Jania Rubens

Related ingredient: *ACTIPORINE 8 G*

« Jania » comes from the latin « Janus », double-head God from Roman mythology, watchman of Gods house. *"Rubens"* means of red colour. This alga is named like this because of its *dichotomous* ramifications and its colour.

Synonyms: *Jania corniculata, Corallina cristata Linnaeus, Corallina spermophoros Linnaeus, Corallina rubens Linnaeus*

BOTANY

Botanical family: **Corallinaceae**

Jania Rubens is a calcified red alga from 15 to 40 mm high, and has a rose-red colouration, although in strongly illuminated areas this can be slightly yellowish white.

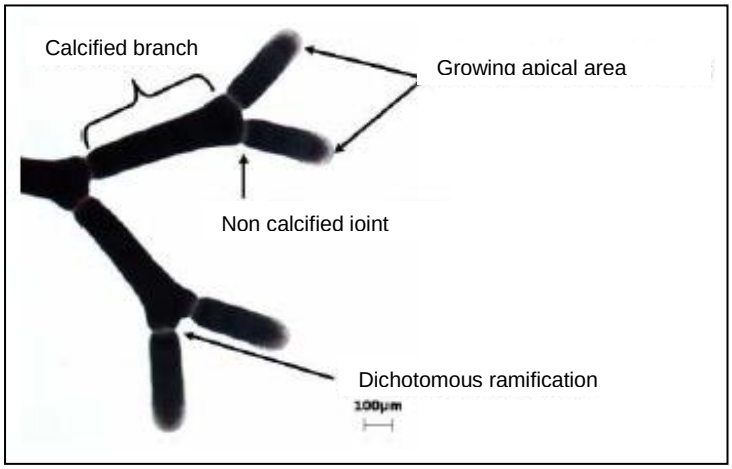
It grows slender rose-pink fronds that form rounded bunches reaching 5 cm long.

Jania rubens has a thallus formed from cylindrical filaments; the fronds are erect and jointed with particularly thin branches. The ramification is dichotomous with the branches tapering near the end; swellings found at the joints are the reproductive bodies.

Branches are up to 2.5 cm long, occasionally with secondary pinnate (feathery) branching, giving the alga a luxurious, fluffy look.

This alga is fixed by small conical disc, but spreads vegetatively by developing attachment discs from branches in contact with solid substrata.

Jania has maximum development during the autumn and winter.



BIOTOPE

Jania Rubens is rather rare and is found in well-lit, subtidal rocky surfaces from 8 to 10 meters deep, in sandy sea floors and herbariums of eelgrass. It can grow either directly attached to rock by small conical discs (where it can spread by forming new attachment points on branches in contact with substrate) or attached to other algae (epiphytically). It is typically found as an epiphyte on brown and red macro-algae.

OUR GROWING AREAS

To prevent using natural resources, our laboratory has been the first one to develop cultivations of macro-algae in photo bioreactors: this is the cultivation method of *Jania Rubens*. This is a cultivation method developed to strengthen our management program of natural resources, which consists in the cultivation of plankton microorganisms, micro algae or macro algae in bioreactor under controlled conditions (temperature, culture medium, light…). The resulting extracts are totally natural, enriched in interesting molecules and totally respectful of environment.

Jania Rubens in Mini reactor

Jania Rubens in Photobioreactor

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

The range of *Jania rubens* stretches from the Baltic Sea and Norway in the north to Portugal, Senegal, east Africa, and the Azores in the south; it is also found in the Mediterranean, the Canary Islands, Indian Ocean, Black Sea, and China Sea, as well as around Brazil.

We can also find it on British Isles from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, south-west England, Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, and on Atlantic coast of North America: North Carolina to Argentina.

COSMETIC USES

Jania Rubens is used by cosmetic industry as an extract in natural beauty products. It is prized for its ultra-moisturizing and protective properties due to the high concentration of minerals and trace elements present in its tissue. *Jania rubens* is characterized by a concentration of minerals and trace elements 20,000 to 40,000 times greater than that of seawater, thus giving it remineralizing properties. It is also used in skin whitening and hydrating products. Our laboratory has also demonstrated that the cultivated extract of this alga helps regulating the expression of slimming genes, and enables to slow down the synthesis and the storage of fats.