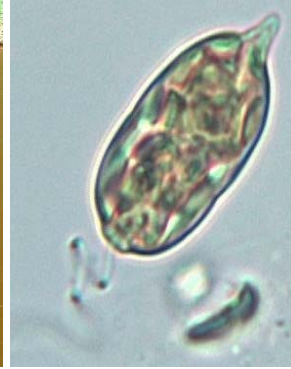


## ALGAL INFORMATION SHEET

### North Carolina Division of Water Quality



*Euglenoid (Euglena) bloom*



*Euglena*

**ALGAL GROUP:** Euglenophyta  
**COMMON NAME:** Euglenoids

**DESCRIPTION:** Euglenoids are solitary cells that move about using a single whip-like tail. Some euglenoids are flexible and frequently change shape. Others are rigid and do not change shape. Some forms of euglenoids have a hard glass shell called a lorica.

**HABITAT:** Euglenoids can be found in fresh, estuarine and marine waters. However, they can also be found in moist soil or mud. Euglenoids are most common in slow moving or still waters with high nutrient concentrations. Blooms are most likely to occur during summer in freshwater ponds and ditches that receive nutrient-rich waste or runoff.

**SIGNIFICANCE:** Euglenoid blooms may color the water green, reddish brown, or red. Sometime these blooms look like spilled paint. Blooms are not toxic and should not be confused with coastal marine red tides. Many species of euglenoids are considered indicators of organic water pollution.

### REFERENCE & RESOURCES

General information

[www.dlwc.nsw.gov.au/care/wetlands/facts/paa/algae/#KeytoBlooms](http://www.dlwc.nsw.gov.au/care/wetlands/facts/paa/algae/#KeytoBlooms)

Wehr, J.D. and R.G. Sheath (Eds). 2003. Freshwater algae of North America: ecology and classification. Academic Press, San Diego, CA.