Special Issue

Microbial Communities on the Surface of Algae

Message from the Guest Editors

Micro- and macroalgae belong to a diverse group of photosynthetic organisms, they contribute to global primary production and the biological carbon pump. Algae live in close association with microorganisms which influence algal fitness, performance and stress resilience, and determine interactions with other species. These interactions have ecosystem-wide implications. Yet, the principles and steering forces for assembly of algal microbial communities are partially understood. Questions remain regarding the role of small-scaled host factors versus large-scaled environmental factors in shaping algal microbiomes. Challenges remain in decoupling algal fitness and performance affected by microbiomes from the effect of algae on microbiota and the environment in their immediate surrounding. Other than trace elements and vitamins, the chemical currencies required or exchanged between algae and microorganisms during assembly and functioning of the holobiont are virtually unknown.

This Special Issue of *Microorganisms* invites contributions addressing the latest advances to the questions and issues in algal microbiome research.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Tilmann Harder

Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar Marine Research, University of Bremen, Bremen, Germany

Dr. Jan Tebben

Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Section Ecological Chemistry, Am Handelshafen 12, 27570 Bremerhaven, Germany

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
microorganisms@mdpi.com

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

"Microorganism" merges the idea of the very small with the idea of the evolving reproducing organism is a unifying principle for the discipline of microbiology. Our journal recognizes the broadly diverse yet connected nature of microorganisms and provides an advanced publishing forum for original articles from scientists involved in high-quality basic and applied research on any prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganism, and for research on the ecology, genomics and evolution of microbial communities as well as that exploring cultured microorganisms in the laboratory.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Nico Jehmlich
Department of Molecular Toxicology, UFZ-Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, 04318 Leipzig, Germany

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