

Major Groups of Microorganisms

1. Bacteria

2. Viruses

3. Fungi

4. Protozoa

5. Algae

Bacteria

Size:

- Most bacteria range from 0.2–5.0 μm (micrometers) in α

Important Characteristics:

- Prokaryotic
- Unicellular
- Simple Internal structure
- Grow on artificial laboratory media
- Reproduction asexual (mostly simple cell division, binary fission)

Practical significance:

- Some cause diseases
- Some perform role in natural cycling of elements and increase soil fertility
- Manufacture of valuable compounds in Industry.

Examples: E. Coli, Salmonella typhi, Vibrio cholera, Staphylococcus aureus, Bacillus anthracis, Clostridium tetani, etc

