

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
<i>Preface</i>	<i>ix</i>
1 What is phytoplankton?	1
Terminology	1
Planktonic organisms	4
Planktonic 'algae'	8
General features of planktonic 'algae'	8
The composition of planktonic 'algae'	28
2 Mechanisms of suspension	40
The problem of suspension	40
The nature of water movements	41
Particle behaviour in turbulent columns	48
Phytoplankton settling velocities	50
Adaptive mechanisms for depressing v'	52
Vital regulation of sinking rate	77
Conclusions	81
3 Spatial and temporal distribution of phytoplankton	83
Distribution patterns: the problem of scale	83
Vertical distribution	87
Horizontal distribution	105
Temporal variations in abundance and composition of phytoplankton	112
Intra-assemblage structure and competition	120
4 Photosynthetic activity of phytoplankton	123
General features of planktonic photosynthesis	123
Photosynthetic behaviour in isolated samples of natural phytoplankton	126
Photosynthetic behaviour in non-isolated natural communities	137

5	Nutrients	157
	Nutrient requirements of phytoplankton	157
	Phosphorus	162
	Nitrogen	164
	Silicon	168
	Other nutrients	173
	Nutrient interactions	178
	Eutrophication	183
6	Growth and survival	192
	Optimal growth rates	193
	Increase in natural waters	202
	Perennation	217
	Growth and survival strategies	221
7	Loss processes	225
	What is a loss process?	225
	Hydraulic washout	228
	Sedimentation losses	233
	Death and decomposition	245
	Grazing	253
	Loss processes and phytoplankton composition	274
8	Periodicity and change in phytoplankton composition	277
	Seasonal periodicity of phytoplankton	279
	Longer-term floristic changes	321
	<i>Glossary of symbols</i>	329
	<i>References</i>	333
	<i>Index to lakes and rivers</i>	367
	<i>Index to genera/species</i>	369
	<i>General index</i>	374