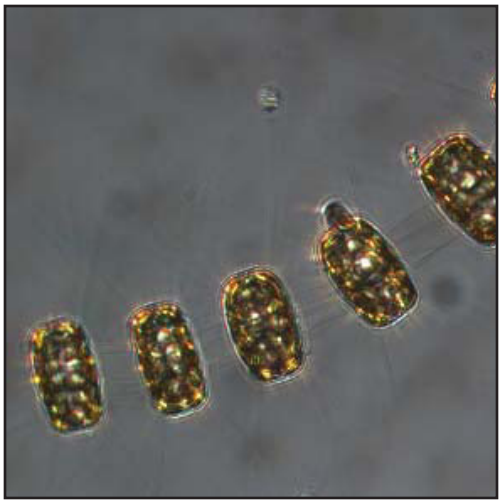
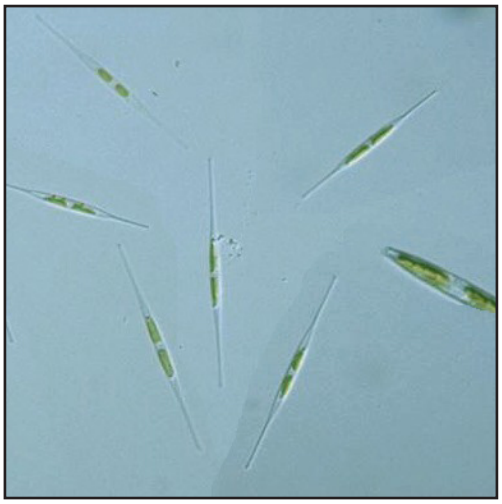
Phytoplankton Identification Sheet



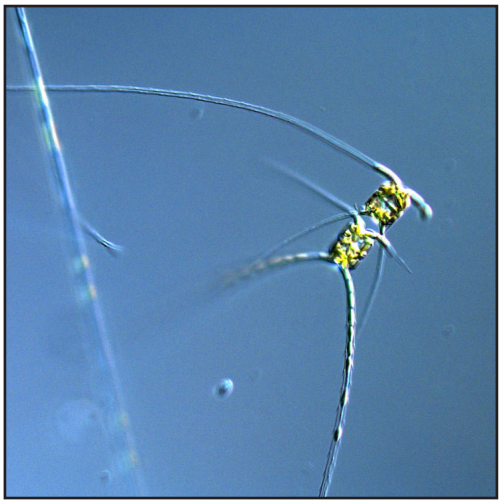
Thalassiosira rotula

Ditylum brightwellii

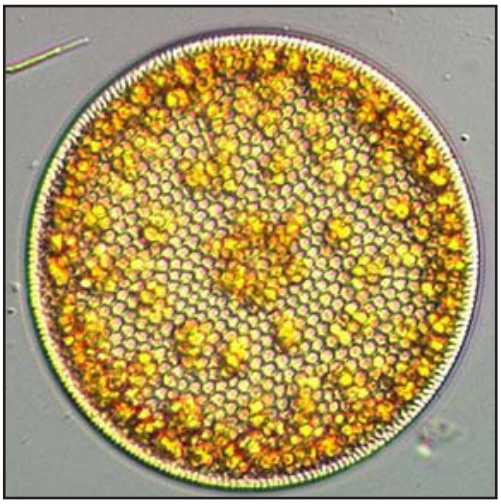
Odontella longicuris



Pseudo-nitzschia delicatissima

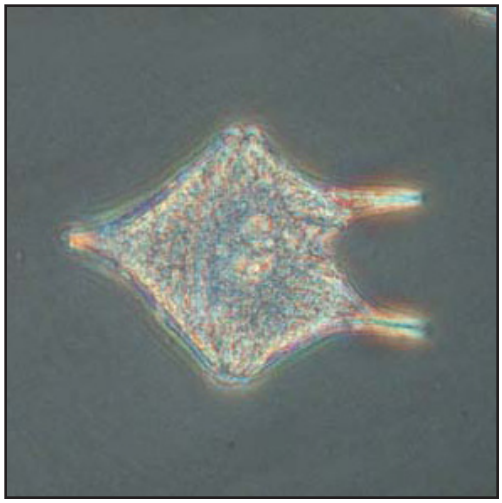


Chaetoceros concavicornus

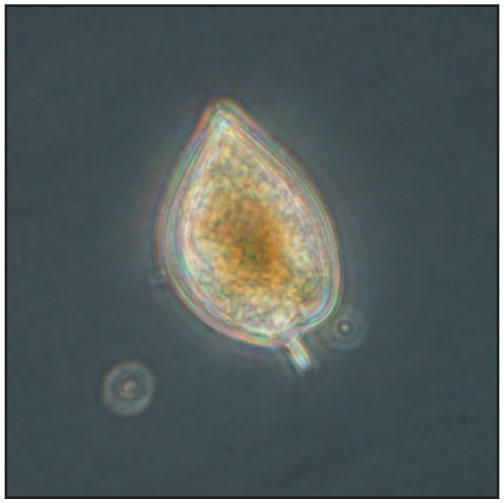


Coscinidiscus centralis

Alexandrium catenella

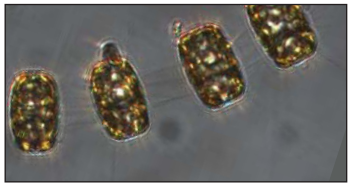


Protoperidinium oceanicum

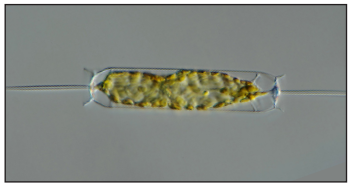


Prorocentrum micans

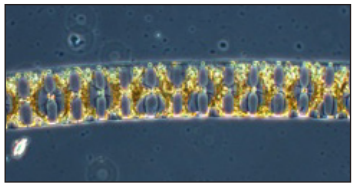
Phytoplankton Identification Sheet



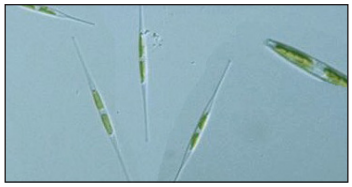
Name: ***Thalassiosira rotula*** (centric diatom)
Sounds like: Thal ass ee ah CY ra row two la
Looks like: fat coins on a string
Non toxic



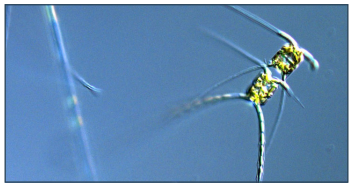
Name: ***Ditylum brightwellii*** (pennate diatom)
Sounds like: DIT ill um brite well ee eye
Looks like: a rectangle with a stick coming out each end
Non toxic



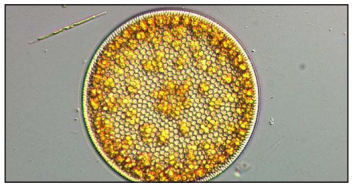
Name: ***Odontella longicuris*** (centric diatom)
Sounds like: Oh don tell a lon gee kur iss
Looks like: a train of boxcars
Non toxic



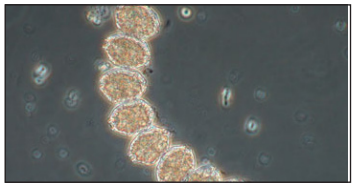
Name: ***Pseudo-nitzschia delicatissima*** (pennate diatom)
Sounds like: Sue doe NITZSCH ee a deli ka tiss ee ma
Looks like: thin needles that are a bit thicker in the middle
Toxic (Domoic Acid)



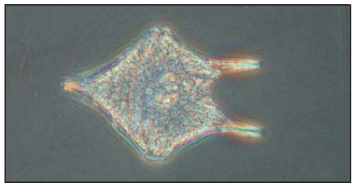
Name: ***Chaetoceros concavicornus*** (centric diatom)
Sounds like: Key TOSS er us con cav eh corn us
Looks like: a square with a long spine at each corner
Non toxic



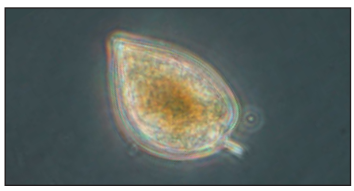
Name: ***Coscinidiscus centralis*** (centric diatom)
Sounds like: KOS sin oh disk us sin tra lis
Looks like: a big round disk
Non toxic



Name: ***Alexandrium catenella*** (thecate dinoflagellate)
Sounds like: Aleks AN dree um cat in el ah
Looks like: a slightly oblong ball with 2 grooves and 2 flagella (thin tails)
Toxic (Saxitoxin)



Name: ***Protoperidinium oceanicum*** (thecate dinoflagellate)
Sounds like: Pro toe pear a DIN ee um oh see an ick um
Looks like: ball with a single point on one end and two points on the other
Non toxic



Name: ***Prorocentrum micans*** (thecate dinoflagellate)
Sounds like: Pro row sent rum my cans
Looks like: a slightly oblong ball with one slightly pointy end
Non toxic