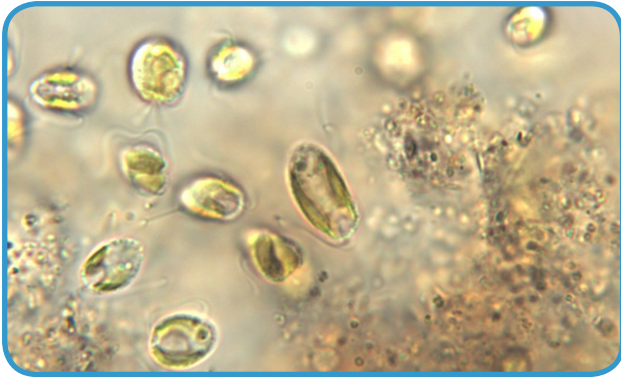


fact sheet



Chrysochromulina typically causes odors.



Dinobryon filaments



Synura uvella

Algal group:
Chrysophytes

Description:

Chrysophytes can range in color from golden to yellow-green. Most are found as single cells or in colonies. Some types, such as *Dinobryon*, form filaments by attaching individual cells to one another.

Habitat:

A thriving lake community of chrysophytes often signals relatively clean water. They are most abundant in the cool months of early spring and fall. In habitats where phosphorous is limited, they can dominate other types of algae due to their ability to out compete for this resource. Chrysophytes are found worldwide in freshwater lakes or ponds with low to moderate plant growth, low alkalinity, and a pH of 6-7. Species are found throughout North Carolina but are rarely abundant.

Significance:

There are a few species within the group that can cause the water to have taste and odor problems. The most potent are species of the genus *Synura*, which can cause an odor of cucumber or muskmelon and a bitter taste even in small quantities. In large quantities they may cause a foul fishy odor. While the tastes and odors produced by these algae are not considered harmful, they can be a nuisance. Water filters help to improve the taste of drinking water affected by these algae.