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TOP > **Available Issues** > **Table of Contents** > **Abstract**

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[PDF (225K)] [References]

Liquid Fuel Production Using Microalgae

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Recently, biomass has attracted much attention as a renewable energy resource. Microalgae are particularly promising biomass species because of the high growth rate and high CO_2 fixation ability compared to plants. Effective liquid fuel production from microalgae was studied using *Botryococcus braunii* and *Dunaliella tertiolecta*, which accumulated terpenoid hydrocarbon and glycerol, respectively. *B. braunii* could remove nitrogen and phosphorus from secondarily treated sewage (STS) in a batch system and a continuous bioreactor system with hydrocarbon production. The intracellular glycerol content could be controlled by post-translational modifications in *D. tertiolecta*. *B. braunii* is more profitable for liquid fuel production than *D. tertiolecta* based on calculating the energy balance.

Keywords: Biomass, *Botryococcus braunii*, *Dunaliella tertiolecta*, Energy balance, Liquid fuel production, Microalgae



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