

MEETING MINUTES: MACROFUELS WP1

Call Date & Location: 23/2/2016 - via Skype

Participants: Jaap van Hal, Michele Stanley, Annette Bruhn, Michael Bo Rasmussen, Bert Groenendaal, and Benny Pycke

Report by Benny Pycke, edited by Annette Bruhn

T1.1.1. SAMS

- Waiting for expansion of cultivation area
- Ribbons are now seeded with *Saccharina latissima*
- Have had some issues with weather – have not been able to access the site since December
- Philip in on site today, but the number of meters he was able to deploy will be reported shortly after his return
- A new postdoc will start March 11 (Adrian MacLeod) – he will be involved in the deployments and environmental monitoring of the sites
- Quantities from Scotland will be communicated shortly, SIOEN provided >150 m of substrate
- Lately there have been more good/sunny days, last year had many cloudy days
- Playing around with *Ulva* sp., should grow from March through October
- PROPOSED ACTION: Jaap knows people at WUR (NL) who grow *Ulva* sp. on ropes, he can share their contact info with SAMS & AU, but the WUR Principal Investigator is retiring soon
- SAMS has a student who worked on removing the cell wall from *Ulva* sp. to start the regeneration process

T1.1.2. AU

- The license procedure is under way, currently in the stage of public consultation
- Hooked up with Danish company (Seaweed Society, SS), the first meeting is scheduled for next week
- SS will deploy long lines (150 m of ribbons); few meters of ribbons with *Fucus* sp. will be deployed also
- SS also uses Hortimare seedlings of *Saccharina latissima* and seeding procedure
- PROPOSED ACTION: A confidentiality agreement needs to be put in place with Seaweed Society. A template agreement should be distributed to AU
- Both sides of the ribbons will be seeded
- Lab tests are being performed on *Fucus* sp. with various textiles/different substrates, and differences between the substrates are noticeable
- On March 1 a Teis Boderskov will join the team part time. He will stay on until December
- More substrates will be deployed later, most likely in autumn, depending on the license
- As stated earlier, only small quantities of cultivated seaweed material are expected to be harvested this year
- AU has been collaborating with SCMCRI in India, where the focus of the Indian group was to grow *Ulva* sp. on nets & ropes from protoplasts. Protocols will be sent to SAMS
- Status on red seaweeds: Currently only *Porphyra* sp. is grown in the lab, *Gracilaria* sp. not yet because of a lack of source material from the wild (summer species). Lab work on cultivation of

Gracilaria will initiate this summer, potentially next year *Gracilaria* can to be grown in the sea, pending on permission (alien species in DK).

T1.2. Workshops (start M7)

- No actions have been undertaken yet
- Some restructuring of the workload will be discussed between relevant partners

Miscellaneous

- Materials can be shared via a secured part of the website that Rita is setting up, and it will be operational in 2 weeks. It will be possible to store meeting minutes, protocols, etc. there.
- Suppliers of all species & materials
 - Alaria & Saccharina – from Hortimare
 - Ulva – from AU
 - Fucus – from AU & SAMS
- PROPOSED ACTION: Back-up sources are to be identified if it were to happen that insufficient material is available
- Bert submitted an abstract for the conference, next month the program will be established, currently only keynote speakers are involved in the programming
- PROPOSED ACTION: Consensus protocols need to be set up for WP1 sampling activities, with input from WP2 (requirements & criteria)
 - DTI will propose a statistical analysis of how much material is representative (mass, #plants, size distribution)
 - SAMS will propose a procedure on how to harvest (where to cut, etc.) and how to handle the samples after harvesting (coolbox on vessels, freeze drying on land, temperatures for storing)

WP2

- Smooth transfer of materials and communication is required between WP1 & WP2
 - Contact will be mainly via meeting minutes for now
 - Sample codes need to be harmonized between partners & WPs
 - Consensus protocols for harvesting & sample processing will need to be shared between WP1 partners, and between WP1 & WP2 partners
- SAMS: will samples be ensiled this year? SAMS proposed to perform the ensiling. How will the samples be handled. In the project proposal, Fermentation Experts & DTI are listed to take on ensiling.

Doodle will follow for short skype update in week of April 18 & in the week of June 13