



Fatty Acids from the Oceans

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Message from the Guest Editor

Progress in study of lipids and fatty acids (FA) depends mostly on progress in analytical methods. The development of GC and GC-MS has made it possible to identify structure, distribution and functional role of more than 1000 FA in living organisms. The undoubtedly greatest contribution to marine lipids and FA research was made by Robert Ackman (1927-2013). First, he developed the standard GLC method for FAME analysis and launched an extensive investigation into FA composition in marine environment and role of FA in food webs. He also participated in the development of technologies for concentration and capsulation of omega-3 fatty acids and fish oils to be used in clinical treatment and health nutrition. For the past 10 years we have observed an increasing interest in marine FA. One of the issues addressed by this research is the production of EPA and DHA by microorganisms, which potentially may substitute marine fish oils in health nutrition. New findings are expected from studies conducted in deep-sea ecosystems, where a several dozens of new and uncommon FA have been identified to date.





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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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