Additional input of plant nutrients into water can bring about excessive growth of water weeds (phytobenthon), free-floating plant organisms (phytoplankton) and higher plant forms (macrophytes). This does not only represent a change in the stock of a species, but also in the balance between species. Due to the increased generation of biomass and the consequently heavier sedimentation of dead organic material, **the oxygen dissolved in deep water is consumed faster, through aerobic decomposition. This can lead to serious damage in the biological populations inhabiting the sediment. In addition to this, direct toxic effects on higher organisms, including humans must be taken into account when certain species of algae appear in mass.**

***Equivalence factors suggested by CML (University of Leiden, 1992) are generally used in LCA.***

