Splendid Spirulina

Modified after Mark Barnett’s “Ode to a Microbe”¹, by Lai Peng & Siegfried E. Vlaeminck

Research Group of Sustainable Energy, Air and Water Technology (DuEL), Department of Bioscience Engineering, University of Antwerp, Groenenborgerlaan 171, 2020 Antwerp, Belgium. Contact: Siegfried.Vlaeminck@UAntwerpen.be

Microbe, microbe, spiraled your body be, Green-blue in color, tropical water lover, Thriving in conditions of alkalinity².

Stone’s excrement by Aztecs²,³, in Africa, Dihe²,⁴ From domain Bacteria to genus Arthospira, Nutritious, proteinaceous, rich in phytochemistry.

Zarrouk, nitrified urine⁵ nor struvite do confound⁶. Oxygen producer, CO₂ reducer, Energy efficient, water conserving, no loss of ground.

“Super food,” says FAO⁷; considered excellent by ESA⁸. Whether desert locations or outer Space stations, Count on these filamentous helical cyanobacteria.

Research is just beginning; there is much more to explore. Anti-viral, anti-cancer, slow-release fertilizer⁹, Feeding humans and animals, health and wellness galore¹⁰!

References: