



Can we be young forever? Macroalgae as sources of antiaging compounds

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Aging: accumulation of degenerative damages, ultimately resulting in the death of an organism.



Tan *et al* 2018, doi: 10.3389/fphar.2018.01162



Skin structure and composition is markedly affected by aging processes, intrinsic or extrinsic.



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Skin aging – not only a matter of vanity!

- ↓↓Protective barrier against infection, water loss, extremes of temperature, UV damage, harmful chemicals...
- $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$ Vitamin D synthesis
- $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$ Sensory functions
- $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$ Self esteem

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Both intrinsic & extrinsic ageing have negative impact on fibroblast and keratinocyte viability and function and on structural molecules.

Young







ageing



- Collagen, elastin and hyaluronic acid synthesis decreases.
- Collagenase, elastase and hyaluronidase expression and activity increase.
- Tyrosinase deregulation

Loss of structure, elasticity and moisture. Wrinkles, hyperpigmentation spots.

> Naylor et al., 2011, doi: 10.1016/j.maturitas.2011.04.011)











hyaluronic acid







Marine macroalgae are often rich in compounds that confer protection against environmental stresses, such as dessecation, temperature changes, sun exposure (UV, ROS formation), predation...



High tide:

• Submerged in water



Low tide:

• Exposed to air (dessecation, UV)

These compounds are often bioactive, namely: antioxidant, UV protective, retain moisture, antibacterial, cytotoxic, anti-inflammatory, inhibit several enzymes...

Chemically diverse compounds and activities:

Polyphenolic compounds: UV protection and tyrosinase inhibition (e.g., Ecklonia cava)





grupo da

dos açores

odiversidade



Aganovic-Kustrin and Morton, 2013, doi: 10.4172/2332-2632.1000106

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Chemically diverse compounds and activities:

Mycosporine-like aminoacids isolated from *Palmaria palmata* and *Porphyra* sp: collagenase inhibitors







Chemically diverse compounds and activities:

Fucoidans (Fucus vesiculosus and Fucus sp.)



Aganovic-Kustrin and Morton, 2013, doi: 10.4172/2332-2632.1000106





The cosmetic industry usually works with seaweed extracts, therefore it is useful to carry out assays with extracts from:

- Beach-casts, as a whole or separated into groups (species / genera)
- Macroalgal species collected near the shore



Bioactivity determination concomitant with the phytochemical characterization of the seaweed extracts.





Zarate et al, 2020. Pharmacological and Cosmeceutical Potential of Seaweed Beach-Casts of Macaronesia. doi:10.3390/app10175831

Graphical abstract:





MACBIOBLUE Novos Produtos e Processos no Âmbito https://macbioblue.com/ Most significant skin antiaging activities:

- Antioxidant
- UV Protection
- Tyrosinase inhibition
- Collagenase inhibition

UV protection

| Sample | SPF | Sample | SPF |
|--------|------------------|----------|------------------|
| 3.E | 32.95 ± 0.49 | 8.M | 32.88 ± 1.30 |
| 3.M | 33.93 ± 1.83 | 9.E | 33.37 ± 1.25 |
| 4.E | 31.27 ± 0.52 | 9.M | 33.54 ± 2.23 |
| 4.M | 33.15 ± 1.95 | 10.E | 31.34 ± 0.48 |
| 5.E | 34.03 ± 1.03 | 10.M | 30.48 ± 0.59 |
| 5.M | 33.38 ± 1.68 | 11.E | 33.19 ± 0.52 |
| 6.E | 32.41 ± 1.34 | 11.M | 34.37 ± 3.32 |
| 6.M | 34.37 ± 0.95 | 12.E | 31.31 ± 0.88 |
| 7.E | 31.12 ± 0.78 | 12.M | 32.48 ± 1.51 |
| 7.M | 32.82 ± 0.34 | Chandrad | 22.96 + 1.46 |
| 8.E | 33.62 ± 1.67 | Standard | 32.86 ± 1.46 |

Standard-Standard Darphin Soleil SPF30 sunblock.





Zarate et al, 2020. Pharmacological and Cosmeceutical Potential of Seaweed Beach-Casts of Macaronesia. doi:10.3390/app10175831

Graphical abstract:



MACBIOBLUE Novos Produtos e Processos no Âmbito da Biotecnologia Azul da Macaronésia

https://macbioblue.com/

Most significant skin antiaging activities:

Antioxidant

250r

- UV Protection
- Tyrosinase inhibition
- Collagenase inhibition









Ongoing work: bioassay-guided fractionation and phytochemical characterization of extracts from (1) highly active beach casts, (2) native seaweed species and (3) invasive seaweed species







Bioassay-guided fractionation



+ GC-MS, LC-MS, NMR Bioactive compound characterization





2 pure compounds (derived from Lobophorol and Lobophopyranone) isolated from extract MBB-1 (100% *Lobophora* sp).



26 compounds identified by GC-MS: alkanes (13%), saturated and unsaturated carboxilic acids (48%), long-chain alcohols (4%) and sterols (35%).



Can we be young forever?

No, but we can delay many effects of the aging process, especially extrinsic aging, and seaweed can give an excellent contribution.



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Thank you for your attention!

Thanks also due to:

- Our recently departed seaweed expert, Ana Neto
- The funding agencies



