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**Contributions on the Content and Nature of the Phycocolloid from
Laurencia papillosa (Forssk.) Greville (Rhodophyta, Ceramiales)**

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Abstract

The content, infrared spectroscopy, total sulphate and optical rotation of the phycocolloid from *Laurencia papillosa* (Forssk.) Greville from Tanzania have been investigated. A phycocolloid yield of $33.6 \pm 0.6\%$ was obtained on a dry weight basis. The total sulphate content of the phycocolloid was $16.8 \pm 0.4\%$ and the optical rotation was found to be negative $[\alpha]_{D5} - 5.5^\circ$. The phycocolloid was soluble in potassium Chloride. Its IR spectra showed absorption peaks more akin to -than -or -cairageenan. A detailed discussion of these findings is presented.