Special Issue

Phycotoxins: From Producers to Transfer in the Food Chain

Message from the Guest Editor

Natural toxins have been identified for centuries and have been widely studied. Phycotoxins produced by phytoplankton are composed of allopathic chemicals, most often produced as secondary metabolites. As part of their blooms, phytoplankton species are subject to competition among other things for access to nutrients, but also by the grazing action of micro and macro zooplankton as well as by planktivore species. To promote their development and minimize the impact of this competition, many species of marine or fresh water phytoplankton produce these biologically active metabolites, most often called phycotoxins. Flagellates and mainly dinoflagellates are known to be the main producers of these toxins. Other genera (e.g., diatoms, cyanobacteria) are also producers of toxins.

Guest Editor

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Toxinology is an incredibly diverse area of study, ranging from field surveys of environmental toxins to the study of toxin action at the molecular level. The editorial board and staff of *Toxins* are dedicated to providing a timely, peer-reviewed outlet for exciting, innovative primary research articles and concise, informative reviews from investigators in the myriad of disciplines contributing to our knowledge on toxins. We are committed to meeting the needs of the toxin research community by offering useful and timely reviews of all manuscripts submitted. Please consider *Toxins* when submitting your work for publication.

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