What is Claimed Is:

1. A cell culture article, comprising:

a substrate comprising a polygalacturonic acid compound selected from at least one of:

pectic acid or salts thereof, and

partially esterified pectic acid having a degree of esterification from 1 to 40 mol% or salts thereof,

wherein the polygalacturonic acid compound is crosslinked with a divalent cation and the divalent cation concentration ranges from 0.5 to 2 g/l of the substrate.

2. The article of claim 1, wherein the substrate is spherical or substantially spherical.

3. The article of claim 2, wherein the substrate comprises a diameter of 10 to 500 micrometers.

4. The article of any of the preceding claims, wherein a plurality of the cell culture articles comprise a coefficient of variation of less than 20%.

5. The article of any of claims 2-4, wherein a plurality of the cell culture articles comprise size spread Δd5-d95 of less than 25 micrometers, wherein d5 is a diameter that is larger than the diameters of 5% of the plurality of the cell culture articles, wherein d95 is a diameter that is larger than the diameters of 95% of the plurality of the cell culture articles, and wherein Δd5-d95 is the difference between d95 and d5.

6. The article of any of claims 2-5, wherein a plurality of the cell culture articles comprise a radius of curvature spread ΔK_{d5}-K_{d95} of less than 10 cm^{-1}, wherein K_{d5} at is the radius of curvature of a cell culture articles having a diameter that is larger than the diameters of 5% of the plurality of the cell culture articles, wherein K_{d95} is the radius of curvature of a cell culture articles having a diameter that is larger than the diameters of 95% of the plurality of the cell culture articles, and wherein ΔK_{d5}-K_{d95} is the difference between K_{d5} and K_{d95}.

7. The article of any of the preceding claims, wherein the divalent cation is selected from the group consisting of calcium, magnesium and barium.

8. The article of any of the preceding claims, further comprising an adhesion polymer on the surface of the substrate.

9. The article of claim 8, wherein the adhesion polymer comprises a polypeptide.

10. A method of making a cell culture article, comprising:

dispensing a hydrocolloid solution into a gelation bath,

wherein the hydrocolloid solution comprises a polygalacturonic acid compound selected from at least one of:

pectic acid or salts thereof, and

partially esterified pectic acid having a degree of esterification from 1 to 40 mol% or salts thereof, and

wherein the gelation bath comprises a divalent metal salt.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the divalent metal is selected from the group consisting of calcium, magnesium and barium.

12. The method according to any of claims 10-11, wherein the hydrocolloid solution is dispensed dropwise into the gelation bath.

13. The method according to any of claims 10-12, wherein the hydrocolloid solution comprises 0.5 to 5 wt.% polygalacturonic acid.

14. The method according to any of claims 10-13, wherein the gelation bath comprises from 1 to 20% (w/v) divalent metal salt.

15. A method for harvesting cultured cells, the method comprising:

culturing cells on the surface of the cell culture article of any of claims 1-9; and

contacting the cultured cells with a mixture of pectinase and a chelator to separate the cells from the cell culture article.