



Enhanced growth, crop protection and sustainability

**Todd Lane, Sandia National Laboratories
2014 Canada-US Algae Workshop**

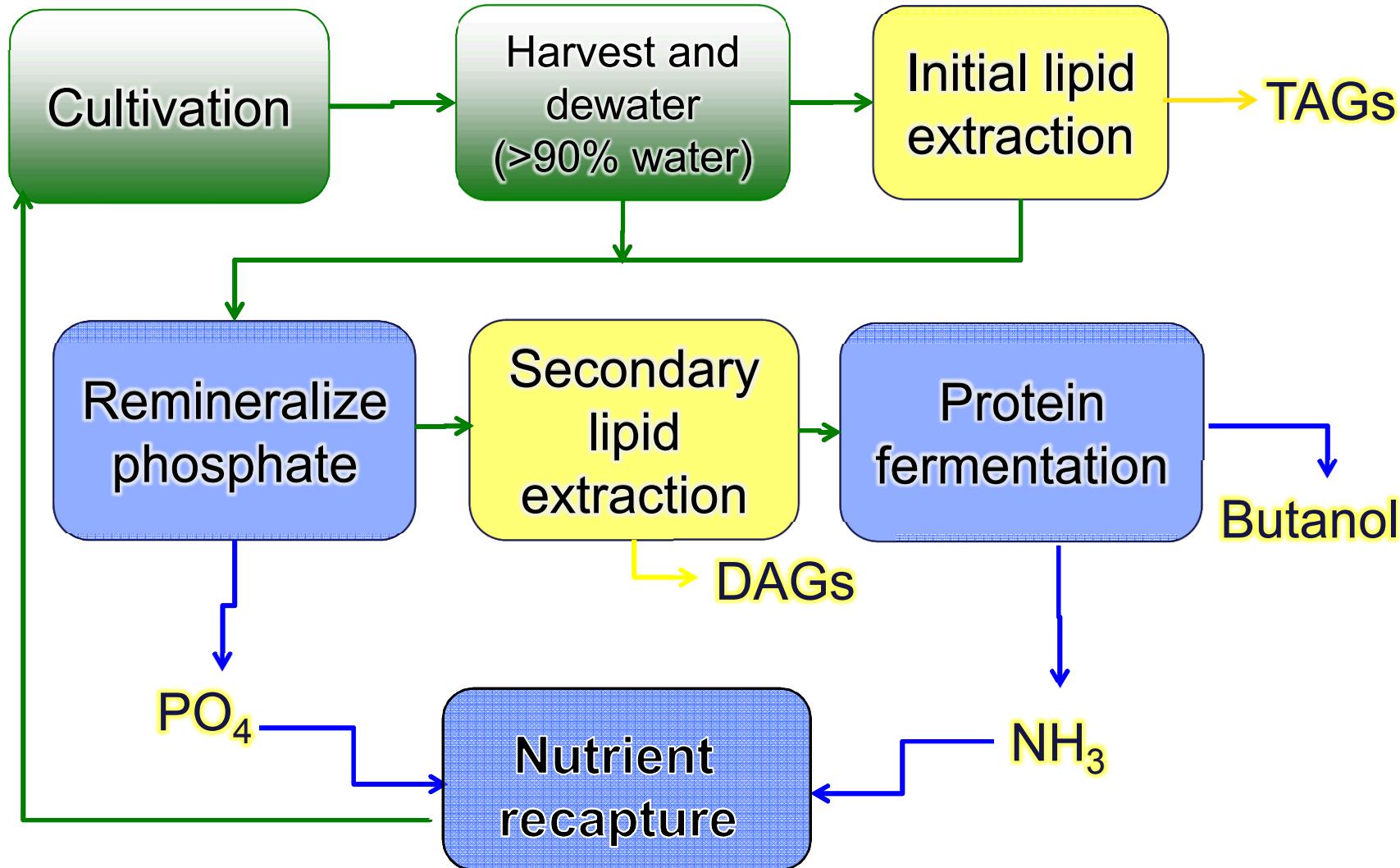
San Diego, California
3 October 2014

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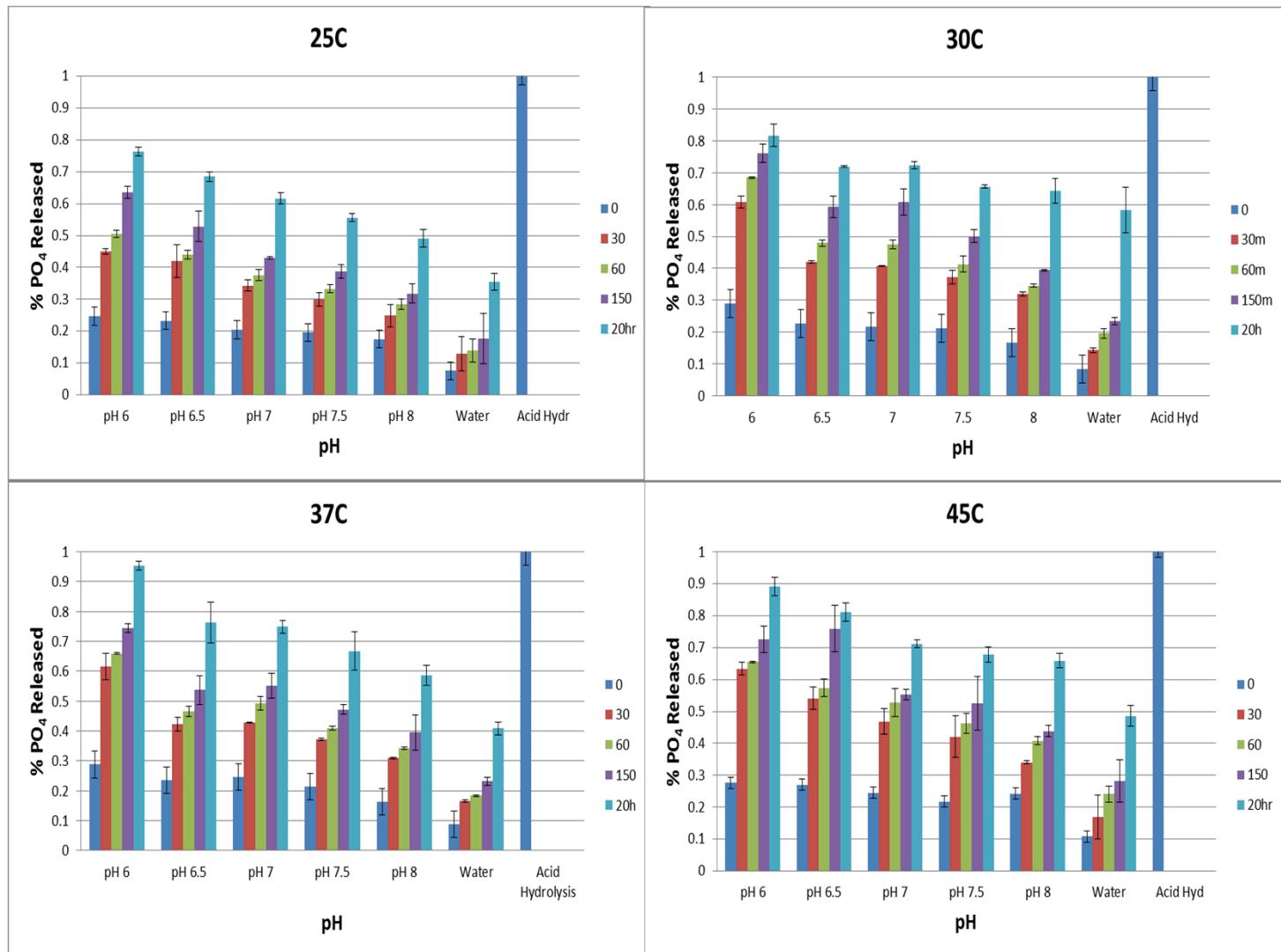
Outline

- Nutrient recycling
- Crop protection: Pathogen and predator identification
- Probiotics for enhanced growth and crop protection

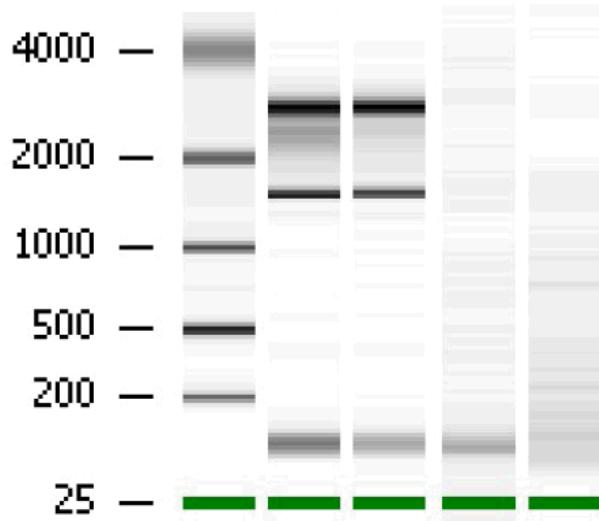
Proposed closed process



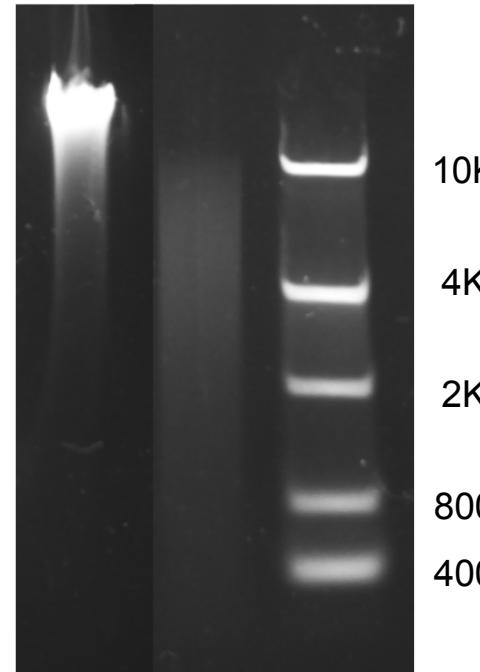
Temperature optimum for Reaction



Accessing phosphate in nucleic acid pool



1. *N. salina* RNA before digest
2. *N. salina* RNA before digest
3. *N. salina* RNA after digest
4. *N. salina* RNA after digest



1. *Ns* DNA before digest
2. *Ns* DNA after digest (pH6, 37C, 20h)
3. Marker

Digest conditions:

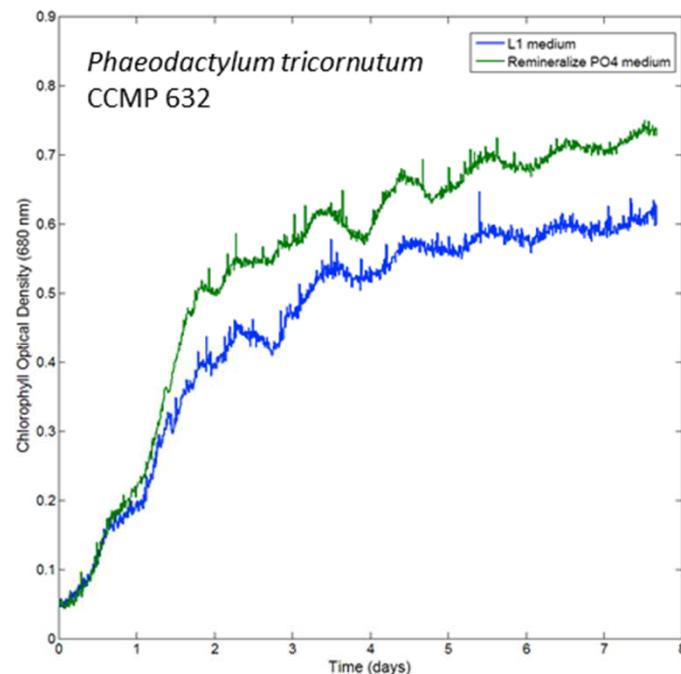
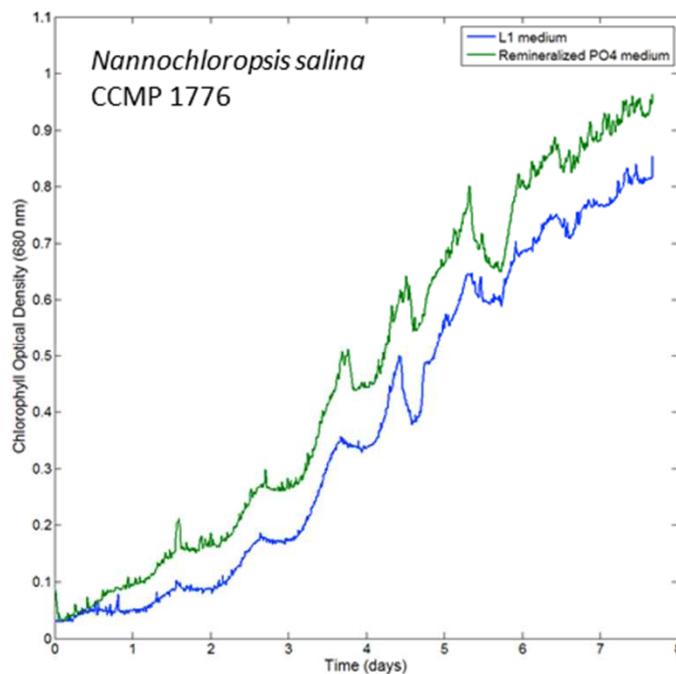
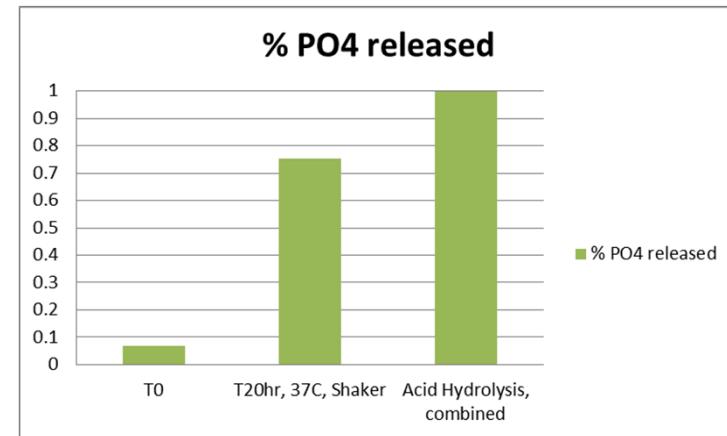
Resuspend biomass in water to 1% solids
Add MES pH6 to 50mM
Incubate at 37C, 20 hours



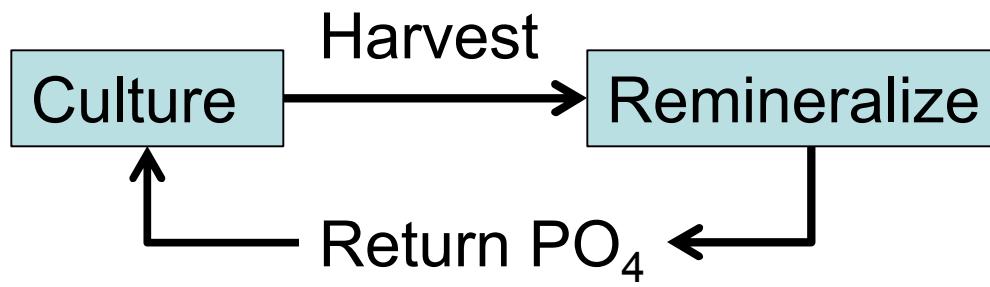
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Regrowth of biomass on remineralized phosphate

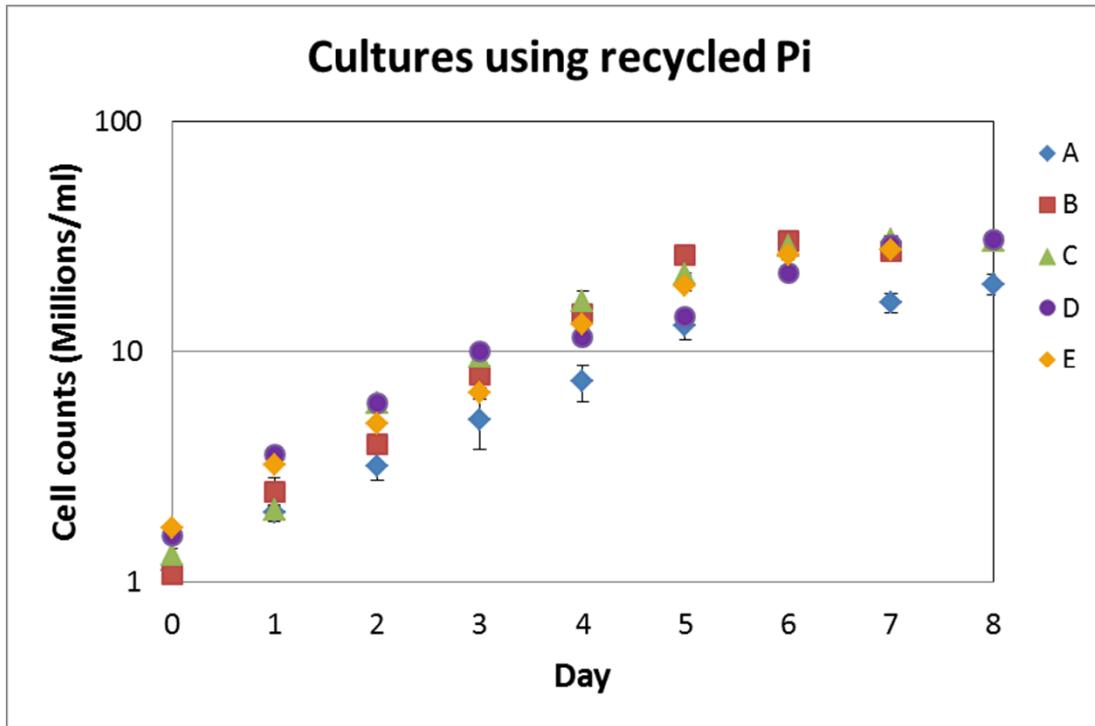
- ~50 gm of 20% solids. *N. salina*
- Diluted to 2% solids pH 6.5, 37° , 20hrs
- Liberated phosphate used to replace total phosphate in algal culture
- Growth of *P. tricornutum* and *N. salina* on soluble liberated phosphate



Repeated rounds phosphate remineralization and reuse in *N. salina* culture



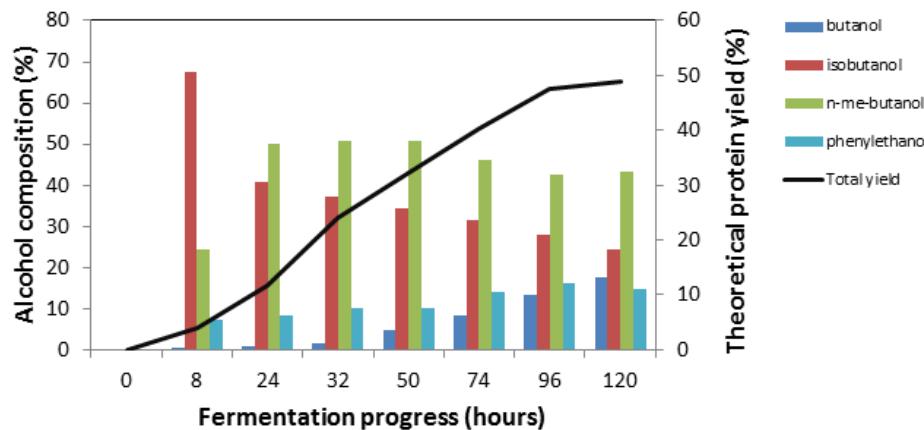
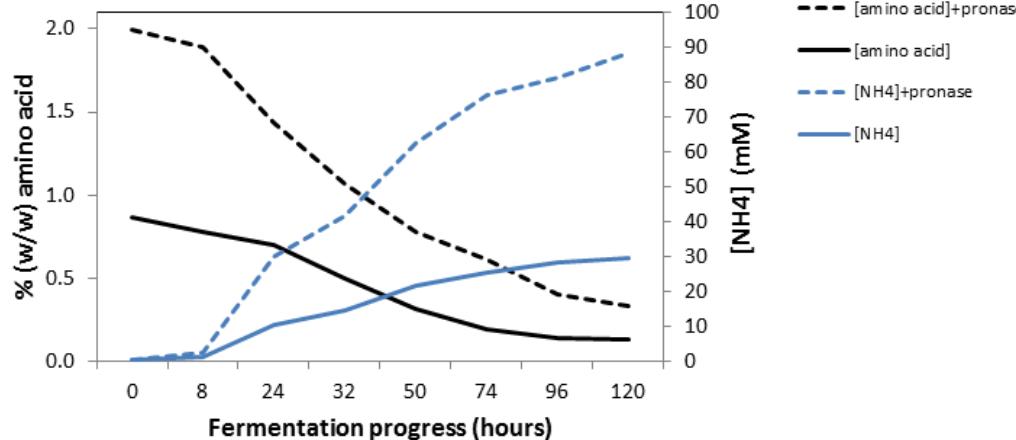
After first round,
recycled up to 66%
of consumed
phosphate



No difference in
specific growth rates
over the course of 4
rounds of recycle (5
culture rounds)

No evidence of
accumulation of
growth inhibitors
through 4 recycles

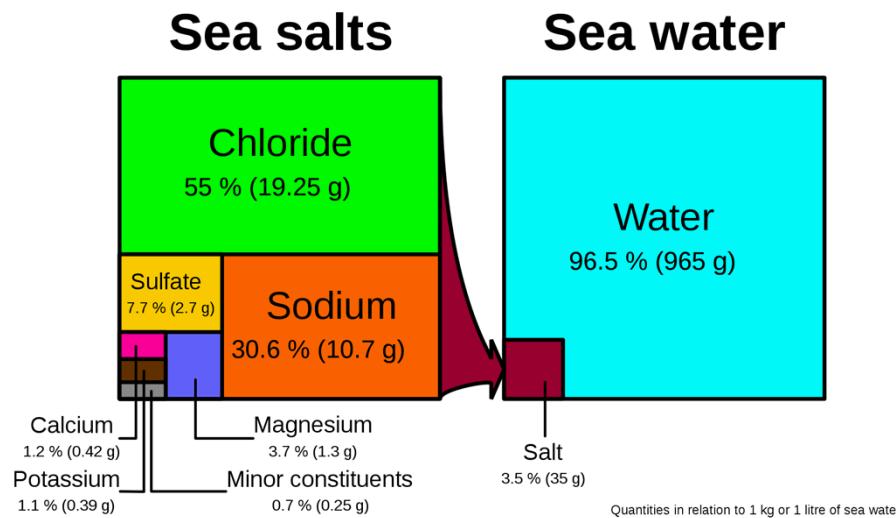
Remineralize N through protein fermentation



- Amino acid fermentation yields ammonium and higher alcohols.
 - Huo et al., *Nature Biotechnology*, 29(4):346-351, 2011.
- Proteins recalcitrant to dilute acid hydrolysis. Adding enzyme mix more than doubles amino acid availability.
- Resulting ammonium available at moderate concentrations.

Davis *et al* 2013

In current system, significant Mg is carried over with biomass



NaNO ₃ (M)	KH ₂ PO ₄ (M)	Fe (mg/g)	Mg (mg/g)
0.006	0.0003	3.37	77.3
0.006	0.0003	4.75	67.1
0.006	0.001	3.86	78.1
0.006	0.001	3.81	98.3
0.003	0.0003	2.83	82.0
0.003	0.0003	2.91	93.5
0.003	0.001	3.46	74.8
0.003	0.001	2.41	74.4

Depending on chemical makeup of growth medium, significant extracellular Mg may be carried over with biomass

Internal Mg stores may also be significant: 3-4 mMol Mg/gm AFDW

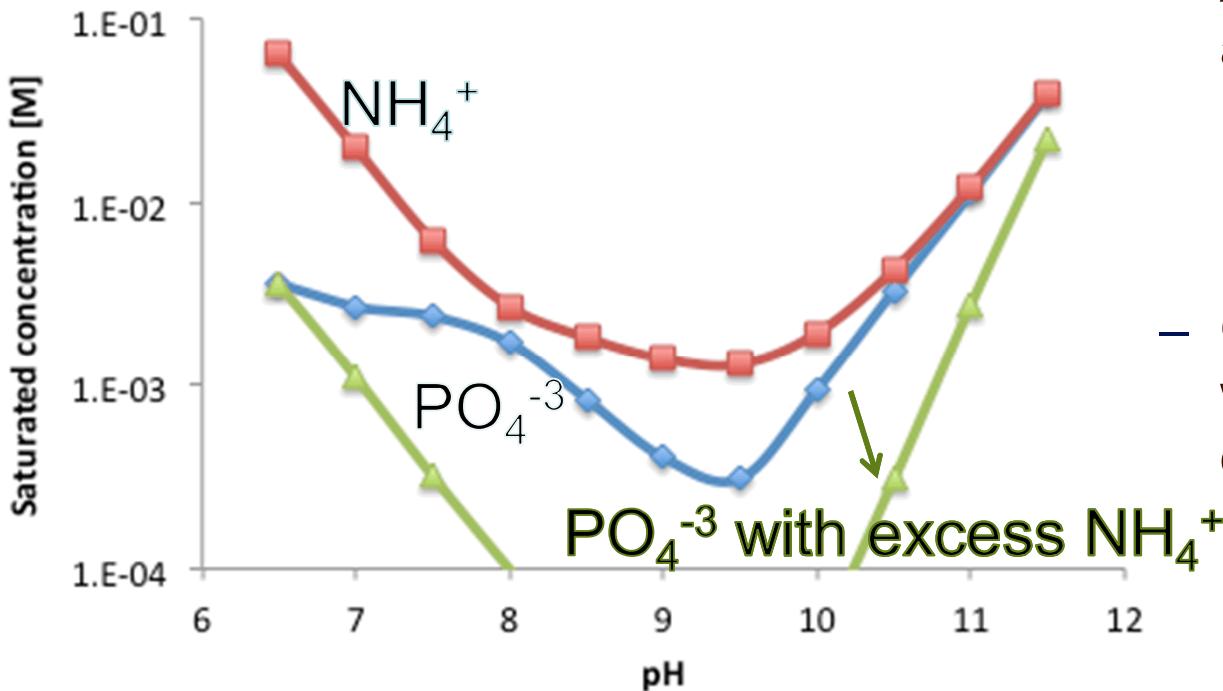
The resulting P/Mg ratio may promote the formation of struvite: $MgNH_4PO_4$

The formation or utilization of struvite does not alter the chemistry of the pond or biomass

No requirement for new Mg

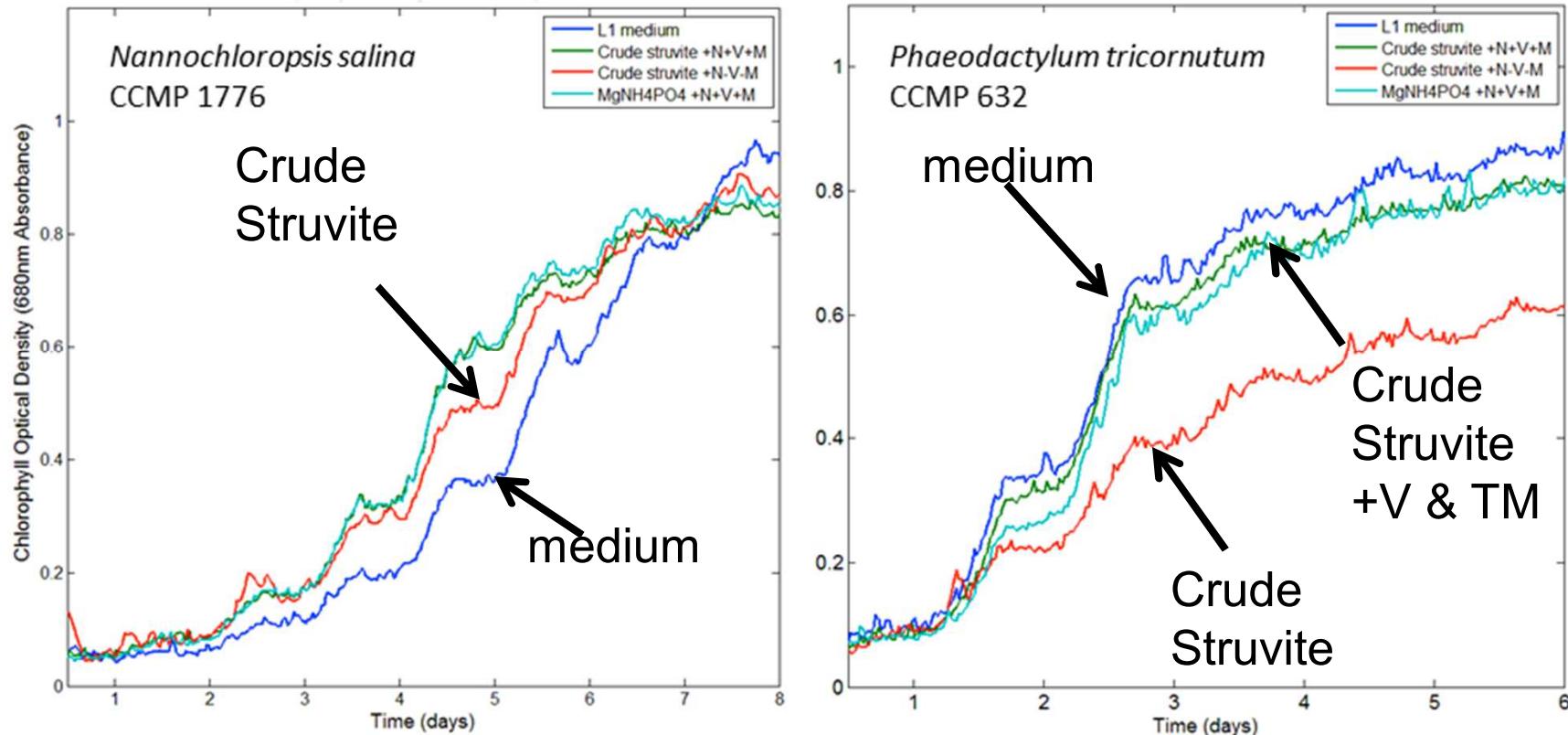
Recover nutrients through precipitation

- Struvite (MgNH_4PO_4) is useful mineral form of nutrients.
 - Alternates include Ca and Mg phosphates.
- Looking at designing system to maximize recovery – need to measure precipitation kinetics.



- At concentrations available in nutrient recovery, potential to recover >90% PO_4^{3-} .
- Outstanding issues with effect of organics on kinetics.

Struvite can replace “new” nutrients in microalgal culture



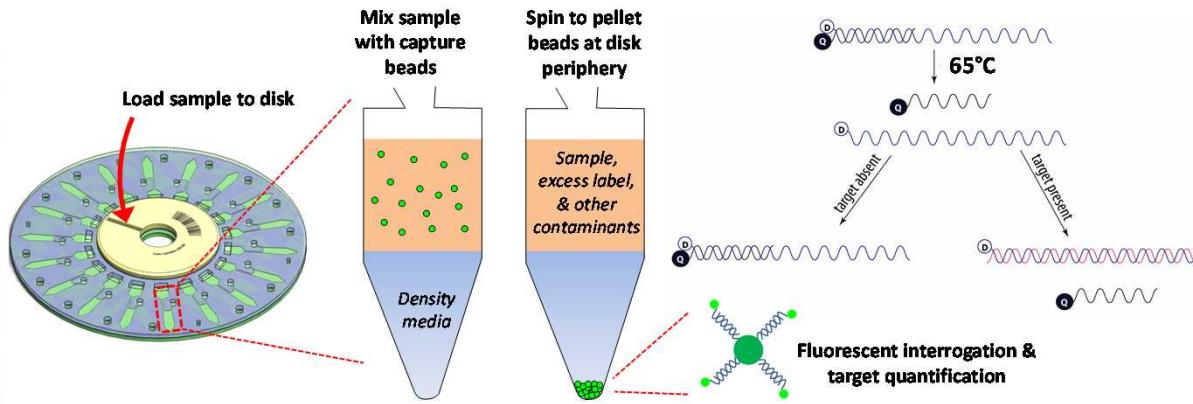
Multicultivator, sinusoidal 16/8 LD cycle,
peak 1000 fE, 21 to 24 C



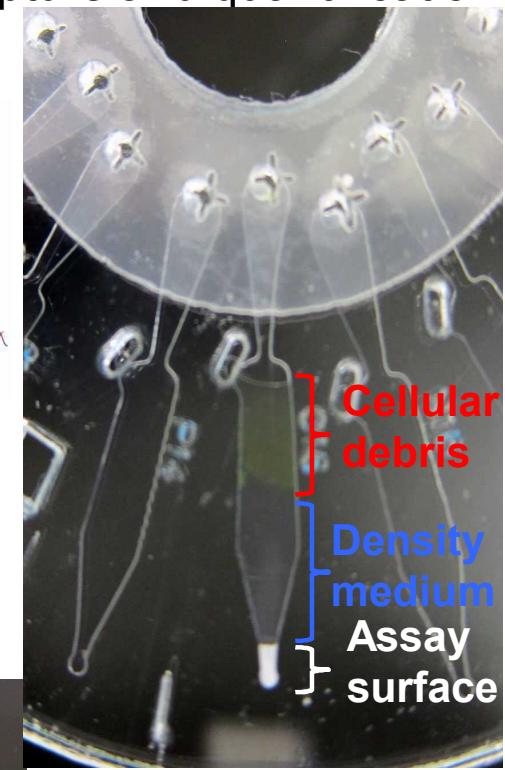
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SpinDx™ has the necessary characteristics for a field assay for pond management

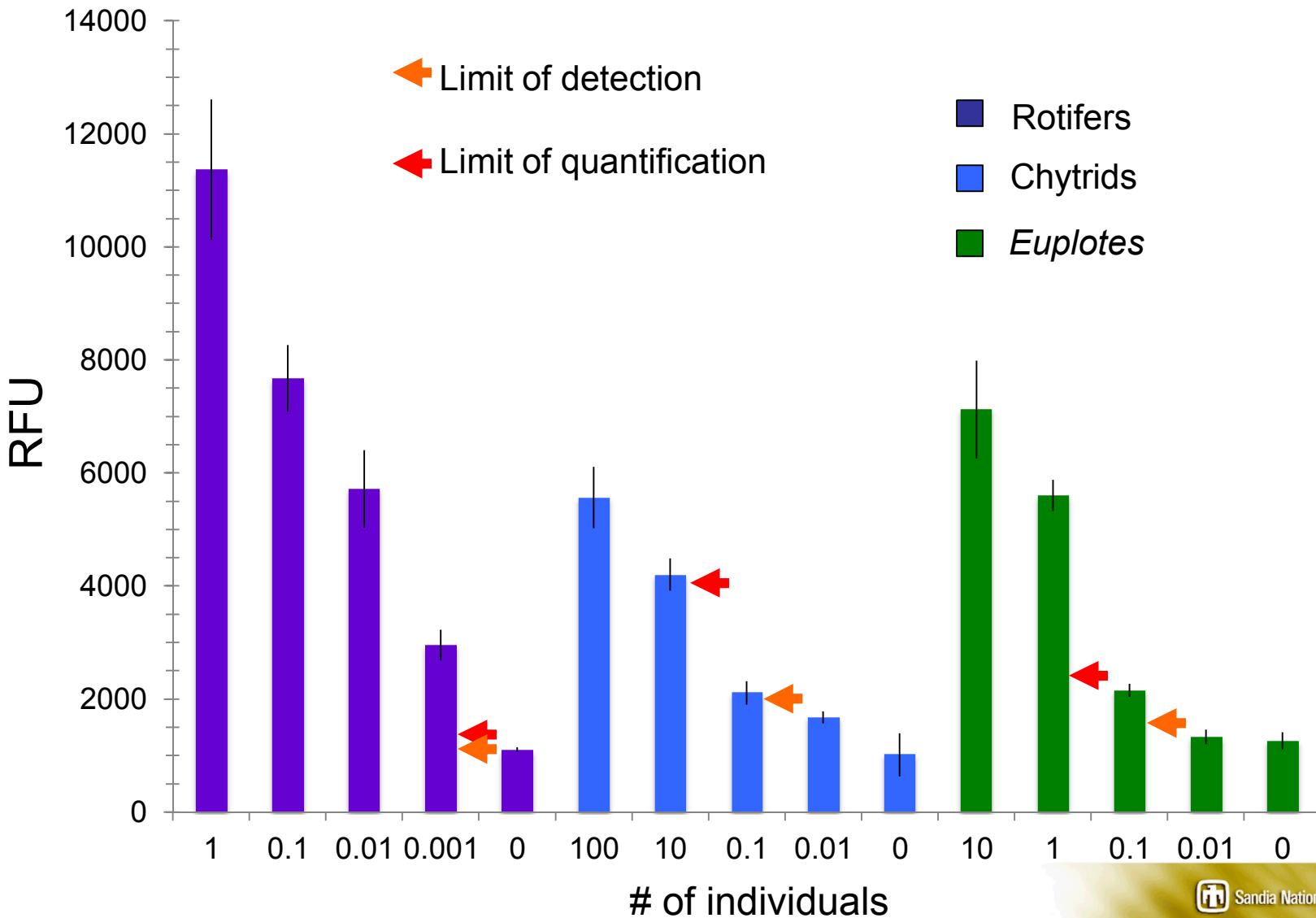
- FRET-based bead hybridization assay enabling capture and quantification of pathogen-specific RNA/DNA signatures



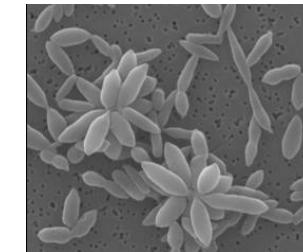
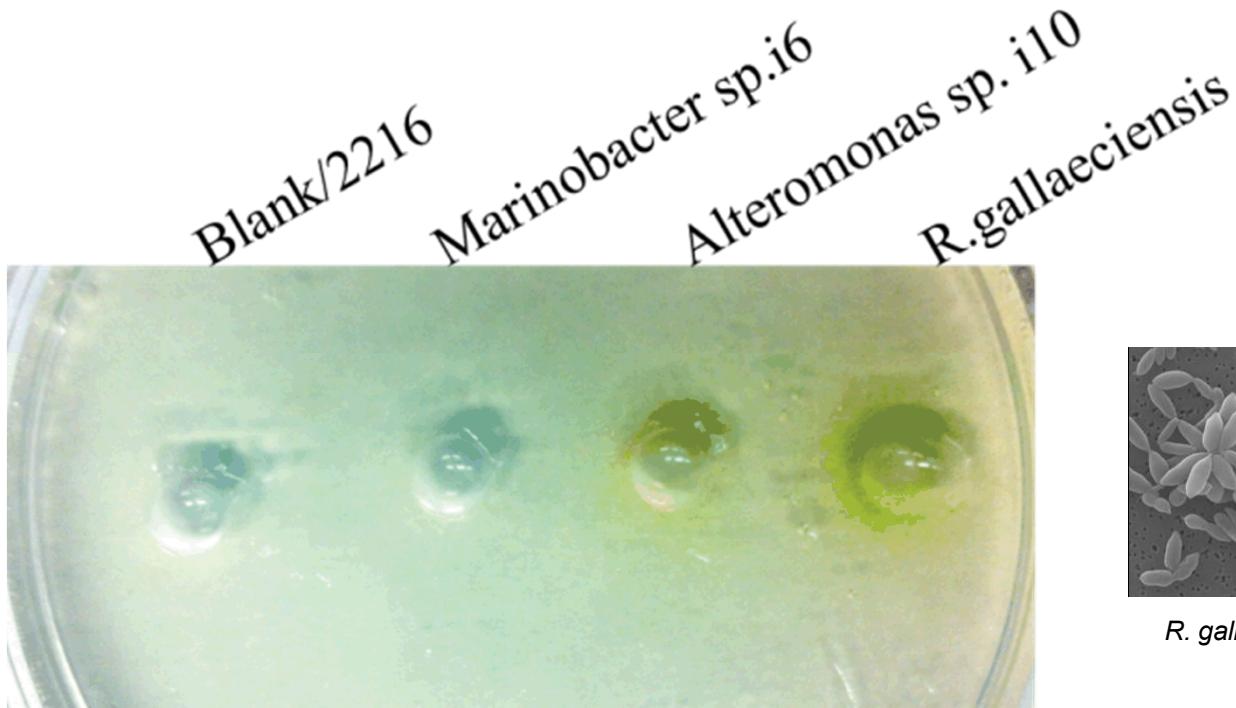
- Assay time: approx 30 min
- 36 channels per disc
- Potential for multiplexed assays in each channel
- Low reagent costs
- Low material costs
- Low instrument cost (\$1000)
- Fieldable



SpinDX detection/quantification of pest species



Co-culture of *N. salina* with isolated strains improves growth on plates



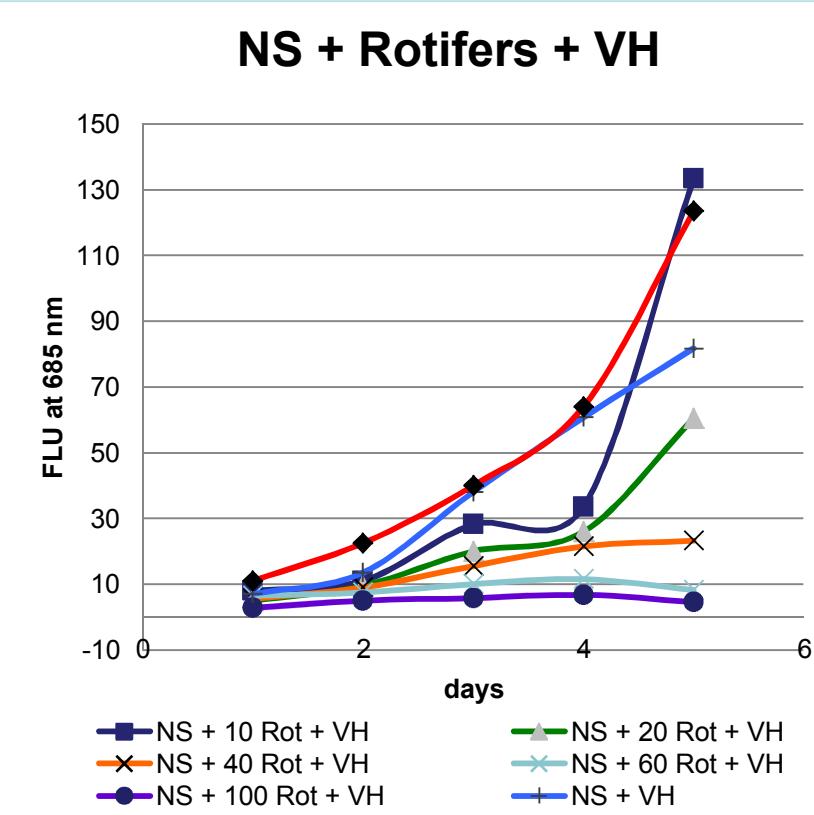
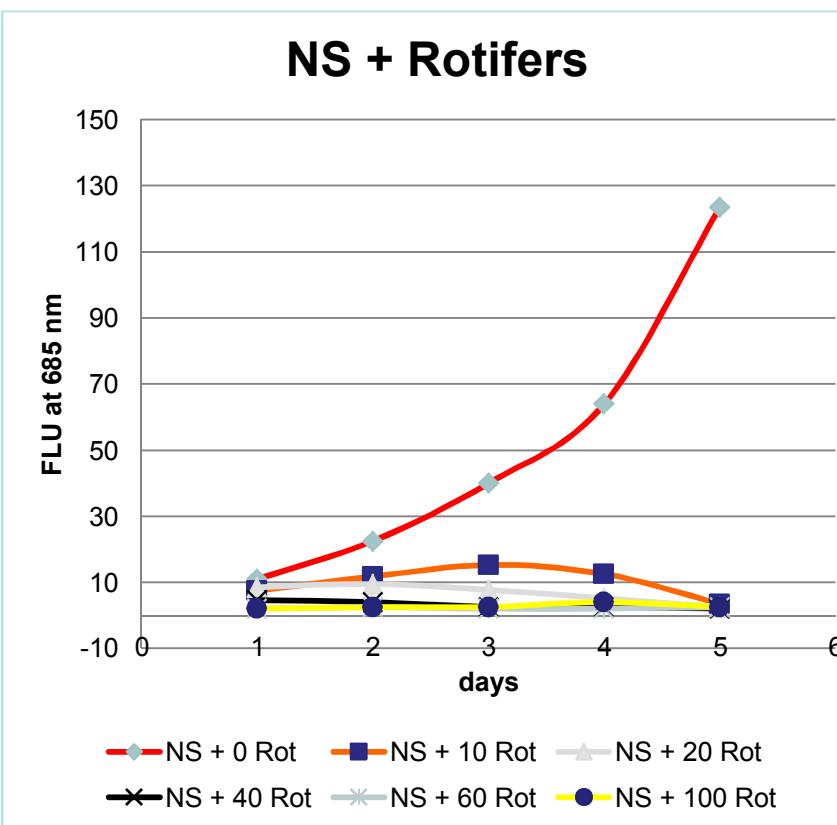
R. gallaeciensis

Probiotics + *N. salina* co-culture in outdoor mesocosms



8-week outdoor
cultivation period
(20L mesocosms)

Probiotic strain Vh mitigates Rotifer grazing



Acknowledgments

DOE EERE BioEnergy Technology Office

Sandia National Labs

- Ryan Davis
- John Hewson
- Pamela Lane
- Nicholas Wyatt
- Deanna Curtis
- Haifeng Geng
- Eizadora Yu

Texas Agrilife

- Anthony Siccardi

Open Algae

- Peter Kipp
- Hoyt Thomas
- Stacy Truscott



RESEARCH

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