

# Multifunctional Characteristics and Its Application of *Euglena* Cells

Yoshihisa Nakano

Department of Agricultural Chemistry, University of Osaka Prefecture  
1-1, Gakuen-cho, Sakai-shi, Osaka 593, Japan

## Summary

*Euglena gracilis* is an eukaryotic microorganism which grows photoautotrophically and heterotrophically and the obvious animal-like characteristics as well as the obvious plant-like characteristics of member of the genus *Euglena* make it the object of research in many laboratories.

Some biochemists and physiologists have studied the development of chloroplast and photosynthetic mechanism in *Euglena*, in comparison with the ones in higher plants, while some laboratories have studied the function of subcellular particles and the cell components of *Euglena* by comparing with the function of higher animal cells. On the basis of such results, I would describe the application as the food sources and functional materials of *Euglena* cells.