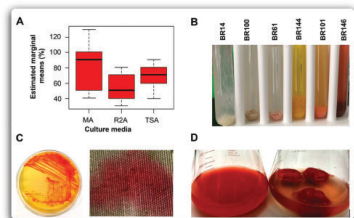


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## About the Cover

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The image illustrates the growth index, pigmentation, and fabric dyeability potential of marine bacteria isolated from near-bottom waters and coral reef sediments of the Benham Bank Seamount in the Philippine Rise Region. Profiling has revealed seven distinct isolates, which demonstrated optimal growth in marine agar as noted by darker pigmentation and higher biomass yield. Isolates BR14, BR100, and BR61 produced pigments that were acetone-soluble, whereas isolates BR144, BR101, and BR146 were hexane-soluble. These findings support a proof-of-concept that natural pigments extracted from the largely untapped marine microbial resources of the country can be utilized as fabric colorants for the textile industry. To learn more, go to pages 615–641.

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