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***COURSE TITLE***: **GENERAL BIOLOGY**

***ANSWERS***

1. Cryptogamae and Phanerogamae.
2. They capture more of the sun’s energy and produces more oxygen.

They form the foundation of most aquatic food webs which support an abundance of animals.

They are widely used in the food industry as stabilisers, thickeners and gelling agents.

The large brown and red algae are used as organic fertilizers.

1. Unicellular algae are plant-like autotrophs and contain chlorophyll. They include groups that have both multicellular and unicellular species:

* **Euglenophyta**: Are flagellated, mostly unicellular algae that occur often mostly in fresh water.
* **Chlorophyta (green algae)**: mostly unicellular algae found in fresh water.
* **Diatoms**: unicellular algae that have siliceous cell walls. Often found in the ocean as well as in fresh water.
* **Dinoflagellates**: unicellular flagellated algae, with some that are armoured with cellulose.

1. The algae reproduces by vegetative, asexual and sexual methods. Vegetative reproduction is by fragmentation. Asexual reproduction is by the production of different types of spores. Sexual reproduction takes place through fusion of two gametes.
2. Volvox and Synura.

* Volvox is large and elaborately interconnected.
* Synura is smaller and relatively simple

1. **Seaweed:** Seaweed is the common name for countless species of marine plants and algae that grow in the ocean as well as in rivers, lakes and other water bodies.Some seaweeds are microscopic such as phytoplankton, some are enormous, such as the giant kelp that grow in abundant “forests” and tower like underwater redwoods from their roots at the bottom of the sea. Most are medium sized, come in colors of red, green, brown and black. They typically contain high amounts of fiber, minerals and vitamins and can be tasty. Most edible seaweeds are marine algae while most freshwater algae are toxic. Many seaweeds contain anti-inflammatory and anti-microbial agents. They are used in manufacturing of many products and are also used as effective binding agents in such commercial goods as toothpaste and fruit jelly and popular softeners in organic cosmetics and skin-care products.