

NAME _____

DATE _____

Introduction to Algae

In this lab you will observe a variety of algae and record your observations of them.

Proceed to a workstation and pick up a microscope slide. Observe the alga culture. To use a dropping pipet to remove a sample from the culture, first squeeze the pipet bulb and lower the tip into the culture to the area being sampled. Release pressure on the bulb to draw in the sample. Place 1 or 2 drops of the sample on a slide and gently cover with a coverslip. Examine under the low-power objective of your microscope to locate algal cells. Once you have located cells, center them in the microscopic field and swing the high-power objective into place.

Study the alga carefully and fill in information about it in the following table.

Name of Alga	Unicellular, Filamentous, or Colonial	Motile (Y/N)	Color	Specialized Features	Algal Group