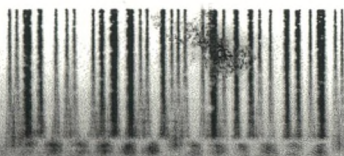


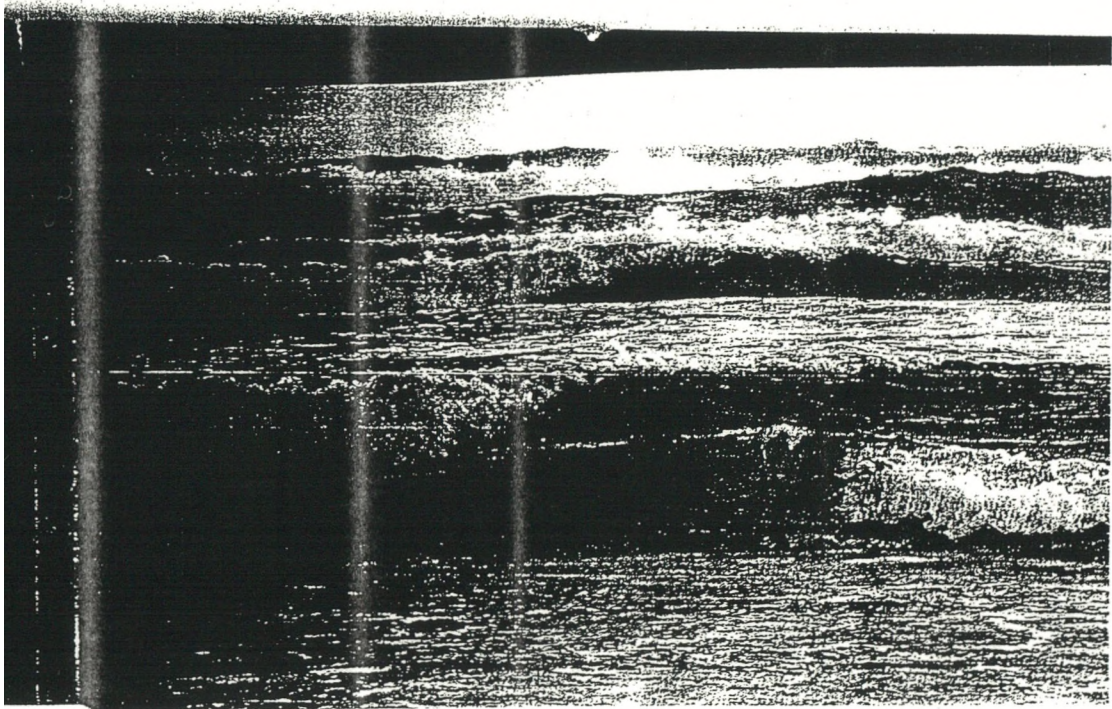
Seaweeds constitute an interesting source of nutraceuticals and phytochemicals with health protective effects. Hence the present study aimed at evaluating nutraceutical potentials of the selected seaweeds (*Ulva lactuca* and *Kappaphycus alvarezii*) and to evaluate the sub-chronic toxicity of seaweeds. The seaweeds were analyzed for nutrients and nutraceutical potentials in terms of antioxidants, phytochemicals and antibacterial activity. The sub-chronic toxicity was tested in albino rats as per OECD guidelines. The parameters assessed included serum biochemistry, hematology, clinical symptoms, heavy metal toxicity in organs and histopathology of vital organs. Results revealed that the selected seaweeds were rich in nutrients and nutraceutical potentials. Serum hematology and biochemical parameters showed normal results. Histopathology examination revealed that the extract of *U. lactuca* showed mild abnormalities in histopathology in liver and kidney whereas *K. alvarezii* did not reveal any toxicological lesion and proved to be non toxic. It may be concluded that *Kappaphycus alvarezii* can be used safely by humans and further studies are needed to prove the mild toxicity of *Ulva lactuca*.



Kowsalya S, Abirami R.G.

Dr. S. Kowsalya, M.Sc, M.Phil, Ph.D - Associate Professor, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, Avinashilingam University for Women-India. Has 19 years of teaching and 24 years of research experience. Recipient of gold medal in M.Sc and 4 awards. Her research fields Nutritional biochemistry
Ms. R. G. Abirami, M.Sc, M.Phil - currently Ph.D scholar





Kowsalya S
Abirami R.G.

Safety evaluation of seaweeds

Nutraceutical potentials of seaweeds



LAP LAMBERT

Impressum/Imprint (nur für Deutschland/ only for Germany)

Bibliografische Information der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek: Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet über <http://dnb.d-nb.de> abrufbar.

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Coverbild: www.ingimage.com

Verlag: LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing GmbH & Co. KG
Dudweiler Landstr. 99, 66123 Saarbrücken, Deutschland
Telefon +49 681 3720-310, Telefax +49 681 3720-3109
Email: info@lap-publishing.com

Herstellung in Deutschland:
Schaltungsdienst Lange o.H.G., Berlin
Books on Demand GmbH, Norderstedt
Reha GmbH, Saarbrücken
Amazon Distribution GmbH, Leipzig
ISBN: 978-3-8443-9182-4

Imprint (only for USA, GB)

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek: The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at <http://dnb.d-nb.de>.

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Publisher: LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing GmbH & Co. KG
Dudweiler Landstr. 99, 66123 Saarbrücken, Germany
Phone +49 681 3720-310, Fax +49 681 3720-3109
Email: info@lap-publishing.com

Printed in the U.S.A.
Printed in the U.K. by (see last page)
ISBN: 978-3-8443-9182-4

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