

Marine Natural Products with Antifouling Activity

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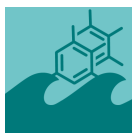
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Message from the Guest Editors

Marine fouling affects most man-made surfaces temporarily or permanently immersed in the sea, causing important economic costs. The most widespread solution to inhibit fouling is to make surfaces unsuitable for settlers by coating them with antifouling paints containing toxic compounds. Most such antifouling agents give undesirable effects on nontarget species, including commercially important ones. The search for new nontoxic antifouling technologies has become a necessity, particularly after the ban of organotin compounds such as tributyltin (TBT). A nontoxic alternative for antifouling protection comes from the possibility of adopting natural antifouling compounds that are and may be found in marine sessile invertebrates. Such metabolites prevent their producers from being fouled on by other organisms. As natural marine compounds, they may inhibit settlement through a nontoxic mechanism without adverse effects to the environment. The Special Issue on marine natural products with antifouling activity aims at the discovery of such compounds their activity, toxicity and potential application in environmentally friendly antifouling coatings.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

During the past few decades there has been an ever increasing number of novel compounds discovered in the marine environment. This is exemplified by the robust preclinical and clinical pipeline that currently exists for marine natural products. *Marine Drugs* is inviting contributions on new advances in marine biotechnology, pharmacology, chemical ecology, synthetic biology, and genomics approaches related to the discovery of therapeutically relevant marine natural products. Our goal is to share your contribution in a timely fashion and in a manner that will be valued by the scientific community.

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