Microphytobenthos, **Especially Benthic Diatom Production**

Class 6: Th September 18, 2008

Slide 1 Microphytobenthos, Especially

Benthic Diatom Production

NOTES:

Class schedule

Order of topics

- Microphytobenthos today
- Gould, D. G. and E. D. Gallagher. 1990. Field measurement of specific growth rate, biomass and primary production of benthic diatoms of Savin Hill Cove, Boston. Limnol. Oceanogr. 35: 1757-1770.
- For Tuesday Benthic Population Biology
- For Tuesday Benthic Population Biology
 Gallagher, E. D., G. B. Gardner and P. A. Jumars 1990.
 Competition among the pioneers in soft bottom benthic succession: field experiments and analysis of the Gilpin-Ayala competition model. Oecologia 83: 427-442.
 Whitlatch, R. B. 1980. Patterns of resource utilization an coexistence in marine intertidal deposit-feeding communities. J. Mar. Res. 38: 743-765.



Slide 2 Class schedule

NOTES:



Slide 3 Darwin's worms

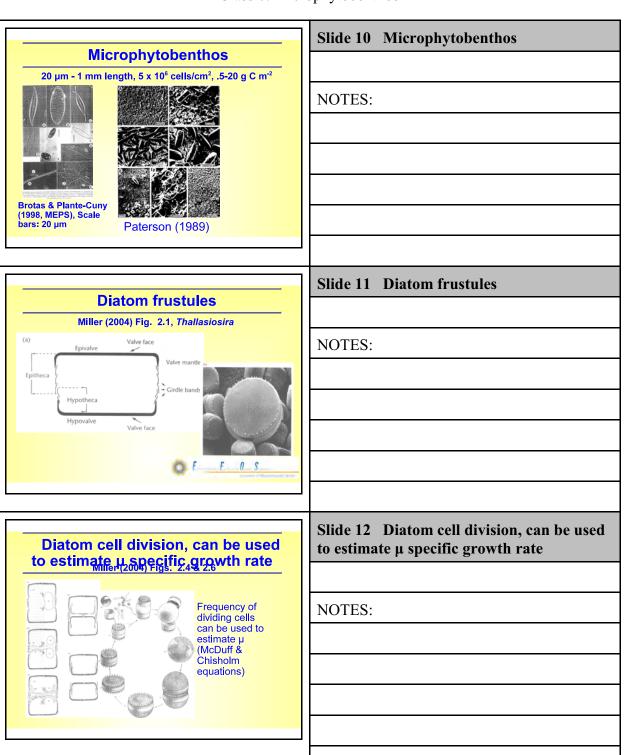
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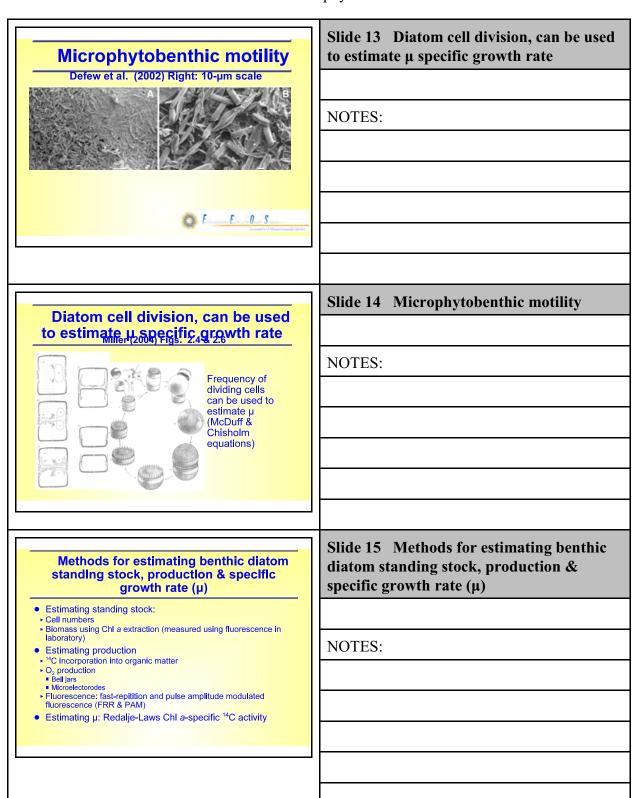


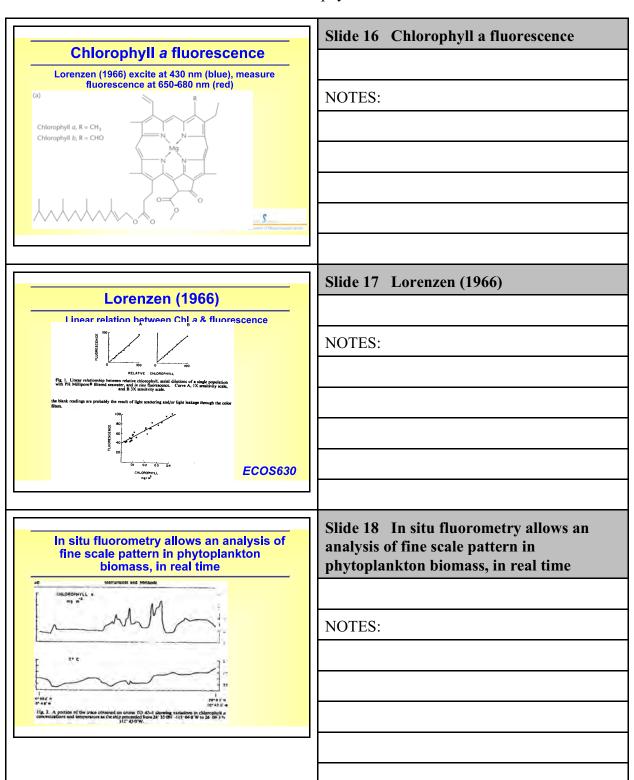
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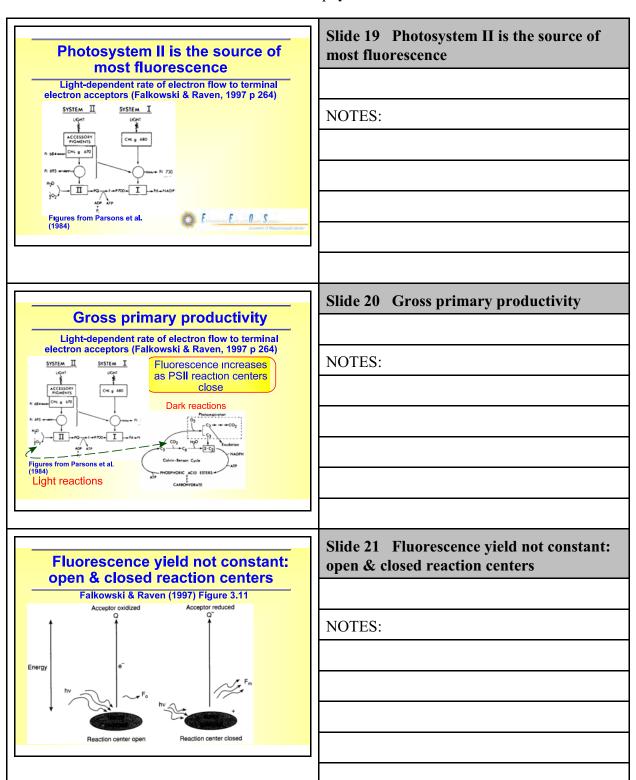


Slide 7 Don't release earthworms into Don't release earthworms into forests! forests! NOTES: Slide 8 All New England earthworms **All New England earthworms** wiped out by the Pleistocene Glaciation wiped out by the Pleistocene (>13,000 years ago) Glaciation (>13,000 years ago) NOTES: Slide 9 Big topics for today's class Big topics for today's class Definitions of standing stock, production and specific ► Why do photoautotrophs fluoresce? ► O₂ method, ¹⁴C method, PAM fluorescence method ► New methods: Redalje-Laws ¹⁴C method, O₂ microelectrode method, PAM fluorescence NOTES: Benthic diatoms & the diffusive sublayer Factors controlling benthic diatom production: light, CO₂, pH, other nutrients Importance as a benthic food source Importance for sediment transport









Specific growth rate, 'mu' µ and little 'r'

μ is the specific growth rate, (per capita growth rate); μ_{max} is max growth rate, intrinsic growth rate, Malthusian parameter

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \mu N.$$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{N} \frac{dN}{dt}.$$

 $\frac{dN}{dt}$ = μ_{max} N, with no resource limitation.

$$\mu_{\text{max}} = \frac{1}{N} \frac{dN}{dt}$$

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Slide 22 Specific growth rate, 'mu' µ and little 'r'

NOTES:

The Malthusian parameter: r_{max}

Maximum growth rate, no density-dependent limitation

$$\frac{dt}{dt} = r N.$$

$$r_{max} N, with no resource limitation.$$

$$N_t = N_0 e^{\mu_{max} t}.$$

$$N_t = N_0 e^{r_{mx}t}.$$

$$ln\left(\frac{N_t}{N_0}\right) = \mu_{\max} t.$$

$$ln\left(\frac{N_t}{N_0}\right) = r_{\max} t.$$

ECOS630

Slide 23 The Malthusian parameter: rmax

NOTES:

Specific growth rate, µ, and doublings per day (archaic)

$$\ln\left(\frac{N_{t_d}}{N_0}\right) = \ln(2) = \mu \ t_d.$$

$$t_d = \frac{\ln(2)}{N_0} \approx \frac{0.693}{N_0}$$

Specific growth rate $\left[\frac{doublings}{day}\right]$ =

Slide 24 Specific growth rate, µ, and doublings per day (archaic)

NOTES:

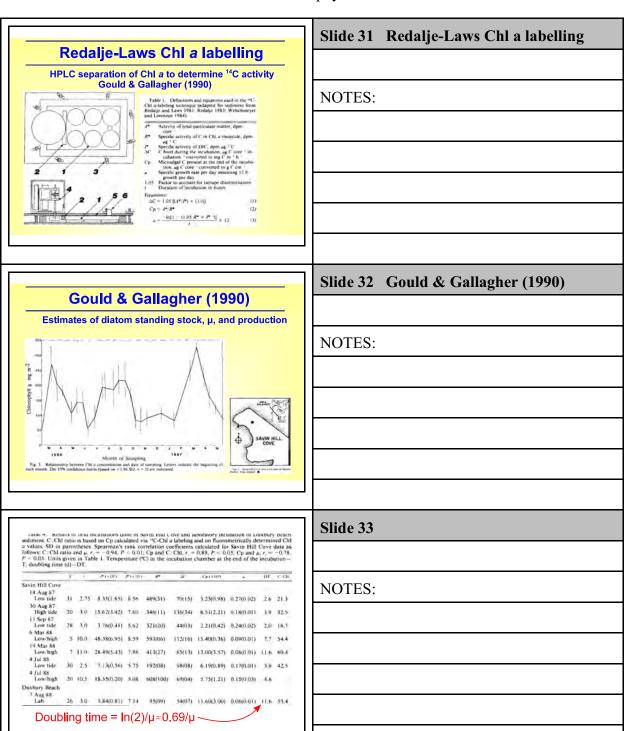


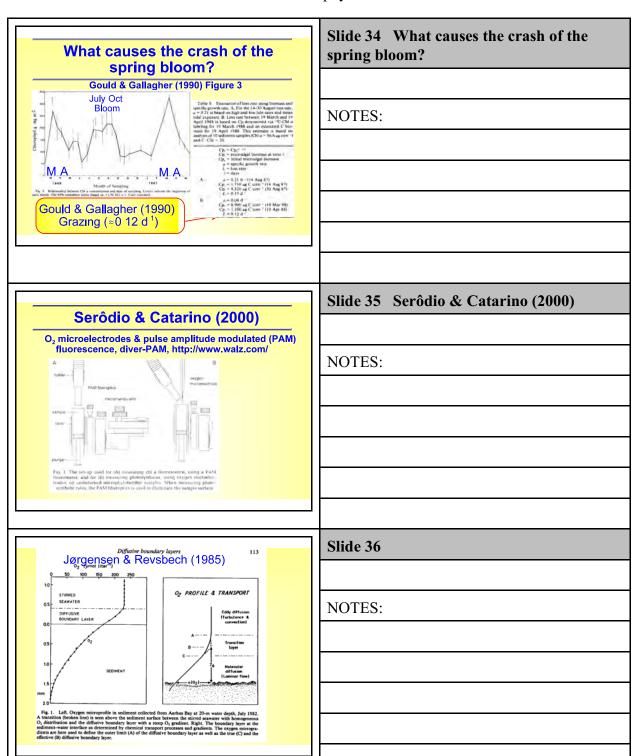
Slide 25 Biomass-specific production, µ Biomass-specific production, µ Estimating biomass, in carbon, the key problem in estimating μ. Estimating photoautotropic Carbon:Chl *a* ratio difficult NOTES: $\mu = specific production.$ $= \frac{production}{biomass} = \frac{P}{B}.$ dCECOS630 Slide 26 Bell jars used to estimate O2 flux Bell jars used to estimate O₂ flux Uthicke & Klumpp (1998), MEPS NOTES: Slide 27 The oxygen method The oxygen method Separating Gross vs. Net production. Use light and dark bottles NOTES: Dark bottle measures respiration (but not photorespiration) ▶ Photorespiration may not be too important ► In the absence of grazers, light bottle measures net production. ▶ In the absence of grazers, Light-Dark measures gross production. Photorespiration and heterotrophic respiration create large problems

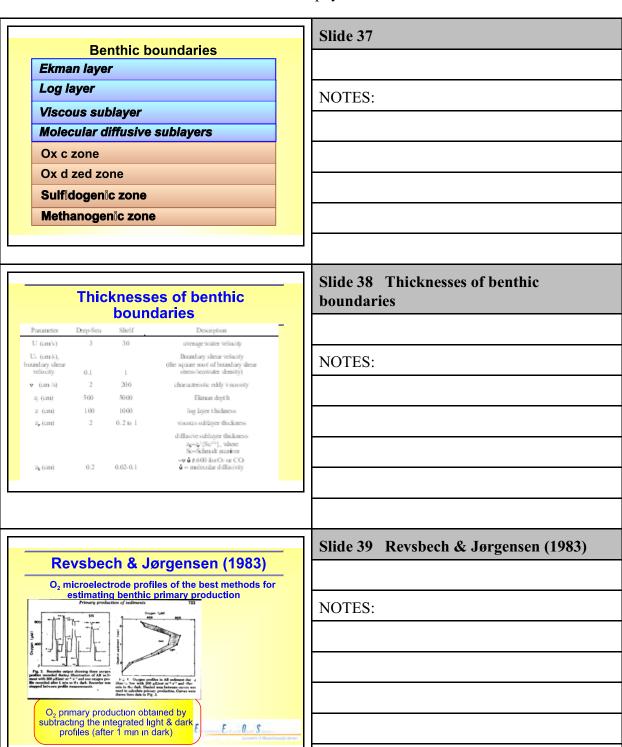
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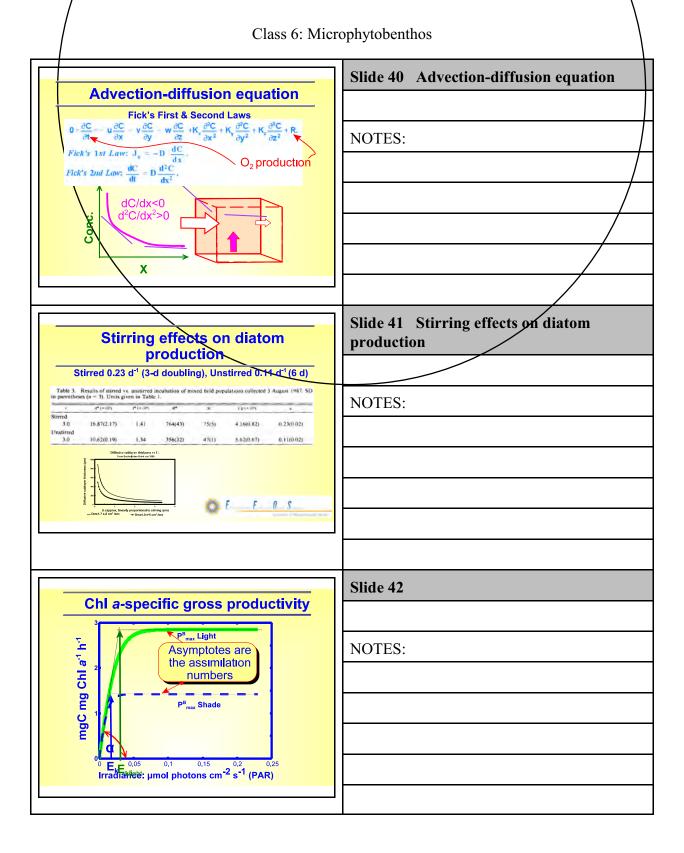
Slide 28 O2 vs. 14C O₂ vs. ¹⁴C NOTES: O, method measures O, production, = measuring 1 + 2. ¹¹C method measures only 1 if only filtered POC is counted. ■ In theory, the O₂ method can estimate gross and net production ► Increase in light bottle is net ▶ Dark bottle decrease is respiration ► Light-dark = gross production ■ The ¹⁴C activity of dissolved organic matter should be determined Slide 29 O2 flux used to measure O₂ flux used to measure Stellwagen Bank Stellwagen Bank microphytobenthic microphytobenthic production production Cahoon et al. 1993 Figure 1 & Conclusion The importance of benthic microalgal production at The importance of centum microaligal production at Stellwagen Bank derives from the appearent ability of the distinctly benduic microaligal assemblage there to sustain significant production at light levels consistently below 1% surface incident PPFD. It this ability is common, ben-thic microaligae may be widely distributed in continental shelf habilities. Benthic habitats underlying clearer, less NOTES: productive water columns than at Stellwagen Bank may support relatively higher benthic microaligal produc-tion. Benthic microaligal production may therefore be a significant: if infrequently considered, fraction of total production in continental shelf ecosyste ECOS630 Slide 30 Sub-aerial production **Sub-aerial production** Whitney & Darley's surveys of Georgia Salt marshes NOTES: Georgia salt marshes Highest benthic diatom production ever measured! diffusive sublayer thickness < 10 µm

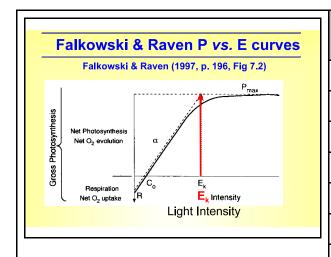
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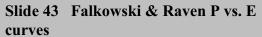




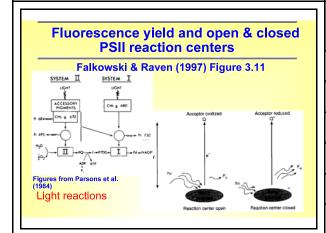






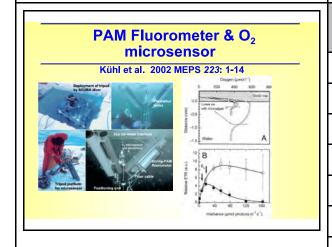


NOTES:



Slide 44 Fluorescence yield and open & closed PSII reaction centers

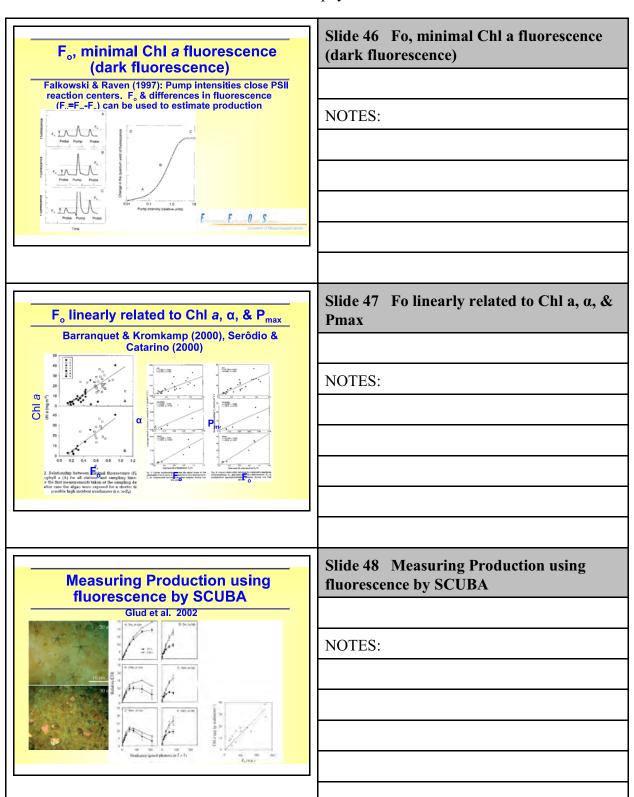
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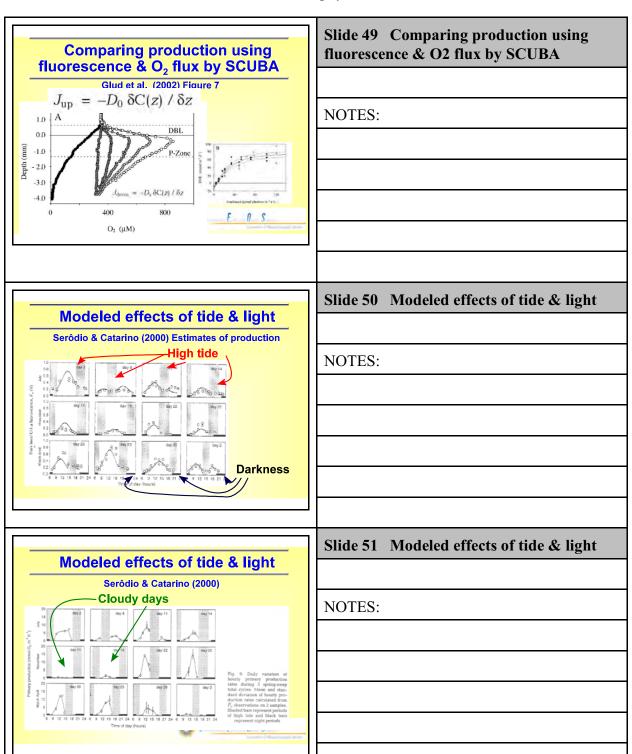


Slide 45 PAM Fluorometer & O2 microsensor

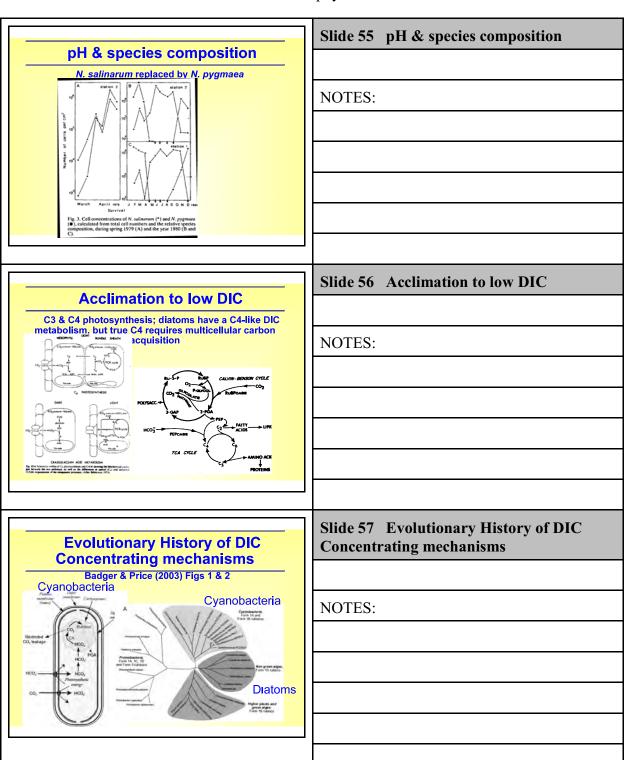
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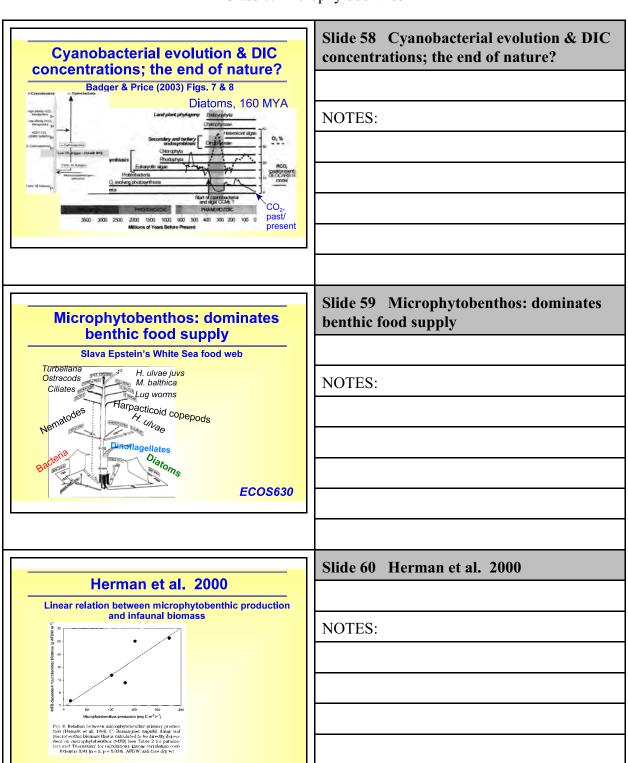


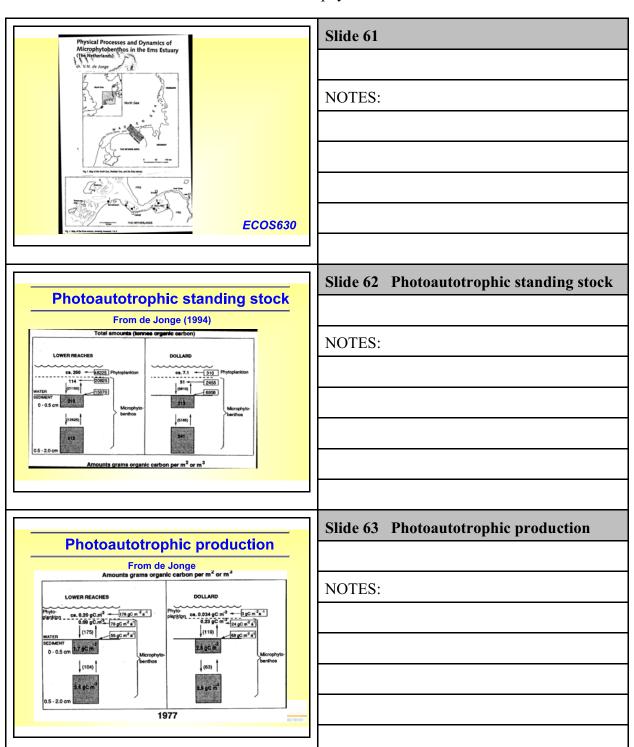




	Slide 52 Rates of diatom production
Rates of diatom production Epipelic: about 100-200 gCm ⁻² y ⁻¹	
Loadion/Source Technique Com*/lyn* Author	NOTES:
Control and parametric Control and paramet	
Laminuria (Form Scolia)	
	Slide 53 What limits benthic production?
What limits benthic production? Light in winter, DIC in summer	
Production limited by light in winterProduction may be limited by inorganic	NOTES:
carbon in North temperate mudflats throughout the remainder of the vear	
Tomas Marine	
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DIC limitation in diatoms mats	Slide 54 DIC limitation in diatoms mats
pH from Terry & Edyvean (1981)	
- t	NOTES:
Figure 1. Time-concer of pil classic occurring sades a spand casional distance culture. If nom Turry and Engineer (RE)	
inner to any	







Microphytobenthos & phytoplankton • Ems Dollard • Microphytobenthic production 60-250 mgC m⁻² d⁻¹ • 30% of phytoplankton are resuspended microphytobenthos • Dollard (about 1 m deep) • 92% of Chl a from microphytobenthos • Production • 25% of total production from resuspended benthic diatoms • 53% from true phytoplankton • 22% from tidal flat production

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