



Lipids of Marine Algae

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Message from the Guest Editors

The polar lipidome of marine algae (both micro and macro) is yet to be fully unraveled, although they are unanimously recognized as promising and valuable phytochemicals for a multitude of applications (e.g., food, feed, pharmaceutical, and cosmeceutical industries). Polar lipids are the main carriers of omega-3 fatty acids and have been reported to display anti-inflammatory, anti-oxidant, anti-microbial, and anti-proliferative properties. Lipidomic approaches using mass spectrometry technologies are being used in the profiling and identification of these health-promoting biomolecules. Lipid signatures reveal algal adaptations to multiple biotic and abiotic conditions, can support the development of origin certification protocols, and can also be used as reliable proxies for the quality control of raw algae or algal-based products. The accurate identification of the lipidome of marine algae will enhance the valorization of these biomolecules and foster innovative algal-based solutions for biotechnological and industrial applications.

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