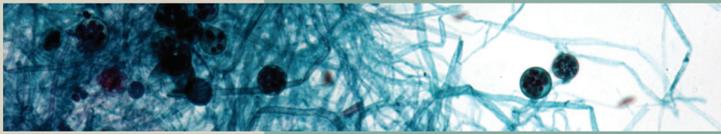
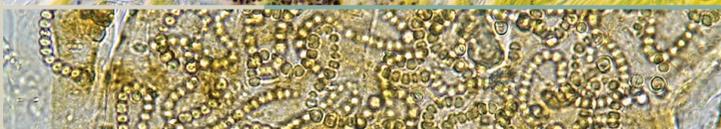
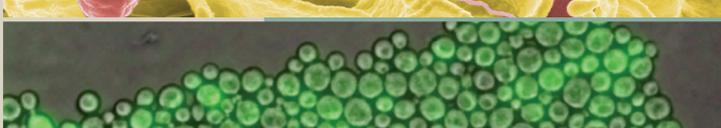
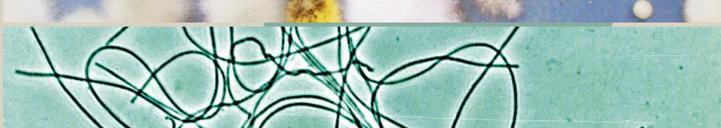
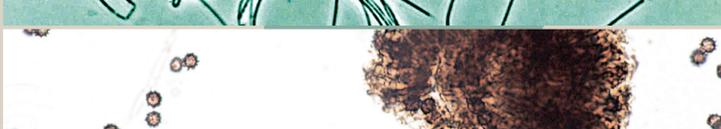


Microbial Response to Water

Water Activity a_w		
0.9996		Zoospore movement ceases
0.9990		Motility of bacteria ceases
0.9949		Mean minimum to support bacterial growth
0.9891		Lower limit of plant available water
0.9869		Microcoleus growth Inhibited
0.9798		Microcoleus photosynthesis inhibited
0.9698		Nitrification and sulphur oxidation cease
0.9642		Bacterial respiration ceases
0.9500		Pseudomonas etc. inhibited
0.9100		Salmonella, some molds inhibited
0.8700		Many yeasts inhibited
0.8000		Most molds inhibited
0.7500		Most halophitic bacteria inhibited
0.6500		Xerophilic molds inhibited
0.6000		All microbial proliferation ceases

The biological limits are taken from L.R. Beuchat, Cereal Foods World, 26:345 (1981) and M. Potts, Microbiological Reviews, 58:768 (1994).