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Phytoplankton Lipids

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Message from the Guest Editors

Phytoplankton are the main lipid producers in natural waters. Lipids are a crucial component in a number of essential biological processes, with important roles in the food web and with additional health benefits for higher trophic levels including humans. Due to the diversity of roles in cells, the possible application of lipids for industrial or health purposes is wide, which has led to a growing interest in phytoplankton lipids. The composition and amount of phytoplankton lipids are affected by environmental conditions. The knowledge gained from ecological studies and laboratory cultures has been the starting point for many applied research projects.

For this Special Issue, we are interested in studies of biotic and abiotic factors determining qualitative and quantitative algal lipid production in the natural environment as well as in model experiments. Such factors include temperature, limited nutrient resources, eutrophic conditions, acidification, metal exposure, and interactions with biotic communities, whether bacteria, viruses, or other plankton, individually or in combination.



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Special Issue



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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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