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Seasonal variation on size and chemical constituents of *Sargassum sinicola* Setchell et Gardner from Bahía de La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico

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Investigation on seasonal variation in size and chemical constituents of *Sargassum sinicola* Setchell et Gardner from Bahía de La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico, was carried out from a control bed and compared with an experimental bed with artificial nutrients added. No significant differences were found between the control and experimental thalli for size or chemical composition, except for iodine and raw fiber. For control thalli the results were: size 7.5–56.0 cm, alginate yield 7.2–13.7%, viscosity 58.7–191.7 millipascal seconds (mPa s), mannitol 2.9–8.1%, raw fiber 5.5–7.5% and iodine 0.020–0.141%; while in the experimental thalli the size ranged from 7.5 to 80.3 cm and the alginate yield was 7.8–10.4%, viscosity 41.4–163.4 mPa s, mannitol 2.9–8.3%, raw fiber 5.9–10.7% and iodine 0.021–0.098%. These variations were related to its natural growth cycle, and showed reductions during the senescence period. Results suggest that *S. sinicola* is not affected by relatively low nutrient concentrations, and could be considered as raw material for alginate production

Palabras clave: *Sargassum sinicola*, Alginic acid, chemical constituents, iodine, mannitol, raw fiber, size

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