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Repository

Scanning electron microscope images of isolates of small cellular particles *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* grown in media supplemented with Guillard's (F/2) marine water enrichment solution, BG11 broth and Lennox LB broth

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Abstract: Scanning electron microscope images of small cellular particles isolated from conditioned media of microalgae *Phaeodactylum tricornutun* are presented. Each image is supplemented by description of the preparation of the sample and the data on the imaging technique and equipment.

The data curators of the repository are Veronika Kralj-Iglič and Anna Romolo. More data on experiments with microalgae small cellular particles can be found in (Adamo et al., 2021), (Picciotto et al., 2021) and (Božič et al., 2022).

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Keywords: Extracellular vesicles, Extracellular particles, Nanoalgosomes, Exosomes

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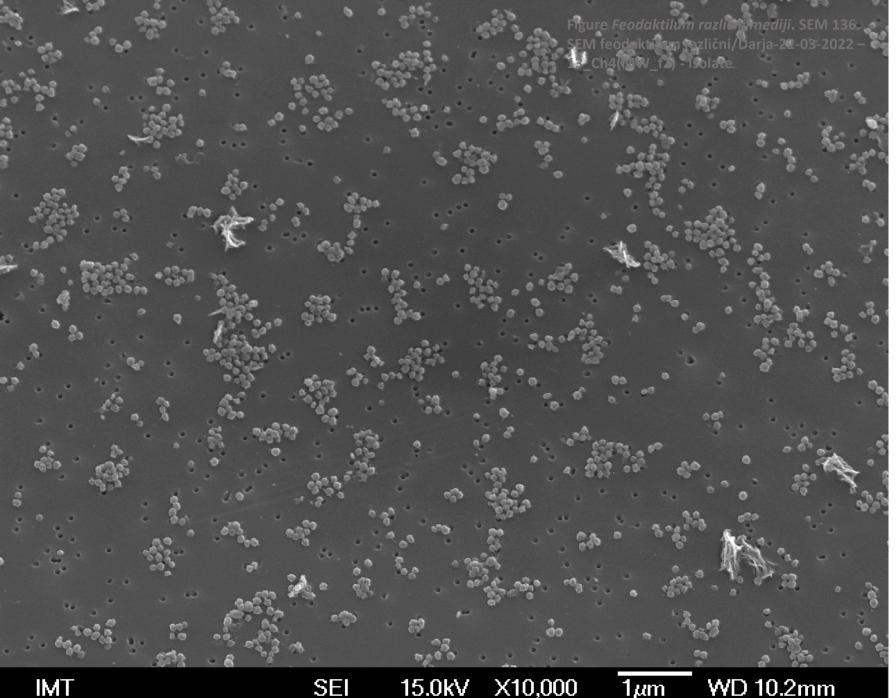


Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate F2 SEM 1**. *Cultivation of the algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with **Guillard's (F/2)** Marine Water Enrichment Solution (ref. G0154, Sigma Aldrich, USA)17. Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

Isolation of small cellular particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)) using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 136. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 -13_Ch4(MW_f2) - isolate

WD 10.1mm

X10,000

1μm

15.0kV

SEI

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate F2 SEM 2***. Cultivation of the algae*

Culture of Phaeodactylum tricornutum CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with Guillard's (F/2) Marine Water Enrichment Solution (ref. G0154, Sigma Aldrich, USA)17. Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. Isolation of small cellular particles (SCPs) SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thinwall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes.

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 137. SEM) feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 – 13_Ch4(MW_f2 - isolate

WD 10.1mm

15.0kV

SEI

X20,000

1μm

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate F2 SEM 3**. *Cultivation of the algae*

Culture of Phaeodactylum tricornutum CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with Guillard's (F/2) Marine Water Enrichment Solution (ref. G0154, Sigma Aldrich, USA)17. Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. Isolation of small cellular particles (SCPs) SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thinwall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type

of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

Pigure F*eodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 138. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 – 14_Ch5 (MW_BG11) - isolate

(Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 μmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

WD 10.1mm

15.0kV

X5.000

1µm

SEI

Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

Cultivation of algae

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes.

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* isolate BG11 SEM 4.

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 139. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 – 14_Ch5 (MW_BG11) - isolate

WD 10.1mm

X10,000

1μm

15.0kV

SEI

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate BG11 SEM 5**.

Cultivation of algae

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 μ mol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

Figure Feodaktilum različni mediji. SEM 140. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 -14_Ch5 (MW_BG11) - isolate

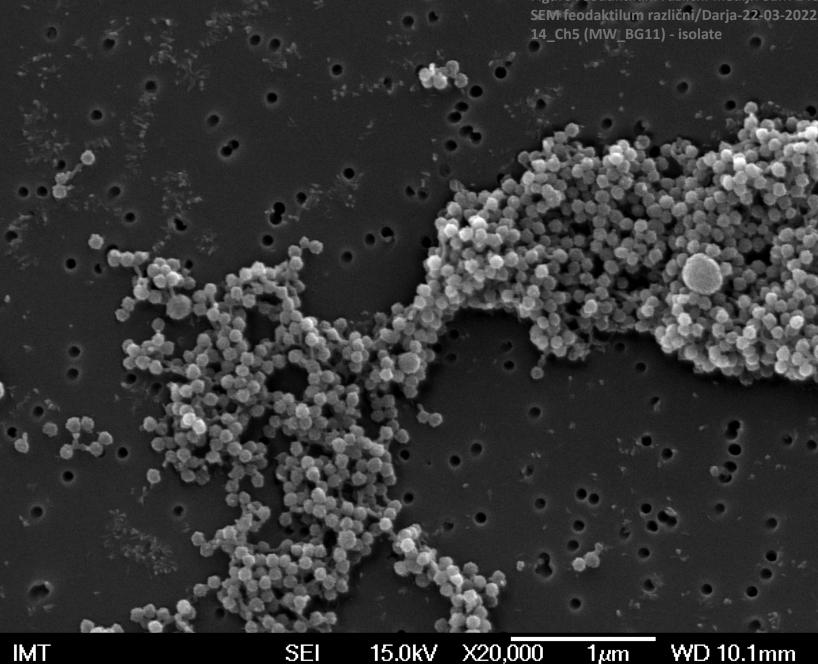


Figure Phaeodactylum tricornutum isolate BG11 SEM

Cultivation of algae

Culture of Phaeodactylum tricornutum CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 141. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 -14_Ch5 (MW_BG11) - isolate

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* isolate BG11 SEM 7.

Cultivation of algae

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

Samples were loaded onto 0.05-micron MCE filters (MF-MilliporeTM, ref. VMWP01300) and incubated in 2% OsO_4 for two hours. Then the osmium was removed, and the filter was taken out from the holder and further treated in a 24-well plate by changing the bath solution. After washing three times in distilled water, the samples were dehydrated in a graded series of ethanol (30%, 50%, 70%, 80%, 90%, absolute), treated with hexamethyldisilazane (30%, 50% mixtures with absolute ethanol, followed by pure hexamethyldisilazane), and air-dried. Samples were sputtered with Au/Pd (PECS Gatan 682) and examined with a JSM-6500F Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan).

15.0kV

SEI

X40,000

100nm

WD 10.1mm

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 142. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 – 14_Ch5 (MW_BG11) - isolate

100nm WD 10.1mm

15.0kV X70,000

SEI

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate** BG11 SEM 8. *Cultivation of algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes.

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Figure Feodaktilum, az éni mediji. SEM 143. SEM feodaktilum (azličn, Darja-22-03-2022 -14_Ch5 (MW_BG11) - isolate

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate BG11 SEM 9**. *Cultivation of algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes.

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Samples were loaded onto 0.05-micron MCE filters (MF-MilliporeTM, ref. VMWP01300) and incubated in 2% OsO_4 for two hours. Then the osmium was removed, and the filter was taken out from the holder and further treated in a 24-well plate by changing the bath solution. After washing three times in distilled water, the samples were dehydrated in a graded series of ethanol (30%, 50%, 70%, 80%, 90%, absolute), treated with hexamethyldisilazane (30%, 50% mixtures with absolute ethanol, followed by pure hexamethyldisilazane), and air-dried. Samples were sputtered with Au/Pd (PECS Gatan 682) and examined with a JSM-6500F Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan).

IMT

15.0kV X100,000 100nm WD 10.1mm

SEI

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*: SEM 144. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22,08-2022 – 14_Ch5 (MW_BG11) - isolate

WD 10.0mm

X10,000

1μm

15.0kV

SEI

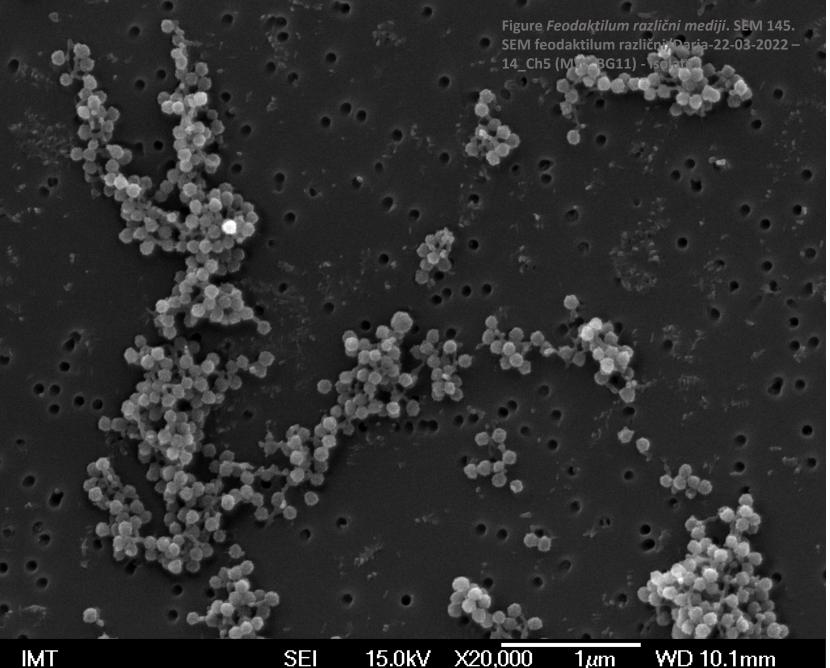
Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate BG11 SEM 10.** *Cultivation of algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. *Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)*

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

Samples were loaded onto 0.05-micron MCE filters (MF-MilliporeTM, ref. VMWP01300) and incubated in 2% OsO_4 for two hours. Then the osmium was removed, and the filter was taken out from the holder and further treated in a 24-well plate by changing the bath solution. After washing three times in distilled water, the samples were dehydrated in a graded series of ethanol (30%, 50%, 70%, 80%, 90%, absolute), treated with hexamethyldisilazane (30%, 50% mixtures with absolute ethanol, followed by pure hexamethyldisilazane), and airdried. Samples were sputtered with Au/Pd (PECS Gatan 682) and examined with a JSM-6500F Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan).

IMT



1µm

Figure Phaeodactylum tricornutum isolate BG11 SEM 11. Cultivation of algae

Culture of Phaeodactylum tricornutum CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thinwall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes.

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Figure Feodaktilum različni mediji. SEM 146. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 -14 Ch5 (MW BG11) - isolate 100nm WD 10.1mm IMT SEI 15.0kV X40,000

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate BG11 SEM 12**. *Cultivation of algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. *Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)*

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 147. EM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 – (MW_BG11) - isolate

100nm WD 10.1mm

15.0kV X70,000

SEL

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate** BG11 SEM 13. *Cultivation of algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. *Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)*

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isola)b Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

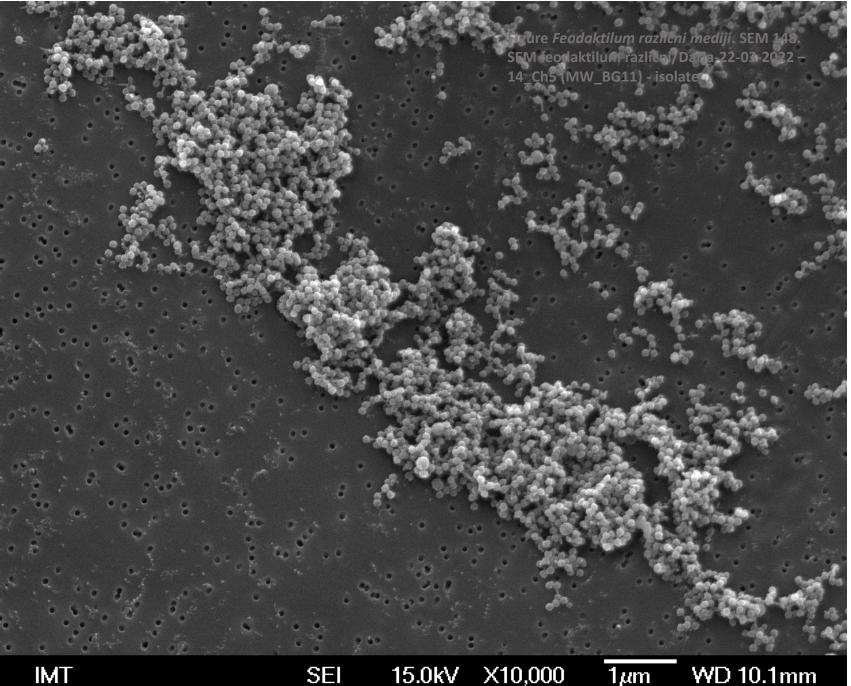


Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate BG11 SEM 14**. *Cultivation of algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. *Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)*

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

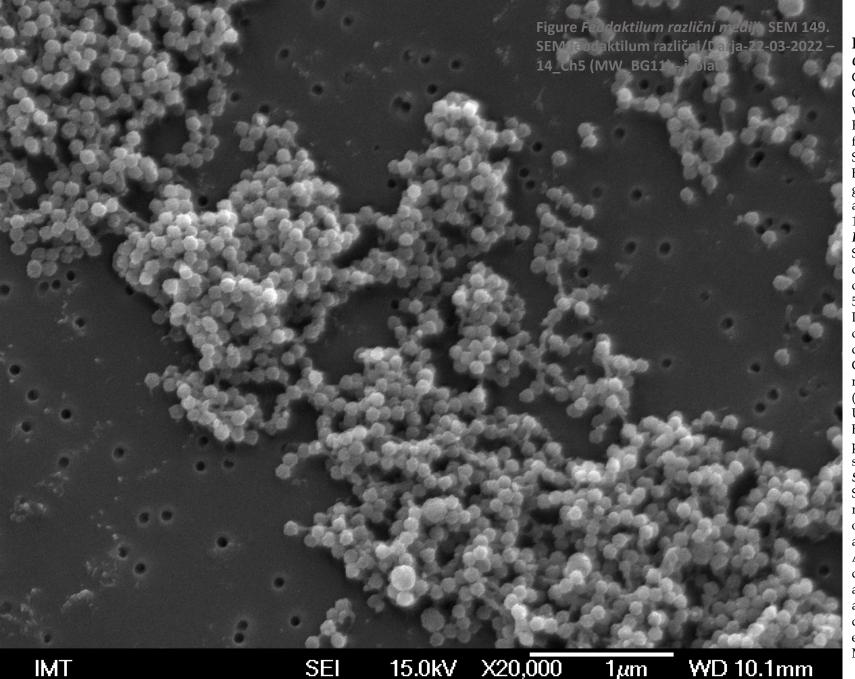


Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate BG11 SEM 15***. Cultivation of algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. *Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)*

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

re *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 150. Godaktilum različni /Darja-22-03-2022 — G.5 (MW_BG11) - isolate

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate** BG11 SEM 16. *Cultivation of algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

Samples were loaded onto 0.05-micron MCE filters (MF-MilliporeTM, ref. VMWP01300) and incubated in 2% OsO_4 for two hours. Then the osmium was removed, and the filter was taken out from the holder and further treated in a 24-well plate by changing the bath solution. After washing three times in distilled water, the samples were dehydrated in a graded series of ethanol (30%, 50%, 70%, 80%, 90%, absolute), treated with hexamethyldisilazane (30%, 50% mixtures with absolute ethanol, followed by pure hexamethyldisilazane), and air-dried. Samples were sputtered with Au/Pd (PECS Gatan 682) and examined with a JSM-6500F Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan).

15.0kV X40,000 100nm WD 10.1mm

SEI

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 151. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 -14_Ch5 (MW_BG11) - isolate

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate BG11 SEM 17***. Cultivation of algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with BG11 Broth (ref. 73816, Sigma Aldrich, Switzerland). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thin-wall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

Samples were loaded onto 0.05-micron MCE filters (MF-MilliporeTM, ref. VMWP01300) and incubated in 2% OsO_4 for two hours. Then the osmium was removed, and the filter was taken out from the holder and further treated in a 24-well plate by changing the bath solution. After washing three times in distilled water, the samples were dehydrated in a graded series of ethanol (30%, 50%, 70%, 80%, 90%, absolute), treated with hexamethyldisilazane (30%, 50% mixtures with absolute ethanol, followed by pure hexamethyldisilazane), and air-dried. Samples were sputtered with Au/Pd (PECS Gatan 682) and examined with a JSM-6500F Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan).

SEI

15.0kV X70,000

100nm WD 10.1mm

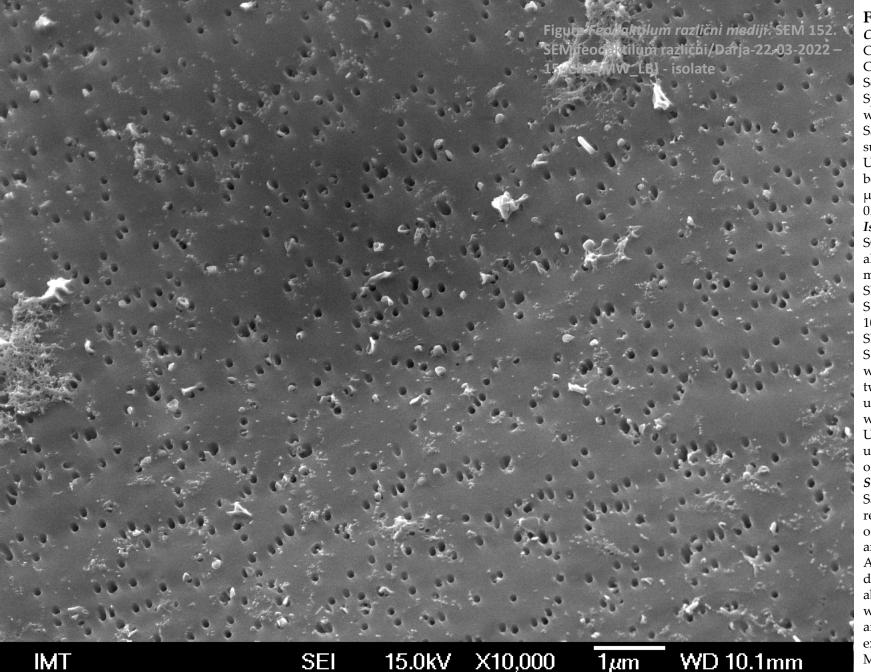


Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate** LB SEM 18. *Cultivation of the algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with LB Lennox LB broth (ref. L3022, Sigma Aldrich, USA). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (app. 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thinwall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes.

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

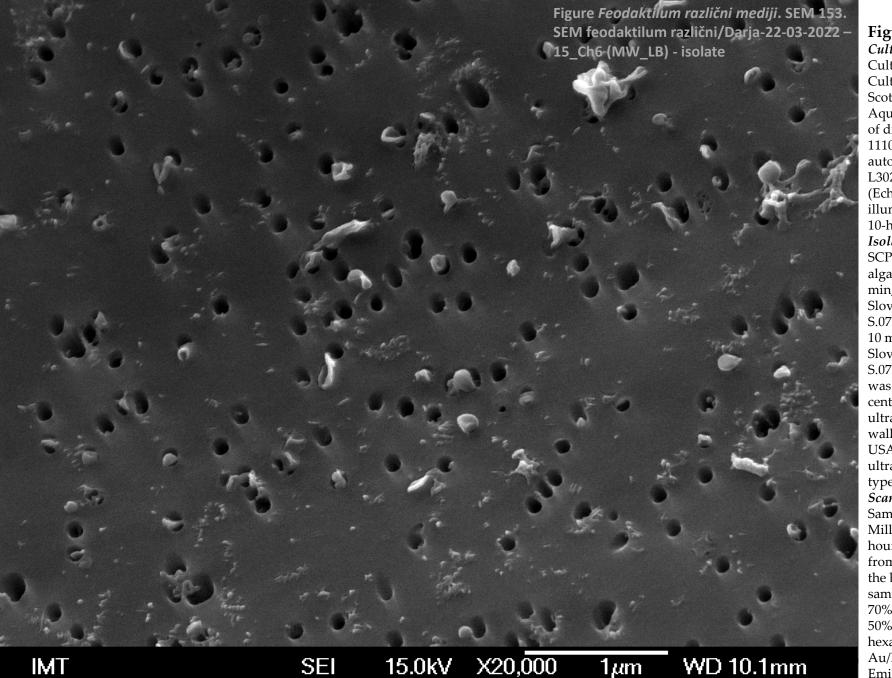


Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate** LB SEM 19. *Cultivation of the algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with LB Lennox LB broth (ref. L3022, Sigma Aldrich, USA). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. *Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)* SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from

algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thinwall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. *Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)*

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SEM 154. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 – 15_Ch6 (MW_LB) - isolate

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate** LB SEM 20. *Cultivation of the algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with LB Lennox LB broth (ref. L3022, Sigma Aldrich, USA). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 μ mol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min.

Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thinwall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes.

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Samples were loaded onto 0.05-micron MCE filters (MF-MilliporeTM, ref. VMWP01300) and incubated in 2% OsO_4 for two hours. Then the osmium was removed, and the filter was taken out from the holder and further treated in a 24-well plate by changing the bath solution. After washing three times in distilled water, the samples were dehydrated in a graded series of ethanol (30%, 50%, 70%, 80%, 90%, absolute), treated with hexamethyldisilazane (30%, 50% mixtures with absolute ethanol, followed by pure hexamethyldisilazane), and air-dried. Samples were sputtered with Au/Pd (PECS Gatan 682) and examined with a JSM-6500F Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan).

SEL

15.0kV

X40,000

100nm

WD 10.1mm

Figure Feodaktilum različni mediji. SEM 155 SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 -15_Ch6 (MW_LB) - isolate 15.0kV X10,000 IMT SEI WD 10.1mm 1µm

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate** LB SEM 21. *Cultivation of the algae*

Culture of *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with LB Lennox LB broth (ref. L3022, Sigma Aldrich, USA). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 °C and 20 % illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. **Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs)**

SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thinwall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. Scaming Electron Microscamu (SEM)

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Figure *Feodaktilum različni mediji*. SE<u>M</u> 156. SEM feodaktilum različni/Darja-22-03-2022 – 15_Ch6 (MW_LB) - isolate

WD 10.1mm

X20,000

1μm

15.0kV

SEI

Figure *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* **isolate** LB SEM 22. *Cultivation of the algae*

Culture of Phaeodactylum tricornutum CCAP 1052/1A from the Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa (CCAP) of SAMS (Oban, Scotland) was grown in artificial seawater (Reef Crystals, Aquarium Systems, France). 22 g of salt was dissolved in one litre of distilled water, sterile filtered (0.2-micron cellulose filters, ref. 11107-47-CAN, Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH, Germany), autoclaved, and supplemented with Lennox LB broth (ref. L3022, Sigma Aldrich, USA). Culture was grown in a respirometer (Echo, Slovenia) in 0.5-L borosilicate bottles, at 20 $^\circ C$ and 20 %illumination (approximately 250 µmol/m2s) with a 14-hour light / 10-hour dark cycle, with aeration of 0.2 L/min. Isolation of Small Cellular Particles (SCPs) SCPs were isolated by differential centrifugation. The cells from algal culture were removed by low-speed centrifugation (300 g, 10 min, 4°C, centrifuge Centric 260R with rotor RA 6/50 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.008.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany); and 2000 g, 10 min, 4°C (Centric 400R centrifuge with rotor RS4/100 (Domel, Slovenia)), using 15 mL conical centrifuge tubes (ref. S.078.02.001.050, Isolab Laborgeräte GmbH, Germany). Each step was repeated twice. Then, the cell-depleted medium was centrifuged twice at 10 000 g and 4°C for 30 min (Beckman L8-70M ultracentrifuge, rotor SW55Ti (Beckman Coulter, USA)), using thinwall polypropylene centrifuge tubes (ref. 326819, Beckman Coulter, USA) to remove larger cell debris. Finally, NPs were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 118 000 g and 4°C, for 70 min in the same type of ultracentrifuge and ultracentrifuge tubes. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) Samples were loaded onto 0.05-micron MCE filters (MF-MilliporeTM, ref. VMWP01300) and incubated in 2% OsO₄ for two hours. Then the osmium was removed, and the filter was taken out from the holder and further treated in a 24-well plate by changing

70%, 80%, 90%, absolute), treated with hexamethyldisilazane (30%, 50% mixtures with absolute ethanol, followed by pure hexamethyldisilazane), and air-dried. Samples were sputtered with Au/Pd (PECS Gatan 682) and examined with a JSM-6500F Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan).

the bath solution. After washing three times in distilled water, the samples were dehydrated in a graded series of ethanol (30%, 50%,

IMT