

**Table I.** Minimum reported DNA content, and fraction of cell fresh and dry weight accounted for by DNA, in spherical prokaryotes and eukaryotes of 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and 5.0  $\mu\text{m}$  radius

	Prokaryotic cell of radius		Eukaryotic cell of radius	
	0.5 $\mu\text{m}$	5.0 $\mu\text{m}$	0.5 $\mu\text{m}$	5.0 $\mu\text{m}$
Minimum reported DNA content (fg cell <sup>-1</sup> )	2.1	2.1	15	15
Minimum reported DNA content as fraction of cell fresh weight <sup>a</sup>	0.004	$4 \times 10^{-6}$	0.030	$3 \times 10^{-5}$
Minimum reported DNA content as fraction of cell dry weight <sup>b</sup>	0.016	$1.6 \times 10^{-5}$	0.12	$1.2 \times 10^{-4}$

<sup>a</sup>From cell volume, assuming density = 1 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>.

<sup>b</sup>From cell fresh weight, assuming dry weight = 0.25 of fresh weight.