

ZINC AND LEAD BIOACCUMULATION IN *Gracilaria fisheri*
(RHODOPHYTA)

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ZINC AND LEAD BIOACCUMULATION IN *Gracilaria fisheri* (RHODOPHYTA)

BY

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ABSTRACT

Bioaccumulation of zinc and lead by *Gracilaria fisheri* in a wide range of concentration solutions was studied. *G. fisheri* (150g) divided into 4 bundles were immersed into culture medium containing 0.1, 1.0, 3.2 10.0 and 32.0 mg L⁻¹ of metal and control. Culture medium was renewed every four days and aerated continuously. The nutrients ammonium and phosphate were added at every water change. *G. fisheri* (10g) were taken weekly for metal analysis. The bioaccumulation pattern of Zn and Pb in seaweed, agar extracted from this seaweed and fibre of the seaweed were measured.

The concentration of Pb in *G. fisheri* exposed to difference concentrations were 5.40-35.23 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for control, 48.01-290.91 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 0.1mg L⁻¹, 169-339 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 306-609 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 3.2 mg L⁻¹, 410-822 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 10.0 mg L⁻¹ and 268-986 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 32.0 mg L⁻¹. The range of Zn in *G. fisheri* exposed to difference concentrations were 73.5-1036 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for control, 97.5-307.5 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 0.1mg L⁻¹, 132-856 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 750-6500 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 3.2 mg L⁻¹, 1112-23750 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 10.0 mg L⁻¹ and 12687-100000 µg g⁻¹ dry wt. for 32.0 mg L⁻¹.

Colour and thallus texture changes were observed during the accumulation period. The colour changed from normal to dark brown, pink and finally white for Pb concentration 10.0 mg L⁻¹ and above. For Zn concentration 10.0 mg L⁻¹ and above, *G. fisheri* changed to green colour, light green and finally white. Differences in agar yield and texture for agar extracted were determined. Exposure to Pb and Zn did not

affect agar yield but the agar yielded was stiffer. Pb and Zn tended to accumulate in the fibre of *G. fisheri* and to a lesser extent in the agar. Pb in the agar was decrease by alkali treatment before agar extraction.

The Pb content in agar extracted with alkali treatment and fibre were 6.82 and 15.34 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for control, 15.34 and 89.20 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 0.1mg L⁻¹, 18.18 and 35.23 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 202.84 and 66.48 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 3.2 mg L⁻¹, 126.14 and 538.07 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 10.0 mg L⁻¹ and 174 and 1362 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 32.0 mg L⁻¹. The Pb content in native agar and fibre were 3.98 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. (fibre) for control, 208.52 and 151.70 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 0.1mg L⁻¹, 339.20 and 396.02 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 194.32 and 353.41 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 3.2 mg L⁻¹, 407.39 and 253.98 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 10.0 mg L⁻¹ and 646.02 and 305.11 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 32.0 mg L⁻¹.

The Zn content in alkali treated agar and fibre were 175 and 257.5 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for control, 45.5 and 55 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 0.1 mg L⁻¹, 51.5 and 132.5 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 41 and 300 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 3.2 mg L⁻¹. The Zn content in native agar and fibre were 275 and 235 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt for control and 375 and 450 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry wt. for 0.1mg L⁻¹.

Zn and Pb content of *G. fisheri* from Thailand and Setiu used in the study did not differ significantly. However Pb content in agar extracted from seaweed collected from Setiu was significantly higher than in samples from Thailand ($p < 0.05$). Metal

contents in *G. fisheri* from Setiu and Thailand were 64-130 $\mu\text{g Zn g}^{-1}$ dry wt., 2.5-4.0 $\mu\text{g Pb g}^{-1}$ dry wt. and 38.5-57.0 $\mu\text{g Zn g}^{-1}$ dry wt., 1.50-3.50 $\mu\text{g Pb g}^{-1}$ dry wt., respectively. Metal contents in agar from Setiu and Thailand ranged 64-214 $\mu\text{g Zn g}^{-1}$ dry wt., 2.0-2.5 $\mu\text{g Pb g}^{-1}$ dry wt. and 9.25-80 $\mu\text{g Zn g}^{-1}$ dry wt., 1.00-1.25 $\mu\text{g Pb g}^{-1}$ dry wt., respectively.

ABSTRAK

Zink dan plumbum bioaccumulasi dalam *Gracilaria fisheri* dikaji dalam satu julat kepekatan larutan yang besar. *G. fisheri* (150g) dibahagikan kepada 4 ikatan dan diletak dalam medium kultur mengandungi 0.1, 1.0, 3.2, 10.0 dan 32.0 mg L⁻¹ logam dan kawalan yang ditukarganti setiap empat hari. Bekalan sistem pengudaraan dibekalkan sepanjang masa. Ammonium dan fosfat ditambah sebagai nutrien setaip kali medium kultur ditukar. Analisis logam dijalankan ke atas 10 g *G. fisheri* yang diambil dari setiap tangki pada setiap minggu. Kadar dan corak bioaccumulasi Zn dan Pb dalam *G. fisheri*, agar-agar yang diekstrak dan serabut diukur.

Julat Pb ($\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ berat kering) dalam *G. fisheri* yang didedahkan kepada pelbagai kepekatan ialah 5.40-35.23 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk kawalan, 48.01-290.91 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 0.1mg L⁻¹, 169-339 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 306-609 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 3.2 mg L⁻¹, 410-822 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 10.0 mg L⁻¹ dan 268-986 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 32.0 mg L⁻¹. Julat Zn dalam *G. fisheri* ialah 73.5-1036 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk control, 97.5-307.5 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 0.1mg L⁻¹, 132-856 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 750-6500 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 3.2 mg L⁻¹, 1112-23750 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 10.0 mg L⁻¹ dan 12687-100000 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 32.0 mg L⁻¹.

Perubahan warna dan tekstur diperhatikan sepanjang tempoh akumulasi. *G. fisheri* dalam kepekatan 10.0 mg L⁻¹ ke atas mengalami perubahan warna dari warna biasa kepada coklat hitam, merah jambu dan putih. Untuk kepekatan Zn 10.0 mg L⁻¹ ke atas, *G. fisheri* menjadi hijau, hijau pucat dan akhirnya menjadi putih. Perbezaan tekstur dan yield agar juga dikaji. Pendedahan kepada Pb dan Zn tidak mempengaruhi pengeluaran agar tetapi agar didapati menjadi lebih liat. Pb dan Zn didapati lebih terkumpul da dalam serabut *G. fisheri* dan kurang terkumpul di dalam agar.

Kandungan Pb dalam agar yang diekstrak dengan rawatan alkali dan serabut ialah 6.82 dan 15.34 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk kawalan, 15.34 dan 89.20 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 0.1mg L⁻¹, 18.18 dan 35.23 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 202.84 dan 66.48 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 3.2 mg L⁻¹, 126.14 dan 538.07 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 10.0 mg L⁻¹ serta 174 dan 1362 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 32.0 mg L⁻¹. Kandungan Pb dalam agar biasa dan serabut ialah 3.98 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ (serabut) untuk kawalan, 208.52 dan 151.70 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 0.1mg L⁻¹, 339.20 dan 396.02 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 194.32 dan 353.41 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 3.2 mg L⁻¹, 407.39 dan 253.98 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 10.0 mg L⁻¹ serta 646.02 dan 305.11 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 32.0 mg L⁻¹.

Kandungan Zn dalam agar yang diekstrak dengan rawatan alkali dan serabut ialah 175 dan 258 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk kawalan, 45.5 dan 55.0 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 0.1mg L⁻¹, 51.5 dan 132.5 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 1.0 mg L⁻¹, 41 dan 300 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 3.2 mg L⁻¹. Pb dalam agar biasa dan serabut ialah 275 dan 235 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk kawalan serta 375 dan 450 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ untuk 0.1mg L⁻¹.

Tiada perbezaan ketara dalam kandungan Zn dan Pb dalam *G. fisheri* dari Thailand dan Setiu. Tetapi kandungan Pb dalam agar-agar yang diekstrak dari rumput laut dari Setiu didapati lebih tinggi dari sampel dari Thailand ($p < 0.05$). Julat kandungan logam ($\mu\text{g logam g}^{-1}$ berat kering) *G. fisheri* Setiu dan Thailand ialah 64-130 $\mu\text{g Zn g}^{-1}$, 2.5-4.0 $\mu\text{g Pb g}^{-1}$ dan 38.5-57.0 $\mu\text{g Zn g}^{-1}$, 1.50-3.50 $\mu\text{g Pb g}^{-1}$. Julat kandungan logam ($\mu\text{g logam g}^{-1}$ berat kering) dalam agar yang diekstrak dari Setiu dan Thailand adalah 64-214 $\mu\text{g Zn g}^{-1}$, 2.0-2.5 $\mu\text{g Pb g}^{-1}$ dan 9.25-80.00 $\mu\text{g Zn g}^{-1}$, 1.00-1.25 $\mu\text{g Pb g}^{-1}$.