

Marine Natural Products

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ABSTRACT

The Oceans are called Mother of origin of life.70% of earth surface is covered by ocean which contain 95% of the earth's biosphere. It was over 3500 million years ago that organisms first appeared in the sea. Over time, they have evolved many different mechanisms to survive the various harsh environments. The marine environment is a rich source of biological and chemical diversity. Ocean contains more than 80 % of diverse plant and animal species which contains unique chemical compounds that are potential for industrial developments such as pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, cosmetics, agrochemicals, molecular probes, fine chemicals. Marine organisms such as sponges, tunicates, fishes, soft corals, nudibranchs, sea hares, opisthobranch molluscs, echinoderms, bryozoans, prawns, shells, sea slugs, and marine microorganisms are becoming therapeutically important in recent days. Marine natural products such as antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, anti-parasitic, anti-inflammatory, neuro protective, anticancer, analgesic, antimicrobial, anti-malarial. Terrestrial environment was the source of research traditionally, to treat many dreadful diseases naturally. But the recent development in the newer technologies and the thirst of the researchers has shed light on the marine environment. Various pharmacological activities were reported in algae, invertebrates and microorganisms of the oceans. Marine pharmacognosy and marine pharmacology were in the infant stage till the recent modern technologies extend its hand for the extraction of these biomedical compounds. The present review briefly illustrates the availability of pharma products and the current status of research of in marine biodiversity.