

PRIMARY PRODUCTIVITY

Types of primary producers include:

- blue-green algae (cyanobacteria)
- microscopic algae
- larger plants like:
 - mosses and liverworts (bryophytes)
 - ferns
 - flowering plants

Primary producers are the foundation of an ecosystem. Primary productivity refers to the conversion of energy into organic materials by two types of primary producers called...

PHOTOAUTOTROPHS

acquire energy and nutrients by harnessing sunlight (photosynthesis)

e.g. trees & grass

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CHEMOAUTOTROPHS

obtain chemical energy through oxidation.

e.g. blue-green algae

These two produce organic material to feed themselves and to sustain the rest of the food chain - the next in line being the primary consumers.

Primary producers live in all aquatic habitats where there are enough resources including sunlight, nutrients and gases for photosynthesis.

Managing water for the environment is a collective and collaborative effort, working in partnership with communities, private landholders, scientists and government agencies - these contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we live, work and play. We also pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.