

Table 1. Published estimates of cellular carbon content of *Prochlorococcus* sp.

Reference	fg C cell <sup>-1</sup>	Analytical method
Cailliau et al. 1996	49 ± 9	POC, non-axenic cultures, corrected for presence of contaminating bacteria*
Campbell et al. 1994	53	Average cell size assumed (0.6 μm diameter), volume to carbon conversion (470 fg C μm <sup>-3</sup> )
Claustre et al. 2002	17–38	POC, axenic culture (high irradiance)
Durand et al. 2001	54	Cell size determination and volume to carbon conversion (325 fg C μm <sup>-3</sup> )†
Li et al. 1992	59	Average cell size assumed (0.8 μm diameter), volume to carbon conversion (220 fg C μm <sup>-3</sup> )
Moore 1997	61–94	Primary production estimates*
Shaw 2001	78	Dry weight determination and assumed carbon content of 50% in biomass*
Veldhuis and Kraay 1990	124	Average cell size assumed (0.6 μm diameter), volume to carbon conversion
This work	46–61	Particulate carbon, exponentially growing or P-limited axenic cultures*

\* Analysis based on cultures of *Prochlorococcus* MED4.

† Flowcytometric analysis of volume.