



## Seaweed Standards for food and cosmetics

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*Dr. Maud BENOIT, C.E.V.A., France*

CEVA



# Centre d'Etudes et de Valorisation des Algues Agro-Industrial Technical Institute\* for Algae



INSTITUT TECHNIQUE  
AGRO-INDUSTRIEL

*\*Certification by the French Ministry of  
Agriculture, 2007-2017*

## Seaweed production and uses

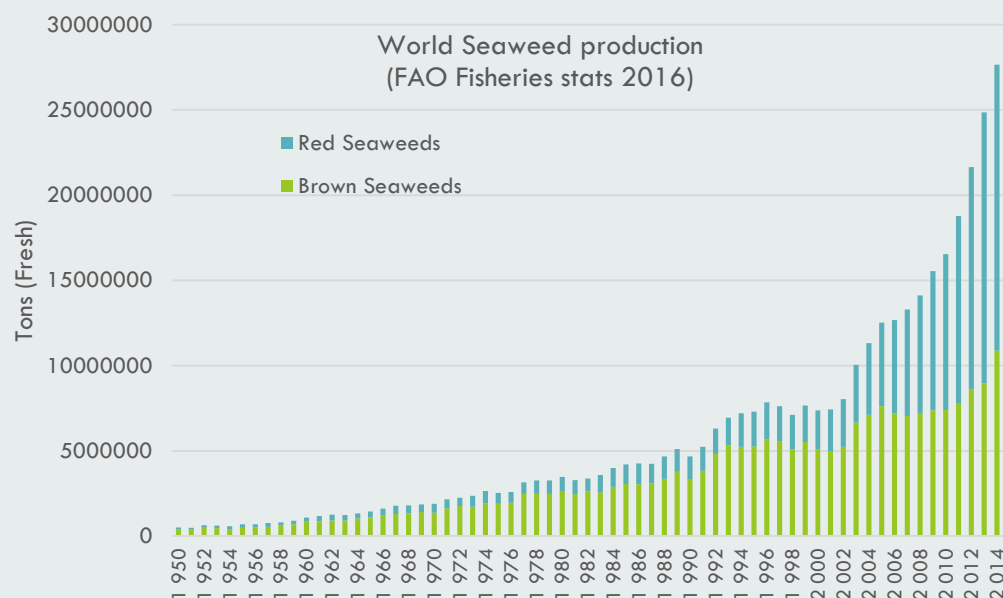
A contrasted situation depending on geographies

# World seaweed production and use (1990-2014)

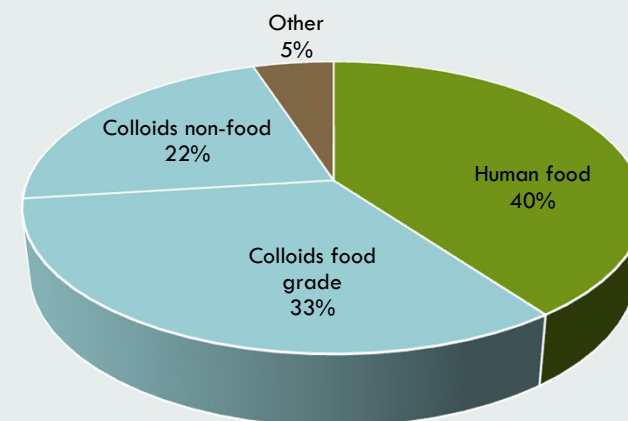


## Production and use characteristics

- Total production: 27 million tons in 2016 (~ \$ 6.4 billion)
- A continuous growth based on cultivation
- Leadership : China & Indonesia (79 %)
- World market domination : food



World Use (FAO, 2014)



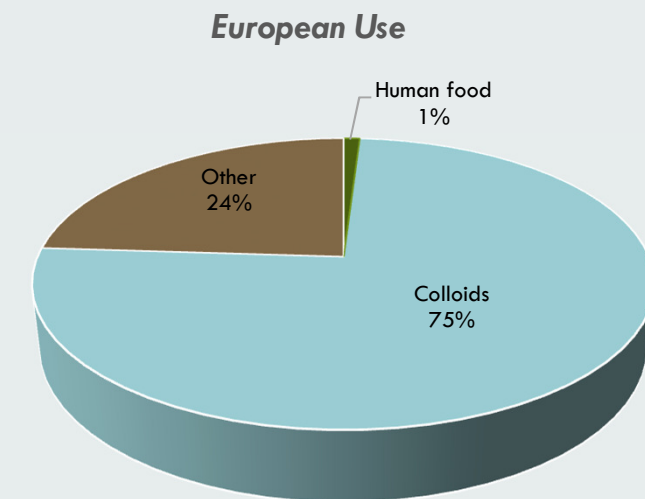
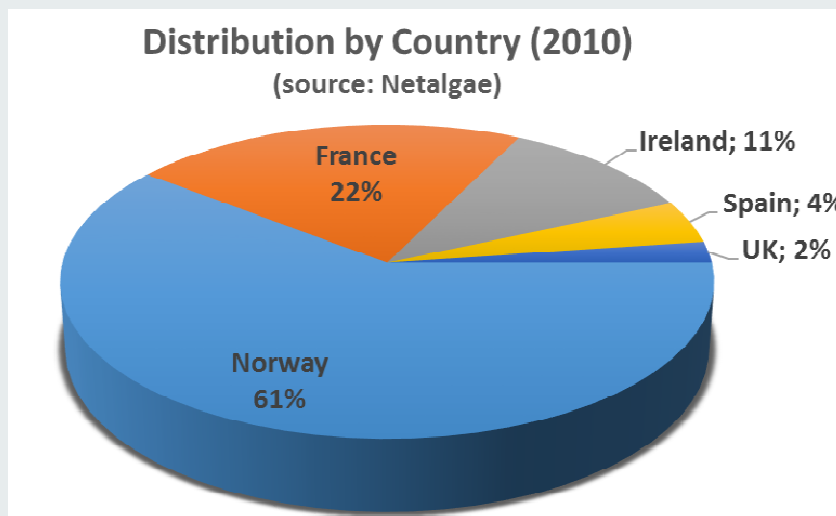
73 % dedicated to food market

# European seaweed production and use



## Production and use characteristics

- Total production: ~270 kT (~ 1% of world production)
- Mostly wild seaweeds harvesting (99%)
- Largely used for alginates production
- Food uses are still marginal



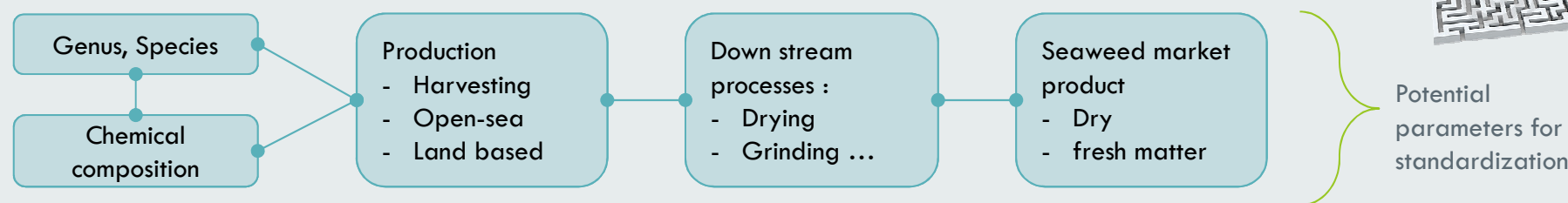
## European standardization : current situation

Objectives : Traceability on Seaweed production and algae based product

# Standardization = A complex topic...



...depending on production process, seaweed species, downstream process...



## Why standardization ?

- ▣ Valuable resources for coastal communities
- ▣ Detrimental effects on biodiversity
- ▣ An increasing use of seaweeds requiring traceability and quality

Two main work program driven by :

- Marine stewardship Council and aquaculture stewardship Council
- CEN Working group : CEN/BT WG 218 :

# Standardization on seaweed production



## □ Marine Stewardship Council and Aquaculture Stewardship Council

- Seaweed production : environmentally sustainable & socially responsible
- Both harvesting and farming practices (land based, open sea)
- 2016 : Development
- 2017 : Implementation

The screenshot shows the 'Program Improvements' page for the MSC-ASC Seaweed Standard. The page is titled 'Marine Stewardship Council's PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS' and includes a search bar and a link to the MSC's main site. The main content area is titled 'MSC-ASC Seaweed Standard' and features a 'Current stage: Development' section with a progress bar showing five steps: 1. Background, 2. Standard setting, 3. Consultations (highlighted in green), 4. Supporting documents, and 5. Development timeline. Below this, there is an 'Improvement overview' section with text about the standard's purpose and a 'Current status' section with text about the joint development process. The page also includes a 'Summary' sidebar with links to various sections, an 'Email updates' section, and a 'Next steps' section.


<https://improvements.msc.org/database/seaweed-standard>



# Standardization on algae based product



- **CEN technical board: CEN/BT WG 218**
  - Working group on “Algae and algae-based products or intermediates”
  - New standardization request for the development of standards
  - Creation of EU committee, including 20 French actors identified and others
  - Scope :
    - Algal biomass (Microalgae and seaweed, all production)
    - Algal extracts
    - Purified compounds
  - Currently 6 specifications proposed including :
    - Classification of algae
    - Algal processing
    - Chemical composition of product and contaminants
    - Specifications for each market...(food, feed, energy, cosmetics, pharma)
  - Meeting in April 2016 to Finalize work programme

 Work in progress ...



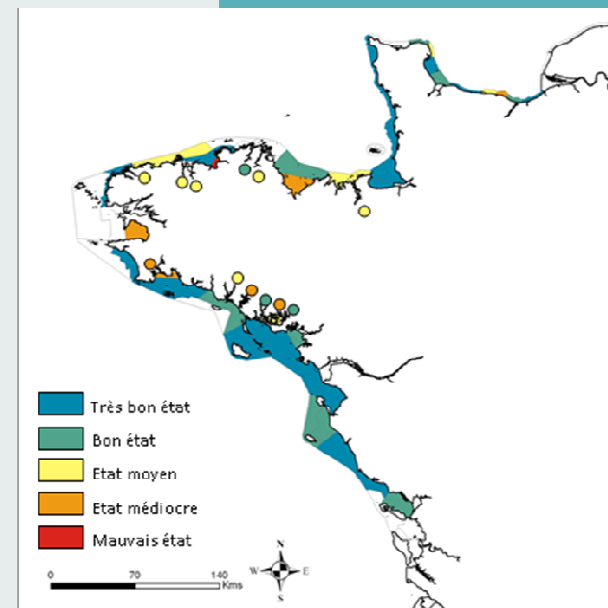
# ECOCert seaweed standards



## □ How to produce seaweed with “ECOCert” mention ?

- Production (Cultivation or harvest) in Sea water with high ecological quality mention
- Production in Shellfish farming site with Class A or B (mentioned in Regulation 254/2004)
- For all new production site dedicated to seaweeds : sea water classification have to be define following shellfish regulation
- Sustainability requested for all seaweeds production

CEVA : classification for water quality



Evaluation de la qualité écologique des masses d'eau sur les années 2006-2011 (ou 2008-2011)

Les MECs ont colorées directement et les METs ont reorientés par un cercle coloré en amont de la masse

## Standardization for food application

Novel food context and food quality issues

# Europe vs French : edible seaweed landscape



## □ In Europe :

- Seaweed = Novel Food
- Or Seaweed considered as food if put on market and consumed before May 1997 (as food ingredient or food)
- 2015 : New Novel Food regulation adopted, applicable in 2018

m7

RP9

## □ In France : First EU country with recommendation on seaweed for human consumption (before 1997)

RP12

- 1990: Opinion of the French CSHPF (French Higher Council for Public Health)
  - Authorization of 10 species of macro algae
  - Restrictions on heavy metals and iodine
- 1992 to 2012 : Progressive extension of the List to 11 new species

2016 : A total of **29 algae** species currently considered **NOT NOVEL**

RP13

## Dia 12

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**m7**

Quelles sont les MAJ ?

mbeoit; 14-9-2016

**RP9**

Some of the changes: microalgae specifically mentioned as being Novel Food, New process for the recognition of Traditional Food from 3rd countries (e.g. non-Eu seaweeds), generic authorizations

Ronan Pierre; 15-9-2016

**RP12**

Préciser à l'oral que pour beaucoup d'autres pays il s'agit d'un aliment comme les autres

Ronan Pierre; 15-9-2016

**RP13**

En comptant les autorisations françaises + Catalogue Novel Food européen

Ronan Pierre; 15-9-2016

# Restrictions on heavy metals and iodine



- Currently, French recommendation also defines maximum level of contaminants for all edible seaweed
- **Case of Cd :**
  - EU regulation allows 3 mg/kg for food supplement
  - Drastic conditions for edible seaweed ?
- **Not a regulation...**
  - But these levels are considered a high guarantee of food safety
  - Currently EU needs a standardization based on maximum level of contaminants

	Maximum level (mg/kg dry weight)
Inorganic Arsenic (As)	3
Cadmium (Cd)	0,5 *
Mercury (Hg)	0,1
Lead (Pb)	5
Tin (Sn)	5
Iodine (I)	2 000

Maximal level of heavy metals and iodine authorized in seaweeds (mg/kg dry weight)

\* 3 mg/kg for food supplements according to Regulation (CE) N° 629/2008



Meeting in Brussel (EFSA), May 2016  
Work in progress ...

# Seaweeds and contaminants



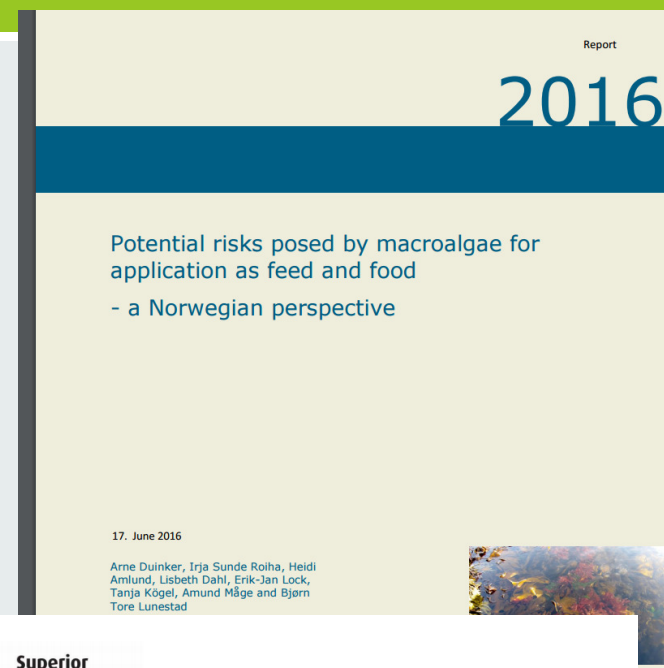
- Sanitary risk regarding heavy metals and iodine for common species

	Main Risk identified	Rank	Maximum level
<i>Saccharina latissima</i>	Iodine	++	2000 ppm
<i>Himanthalia elongata</i>	Cd	-/+	0,5 ppm
<i>Undaria pinnatifida</i>	Cd	-/+	0,5 ppm
<i>Alaria esculenta</i>	Cd	+	0,5 ppm
<i>Fucus vesiculosus</i>	Cd	++	0,5 ppm
<i>Laminaria digitata</i>	As Iodine	++ ++	3 ppm 2000 ppm
<i>Ascophyllum nodosum</i>	As	-/+	40 ppm (As total for feed)

# Two recent studies on seaweed contaminants



- Risk assessment from **Norwegian** food safety authority :
  - June 2016 : Report on potential risks posed by macroalgae for food & feed
  - Conclusion : lack of data on most factors of relevance.
  
- Risk assessment from Superior health council of **Belgium**
  - 2015 : Report on risk assessment of contaminants in algae and marine product
  - Conclusion : risk level for each species described and recommendation for consumer such as :
    - 7 g dried per day of edible seaweed
    - *Sargassum fusiforme*. Prohibited
    - Lack of specific data on contaminants exposure and toxicology



## PUBLICATION OF THE SUPERIOR HEALTH COUNCIL No. 9149

### Arsenic and other elements in algae and dietary supplements based on algae

In this scientific advisory report on public health policy, the Superior Health Council of Belgium provides a risk assessment of As, Cd, Pb, Hg in algae and marine products for the general population, but also for vegetarians and consumers of food supplements derived from algae.

It would like to provide to public health authorities and heavy consumers of algae (21 g of the products as sold - i.e. not hydrated before consumption), specific recommendations and attention to the toxic effect for their health (especially with seaweed salads, algae belonging to the Hijiki species - *Hizikia fusiforme*). Pb and more particularly Cd consumption is far from being negligible in this context too.

Version validated by the Board on  
1 April 2015<sup>1</sup>

SUMMARY



# Cosmetics : do we need standards for end products ?



- Seaweed products : no specific regulation (REACH ...)
- Few regulation based on sustainability and fair sourcing practices.
- Currently two key aspects for users are :
  - Inventory of Existing Cosmetic **RP21** Ingredients in China (IECIC list by CFDA):
    - Public information : **80 “Algae” ingredients** already allowed
    - New seaweed ingredients have to be registered on ingredients list (very complex)
    - New developments limited due to restrictions on the China Market
  - Nagoya Protocol
    - Conservation of biological diversity
    - Sustainable use of its components
    - Fair and equitable sharing of the benefits
- Contaminants : no international regulation on maximum level
- Health Canada Guidance (July 2012)
  - Maximum level in final cosmetics formulation

	Maximum level (mg/kg)
Inorganic Arsenic (As)	3
Cadmium (Cd)	3
Mercury (Hg)	3
Lead (Pb)	10
Antimony (Sb)	5

## Dia 16

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### RP21

la liste a été établie par la CFDA et soumise à consultation publique, mais n'est pas issue de la consultation. Le lobbying pour faire rentrer d'autres ingrédients n'a pas fonctionné

Ronan Pierre; 15-9-2016

# Conclusion



- Currently **No EU standardization** on seaweed and seaweed based products (including seaweed extract)
- EU standards only for seaweed colloids registered as additives

- Growth of seaweed production
- Increasing use of seaweeds
- Protect EU seaweed market
- To face to seaweed China market



Many Scientific Projects over the last 10 years

**2015-2016**

Regulatory CEN working group focus on a standardization for algae industry (Production and Products)

- All fields are concerned about standards (Mainly food)
- Following first discussion : Complex task because of huge disparity
- What is the potential on DNA seaweed standardization ?

m10  
m11

## Dia 17

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- m10** <http://www.nutraingredients.com/Suppliers2/Aquaculture-Stewardship-Council-sees-potential-in-DNA-seaweed-testing>  
mbenoit; 14-9-2016
- m11** + Travaux récents de DNA Gensea  
mbenoit; 14-9-2016



# Algues et certification AB



- RÈGLEMENT (CE) No 834/2007 DU CONSEIL du 28 juin 2007 relatif à la production biologique et à l'étiquetage des produits biologiques et abrogeant le règlement (CEE) no 2092/91
- RÈGLEMENT (CE) N° 710/2009 DE LA COMMISSION du 5 août 2009 modifiant le règlement (CE) n° 889/2008 portant modalités d'application du règlement (CE) n° 834/2007 du Conseil en ce qui concerne la production biologique d'animaux d'aquaculture et d'algues marines
- Guide de lecture de l'Institut National des Appellations d'Origine (INAO).
- Guide InterbioBretagne : « Récolte des algues de rive : guide des bonnes pratiques »

# Macroalgues et certification AB



## □ Zones de récolte

- Les algues marines peuvent être Bio seulement si elles sont récoltées ou cultivées dans des masses d'eau classées haute qualité écologique (= "bon état écologique" ou "très bon état écologique" et « bon état chimique ») selon la DCE (Directive Cadre Eau - 2000/60)
- Et en zone classée conchylicole A ou B au titre du Règlement 854/2004 pour au moins un groupe de mollusques (bivalves fouisseurs, bivalves non fouisseurs) et ne doit pas être classée C ou D pour un de ces groupes ;
- Si la zone n'a pas fait l'objet d'un tel classement, l'opérateur doit mettre en place une démarche volontaire du même type que celle aboutissant au classement, sur la base des méthodologies (Zone Hors Classement Sanitaire Conchylicole (ZHCSC))

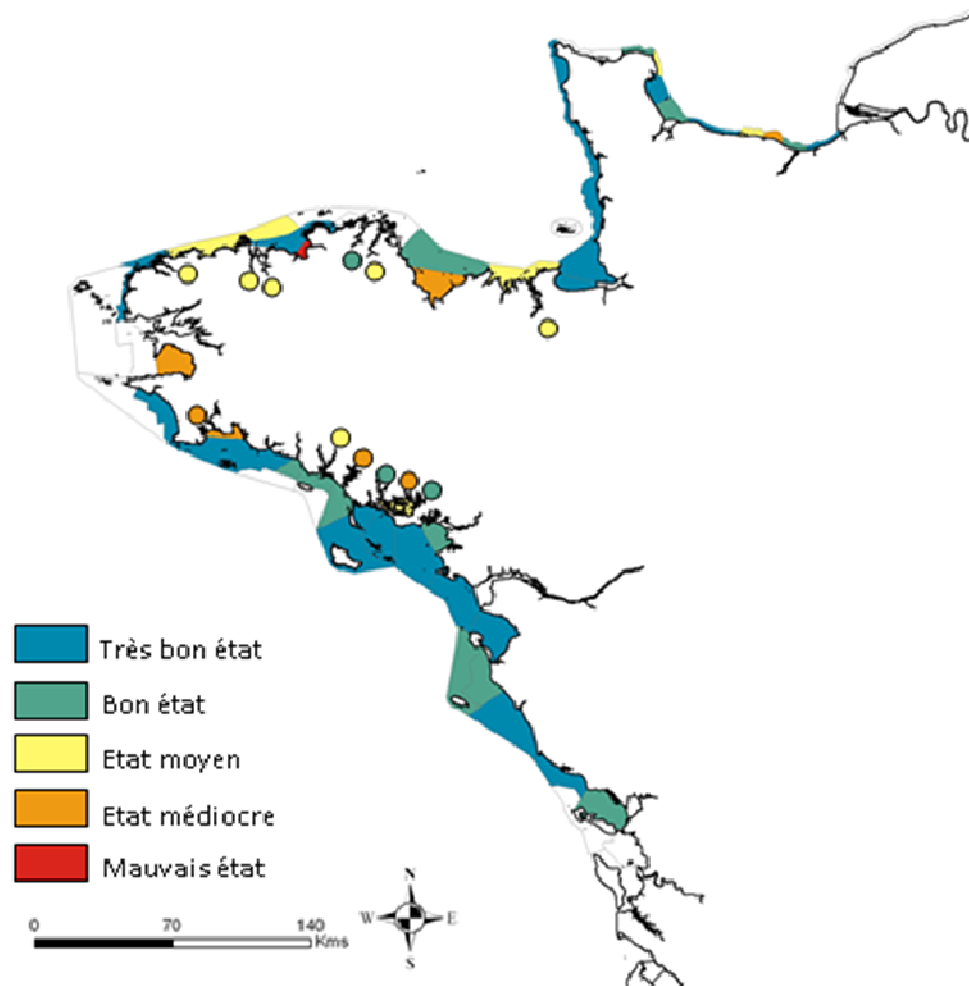
## □ Plan de gestion durable

# Algues et certification AB



Actions CEVA :  
classement des  
masses d'eau  
DCE

Éléments de  
qualité biologique  
« macroalgues  
opportunistes »



Évaluation de la qualité écologique des masses d'eau sur les années 2006-2011 (ou 2008-2011)

Les MECs ont colorées directement et les METs ont représentées par un cercle coloré en amont de la masse



# The French “positive List” built over the year



	Scientific Name	(French) common Name
<b>Brown Seaweeds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Ascophyllum nodosum</i> (1990)</li> <li>- <i>Fucus vesiculosus</i> + <i>serratus</i> (1990)</li> <li>- <i>Himanthalia elongata</i> (1990)</li> <li>- <i>Undaria pinnatifida</i> (1990)</li> <li>- <i>Laminaria digitata</i> (1997)</li> <li>- <i>Laminaria saccharina</i> (1997)</li> <li>- <i>Laminaria japonica</i> (2009)</li> <li>- <i>Alaria esculenta</i> (2012)</li> </ul>	<p>(Haricot de mer), Sea Spaghetti</p> <p>Wakame</p> <p>Kombu</p> <p>(Kombu Royal), Royal Kombu</p> <p>Kombu</p> <p>Atlantic Wakame</p>
<b>Red Seaweeds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Palmaria palmata</i> (1990)</li> <li>- <i>Porphyra umbilicalis</i> (1990)</li> <li>- <i>Porphyra tenera</i>, <i>yezoensis</i>, <i>dioica</i>, <i>purpurea</i>, <i>laciniata</i>, <i>leucostica</i> (2009)</li> <li>- <i>Chondrus crispus</i> (1990)</li> <li>- <i>Gracilaria verrucosa</i> (1990)</li> <li>- <i>Lithothamnium calcareum</i> (1996)</li> </ul>	<p>Dulse</p> <p>Nori</p> <p>„</p> <p>Pioca, lichen</p> <p>Ogonori</p> <p>Maërl</p>
<b>Green Seaweeds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Ulva</i> sp.(1990)</li> <li>- <i>Enteromorpha</i> sp. (1990)</li> </ul>	<p>Laitue de mer</p> <p>Aonori</p>