

EXTRACTION, CHEMICAL INVESTIGATION, ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY OF CARRAGEENANS FROM THE RED ALGAE, *Amansia multifida*.

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Carrageenans are cell-wall polysaccharides composed mainly of units of sulfated galactose and 3,6-anhydrogalactose. This work described the chemical features and antimicrobial activity of carrageenans-rich fractions (FT and F3) extracted from red alga *Amansia multifida*. These compounds were characterized by electrophoresis, paper chromatography, infrared spectra (FT-IR) and chemical analysis. The antimicrobial activity was measured by method of diffusion in solid medium using *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Cryptococcus neoformans*, *Candida albicans* and *Rhodotorula sp.* Chemical analysis showed high presence of sugars (FT: 54.3% and F3: 29.5%) and sulfate (FT: 40%, and F3: 58.9%). Galactose was found in both fractions, as well as, traces of xylose and glucuronic acid. FT-IR showed major absorptions bands at 1400, 1100 and 866 cm^{-1} that indicate the presence of sulfated groups in both fractions. The each carrageenans FT and F3 (30mg/mL: 8.5mm) inhibit de cell growth only when *C. albicans* was used.

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