

## **RECENT MICROBIOLITES AND THEIR PHYTOLOGICAL COMPOSITIONS, LAGOA SALGADA (RIO DE JANEIRO) , BRAZIL.**

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Microbial mats, domal and columnar ramified calcareous stromatolites, oncolites and thrombolites are very frequent and still in growth conditions on the shores of an alkaline pH-8.7, hypersaline (6.4%), very shallow lagoon on the north-east coast of the Rio de Janeiro state. Microbial mats with crenulated and planar laminations show conspicuous processes of trapping, binding and precipitation of magnesian calcite, calcite and aragonite, besides being in close association with microgastropods, diatoms, palinomorphs and bivalves. They are normally associated with small oncolites controlled by depth and microbial communities. The lithified discrete columnar stromatolites and thrombolites form small isolated bioherms thin biostromes. Phytological investigations revealed cyanobacteria belong to nineteen taxa of ten families along with chlorophytes and Chrysophytes. The role of water chemistry of lagoon, microbial communities and ecological factors are controlling the different morphologies of microbial mats and lithified microbiolites.