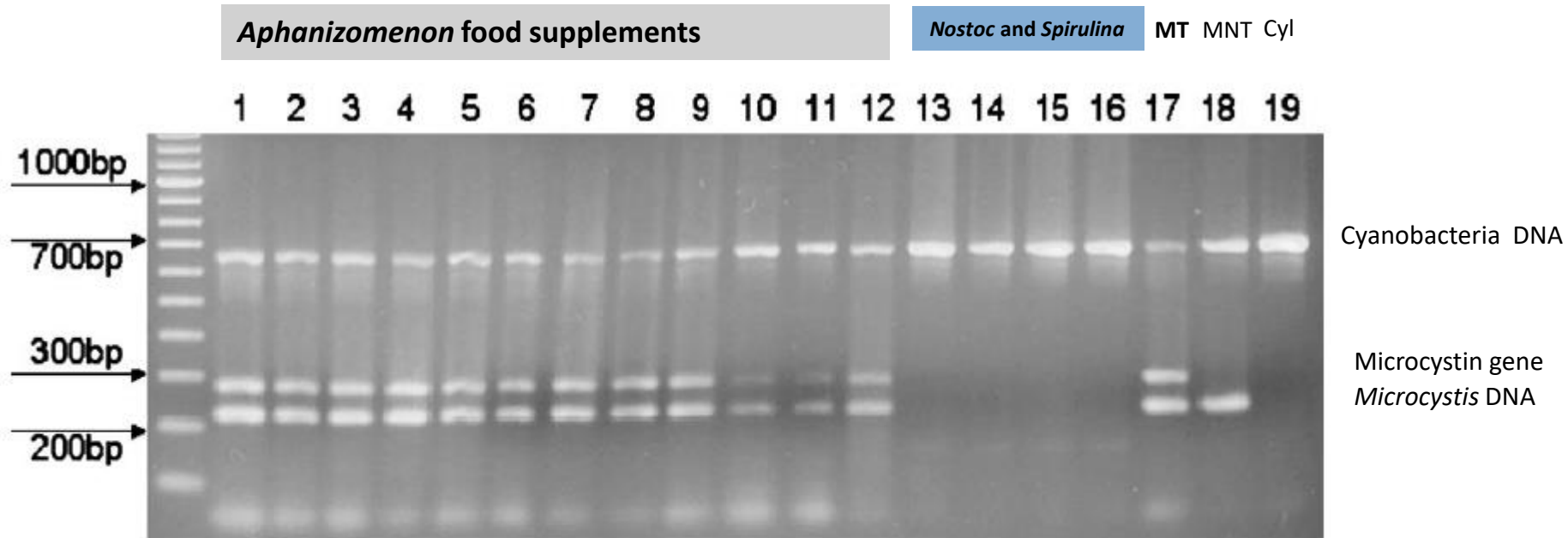


Fig. 1 Agarose gel showing the three products amplified in the multiplex PCR reaction. Lanes 1–12 are dietary supplement samples produced from the cyanobacterium *Aphanizomenon flos-aquae*. Lanes 13–14 are dietary supplements produced from *Nostoc flagelliforme*. Lanes 15–16 are samples of *Spirulina*. Lane 17 is a microcystin-

producing strain of *Microcystis*. Lane 18 is a nonmicrocystin-producing strain of *Microcystis*. Lane 19 is an environmental bloom sample dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis*. Lane 20 is a 100-bp molecular ladder

Appl Microbiol Biotechnol (2007) 73:1136–1142
DOI 10.1007/s00253-006-0565-5

APPLIED GENETICS AND MOLECULAR BIOTECHNOLOGY

Multiplex PCR for the detection of toxigenic cyanobacteria in dietary supplements produced for human consumption

Martin L. Saker · Martin Welker · Vitor M. Vasconcelos



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Toxicol

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/toxicol

Case report

Hepatotoxicity induced by paclitaxel interaction with turmeric in association with a microcystin from a contaminated dietary supplement



Maria Luísa Costa^a, José A. Rodrigues^{a,b}, Joana Azevedo^c, Vitor Vasconcelos^{c,d,*}, Eduardo Eiras^e,
 Maria Graça Campos^{a,f}

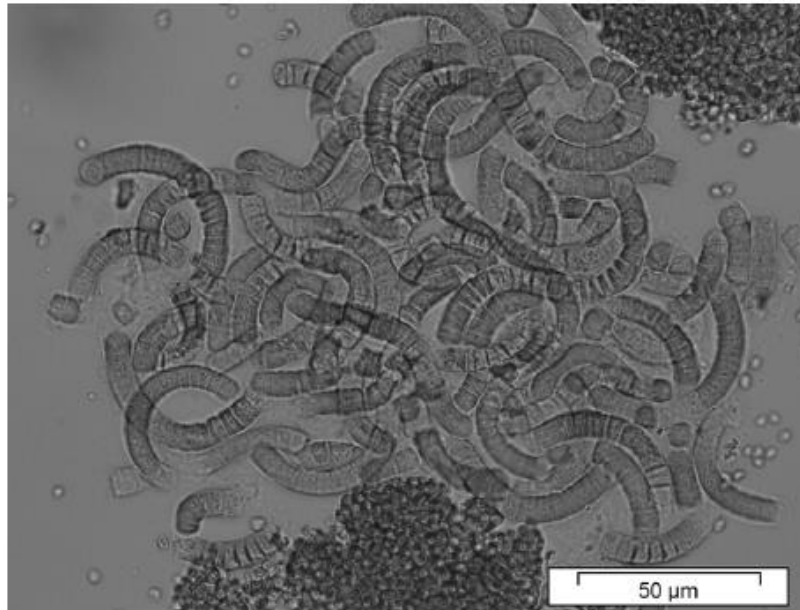


Fig. 3. *Chlorella* supplement through optic microscope.

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Food Safety Aspects of Integrated Food Systems

ANTIOBESITY

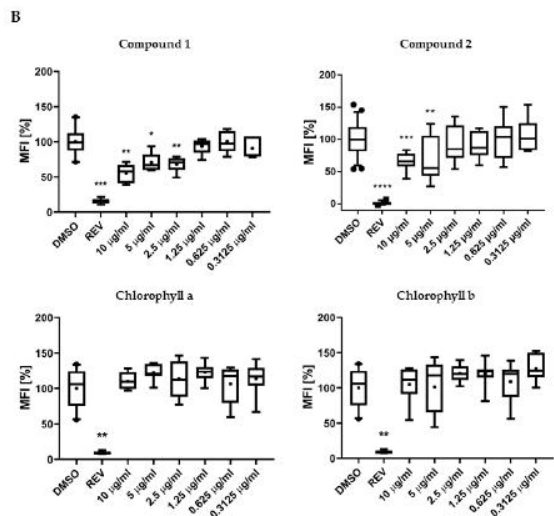
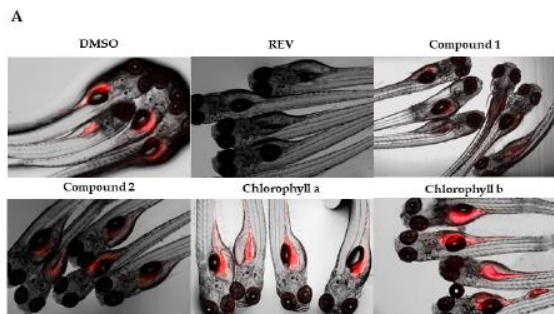


Figure 3. (A) Representation of the zebrafish Nile red fat metabolism assay. Strong fluorescence signal is present in zebrafish larvae from the solvent control around the yolk sac and stomach/intestine. Compounds 1 and 2 decreased the Nile red staining, in contrast to chlorophyll a and b. (B) Quantification of lipid-reducing activity in the zebrafish Nile red fat metabolism assay after exposure over 48 h. Solvent control was 0.1% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) and positive control was 50 μ M resveratrol (REV). Values are expressed as mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) relative to the DMSO group and are derived from six to eight individual larvae per treatment group. The data are represented as box-whisker plots from the fifth to 95th percentiles. Asterisks highlight significant altered fluorescence intensities that indicate changes of neutral lipid level (**** $p < 0.0001$; *** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$).



Mar. Drugs 2019, 17, 229; doi:10.3390/md17040229



Article Chlorophyll Derivatives from Marine Cyanobacteria with Lipid-Reducing Activities

Sara Freitas ^{1,2,†}, Natália Gonçalves Silva ^{1,†}, Maria Lígia Sousa ¹, Tiago Ribeiro ¹, Filipa Rosa ¹, Pedro N. Leão ^{1,‡}, Vitor Vasconcelos ^{1,2,‡}, Mariana Alves Reis ¹ and Ralph Urbatzka ^{1,2,*}

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3 of 18

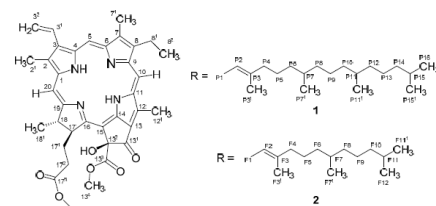


Figure 1. Planar structure of compounds 1 and 2.

Patented knowledge

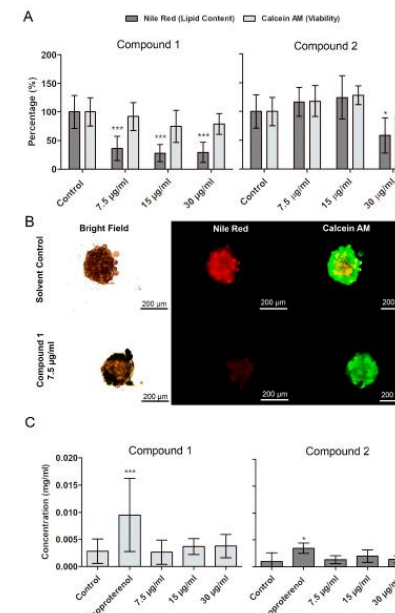


Figure 4. Quantification of lipid content (Nile red) and viability (calcein AM) in differentiated 3T3-L1 spheroids after exposure to 1 and 2 over 48 h. (A) Results of quantification of fluorescence by CellProfiler software (mean \pm SD). (B) Representative images from fluorescence microscopy. Statistical differences to the solvent control were analyzed by one-way ANOVA, followed by a Dunnett's multiple comparison post-test (*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$). (C) Quantification of free glycerol on the medium where 3T3-L1 organoids were exposed to 1 and 2 over 48 h. Data represent means \pm SD. No significant alterations on free glycerol content in the medium were observed. Kolmogorov–Smirnov test was used to test normality of the data, followed by a Dunnett's multiple comparison post-test (*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$).

CULTURE COLLECTIONS

ARE FUNDAMENTAL TOOLS FOR MICROBIAL
CONSERVATION, STUDY AND EXPLOITATION TO FULLFIL
UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





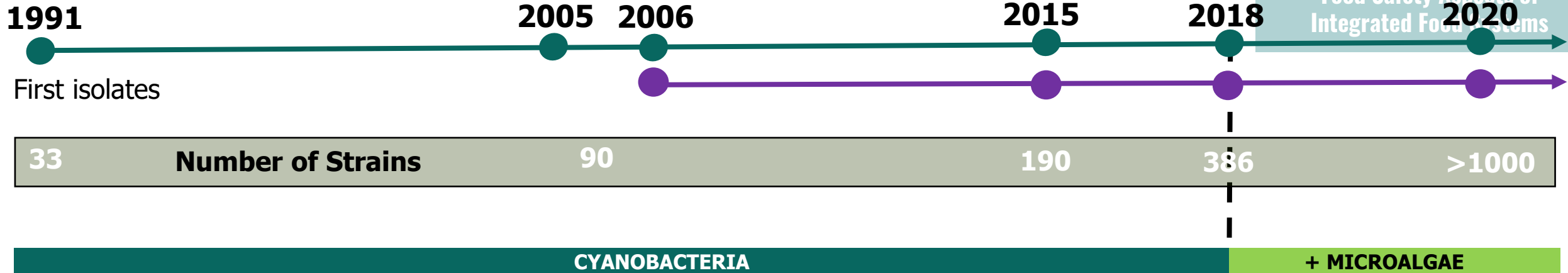
legeCC

Blue Biotechnology
and Ecotoxicology
Culture Collection

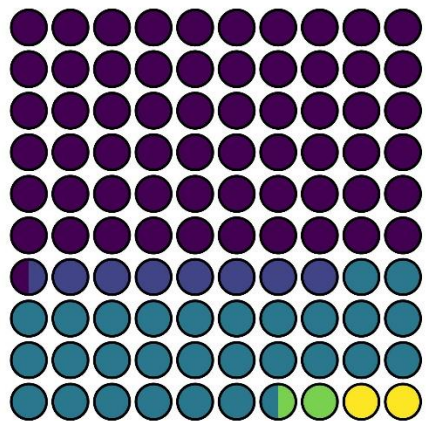
Ecotoxicology

Bioactive compounds

Food Safety Aspects of Integrated Food Systems

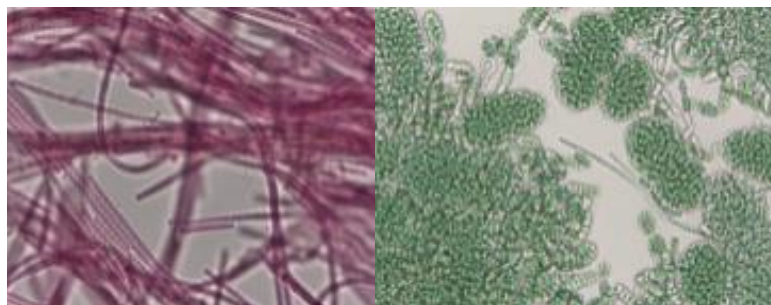


Phylum

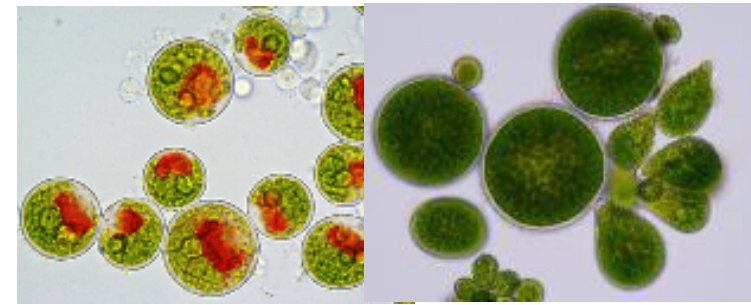


- 647 Cyanobacteria (60.64%)
- 79 Charophyta (7.40%)
- 304 Chlorophyta (28.49%)
- 2 Cryptophyta (0.19%)
- 16 Euglenozoa (1.50%)
- 17 Ochrophyta (1.59%)
- 2 Rhodophyta (0.19%)

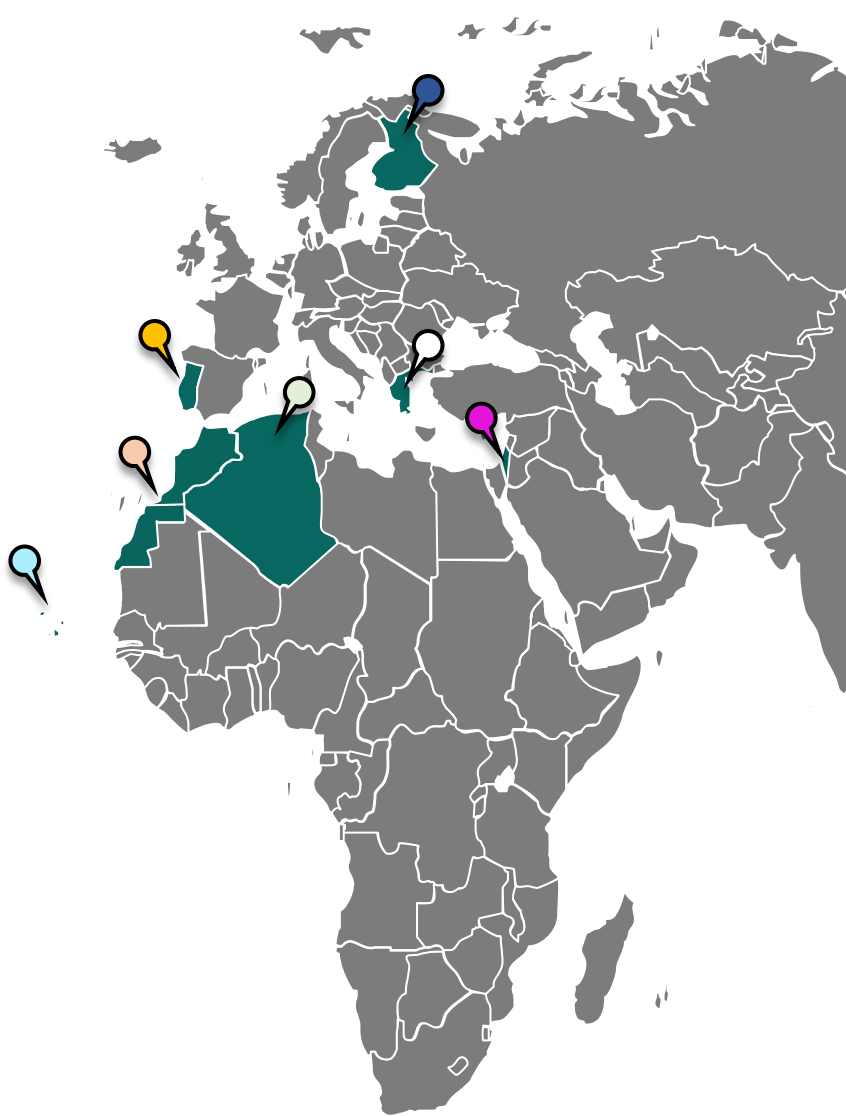
Total=1067



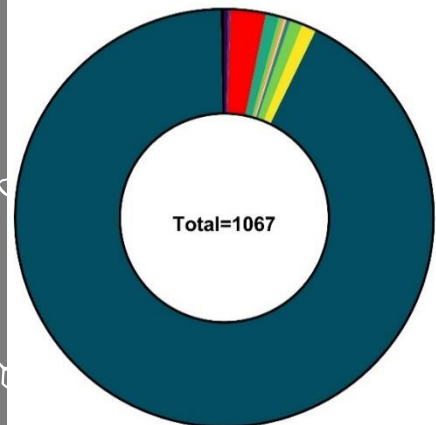
Cyanobacteria > 700



Microalgae > 400



Geographical Origin

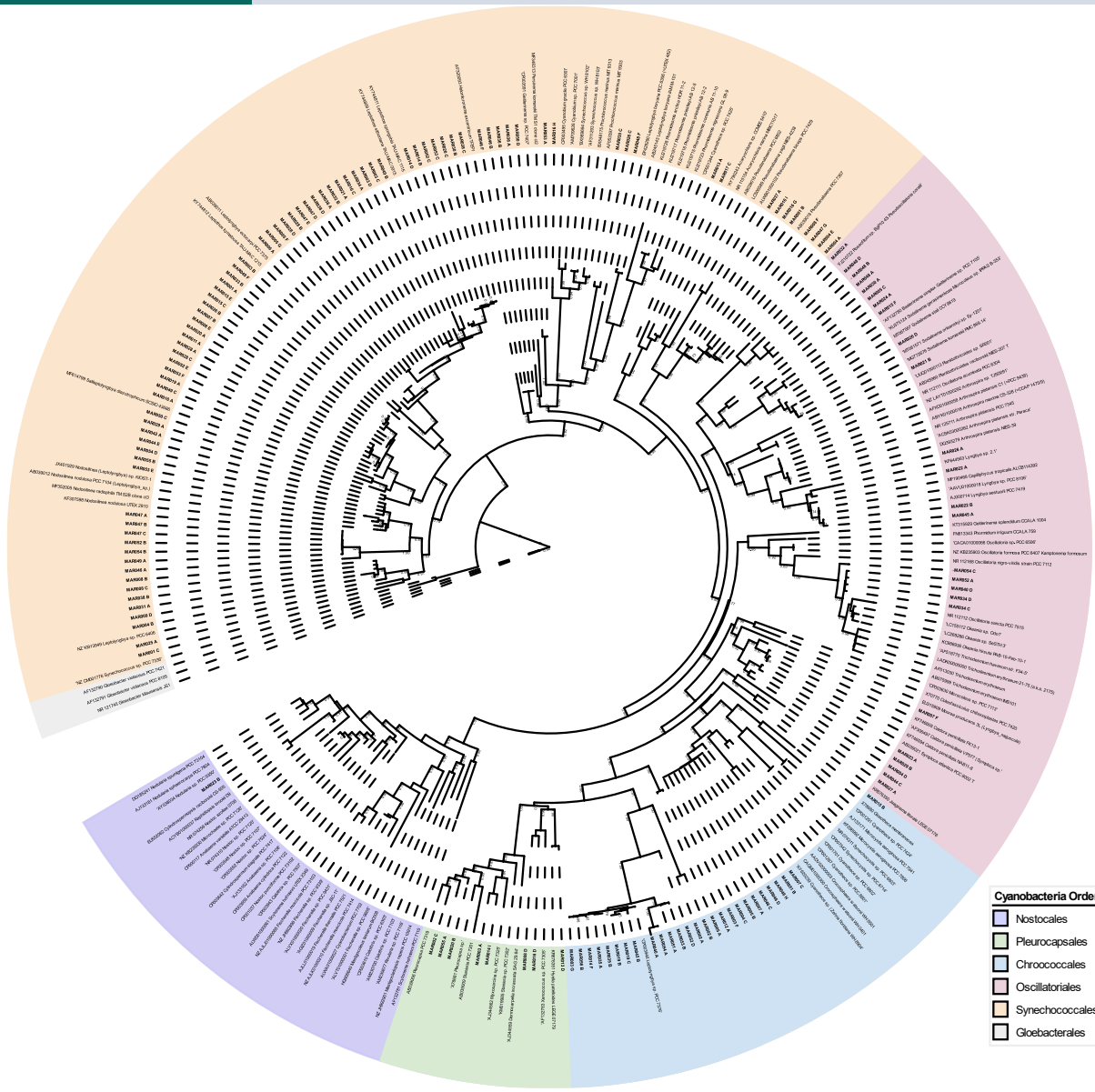


- 3 Antarctica (0.28%)
- 2 Australia (0.19%)
- 29 Brazil (2.72%)
- 11 Cape Verde (1.03%)
- 3 Chile (0.28%)
- 2 Colombia (0.19%)
- 1 Dominican Republic (0.09%)
- 1 Finland (0.09%)
- 2 Greece (0.19%)
- 1 Israel (0.09%)
- 10 Mexico (0.94%)
- 12 Morocco (1.12%)
- 987 Portugal (92.50%)
- 3 unknown (0.28%)

- Portugal
- Finland
- Colombia
- Australia
- Chile
- Israel
- Antarctica
- Morocco
- Brazil
- Mexico
- Greece
- Cabo Verde
- Algeria
- Dominican Republic

> 90% isolated from Portugal





Cyanobacteria representing almost all the orders of the



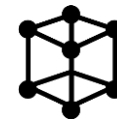
Metabolites in LEGE Strains



- Portoamides
- Hierridin B and C
- Bartolosides
- Dehydroabietic acid
- 13²-hydroxy-pheofarnesin a
- 13²-hydroxy-pheophytin
- Desmamides A-C
- Chlorosphaerolactylates A-D
- Microginins
- Nocuolactylates
- Nocuolin A

EPS Producers

exopolysaccharides



> 50

Patents



5

> 700 cyanobacteria
> 400 microalgae

PARMA
Toxin Producers



Microcystin
Anatoxin
Cylindrospermopsin
BMAA

Draft Genomes



> 50

Journal Articles



> 200

Type Strains



CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

LEGE CC Facilities

Blue Biotechnology and Ecotoxicology Culture Collection (LEGE-CC)

Collection Room

Temperature - 19°C

Photoperiod - 12/12h ligh/dark cycles

Light intensity - 10-30 $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$



Isolation Room

Temperature - 22-24°C

Incubator - 3-70°C

Photoperiod - 14/10h ligh/dark cycles

Light intensity - 10-30 $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$



Culture Room (Biomass Cultivation)

Temperature - 22-24°C

Photoperiod - 16/8h ligh/dark cycles

Light intensity - 10-100 $\mu\text{mol photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$

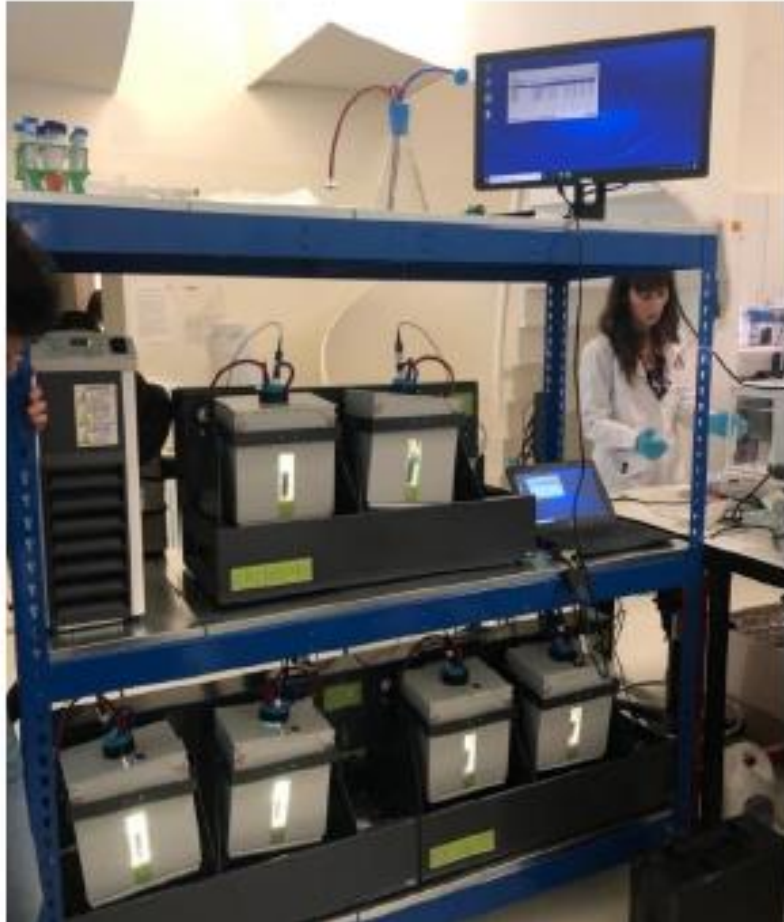


Photobioreactors

Blue Biotechnology and Ecotoxicology Culture Collection (LEGE-CC)



Algem® - 2L
(each Photobioreactor)



LUCY - 16L



Allmicroalgae – Pataias, Portugal



Take home messages

- Cyanobacteria blooms and their impact are far from decreasing worldwide.
- Cyanotoxins affect mammals in a more severe way than co-existing organisms.
- Bloom material and Culture collections are excellent resources and their potential is far from being used.
- Chemotyping of cyanobacteria and gene mining allow the discovery of hundreds of new bioactive compounds.
- Need to understand ecological role of cyanobacteria secondary metabolites.
- Potential applications in biotechnology are very promising.

Thank you



PARMA SUMMER SCHOOL

Food Safety Aspects of
Integrated Food Systems

Vitor Vasconcelos
vmvascon@fc.up.pt

U. PORTO



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