Table 1. Absorption characteristics of chlorophyll, bacteriochlorophyll and their colored biosynthetic precursors (adapted from Larkum, 1991)

Pigment	λ [nm] (ε [mM^{-1} cm^{-1}]) *							Reference
Uroporphyrin III	406 (215)	502 (16)	536 (9)	572 (7)		627 (4)		KM Smith, 1975
Protoporphyrin IX	404 (158)	503 (15)	536 (12)	576 (7)	605 (2)	633 (7)		KM Smith, 1975
Mg-protoporphyrin monomethyl ester	419 (100)	510 (1)	553 (6)	591 (6)				Jones, 1963
Mg-3,8-divinyl pheoporphyrin a_5 monomethyl ester	437 (10)		574 (0.5)		624 (1)			Jones, 1963
Protochlorophyll *a*	432 (102)	438 (137)	533 (4)	570 (8)	602 (7)	622 (22)		Houssier and Sauer, 1970
Chlorophyll *a*	410 (85)	430 (118)	530 (3)	578 (8)	615 (13)	662 (90)		Houssier and Sauer, 1970
Chlorophyll *b*	430 (63)	455 (175)	549 (7)		595 (13)	644 (62)		JHC Smith and Benitez, 1966
Chlorophyll *c* (combined)		447 (227)		580 (21)		628 (51)		JHC Smith and Benitez, 1966
Chlorophyll *d*	399 (81)	455 (80)	550 (7)	595 (9)		698 (88)		JHC Smith and Benitez, 1966
Bacteriochlorophyll *g**	408 (100)	418 (95)	470 (27)	575 (21)			763 (51)	Brockman and Lipinski, 1883
Bacteriochlorophyll *a*	357 (73)	392 (47)		573 (22)			770 (96)	Houssier and Sauer, 1970
Bacteriochlorophyll *b*	368 (86)	408 (77)		578 (26)			794 (106)	JHCSmith and Benitez, 1966

Absorptivity (ε) values are listed beneath the appropriate wavelengths (λ) for the pigments. Solvents, in general, diethylether; dioxane for BChl *g* and chloroform for uroporphyrin.
*For BChl g the values in parenthesis are $\varepsilon/\varepsilon_{max}$ (%)