



AQUATIC ECOLOGY 6

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Secondary production

- It means the assimilation of organic material and building of tissue by heterotrophs
- Secondary production is also expressed as a rate of biomass production

- Plant or animal tissue will accumulate over time in a productive environment

- Estimates of biomass and production can be applied at various spatial scales,
- Examples of fish.....
- Plants.....

- High biomass does not necessarily imply high production.
- The biomass of plankton in a waterbody may be low, but the plankton population may replace itself relatively quickly

- Populations of large, long-lived fish represent a much greater biomass than the plankton
- The production rate of large fish may be much lower.



