

Figure S1. Phylogenetic tree of *Nephroselmis* sp. N3C46 based on 18S rRNA sequences

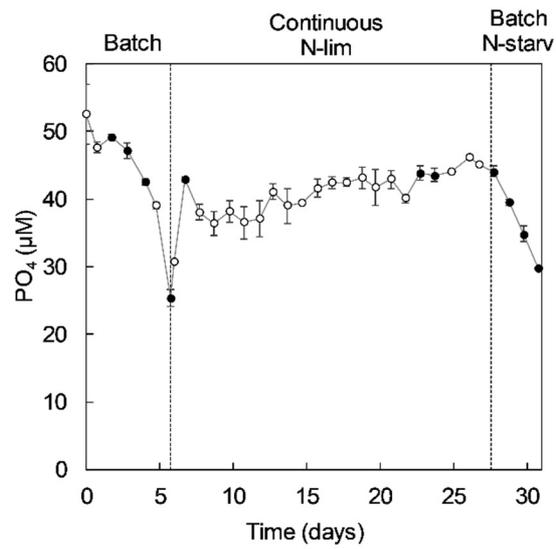


Figure S2. Residual phosphate concentration (μM) in the medium over time of *Nephroselmis* sp. cultures in PBRs in batch and continuous mode. Black dots represent sample collection for antioxidant activity measure and carotenoids analysis. Data are expressed as mean \pm standard error (SE, $n = 2$).

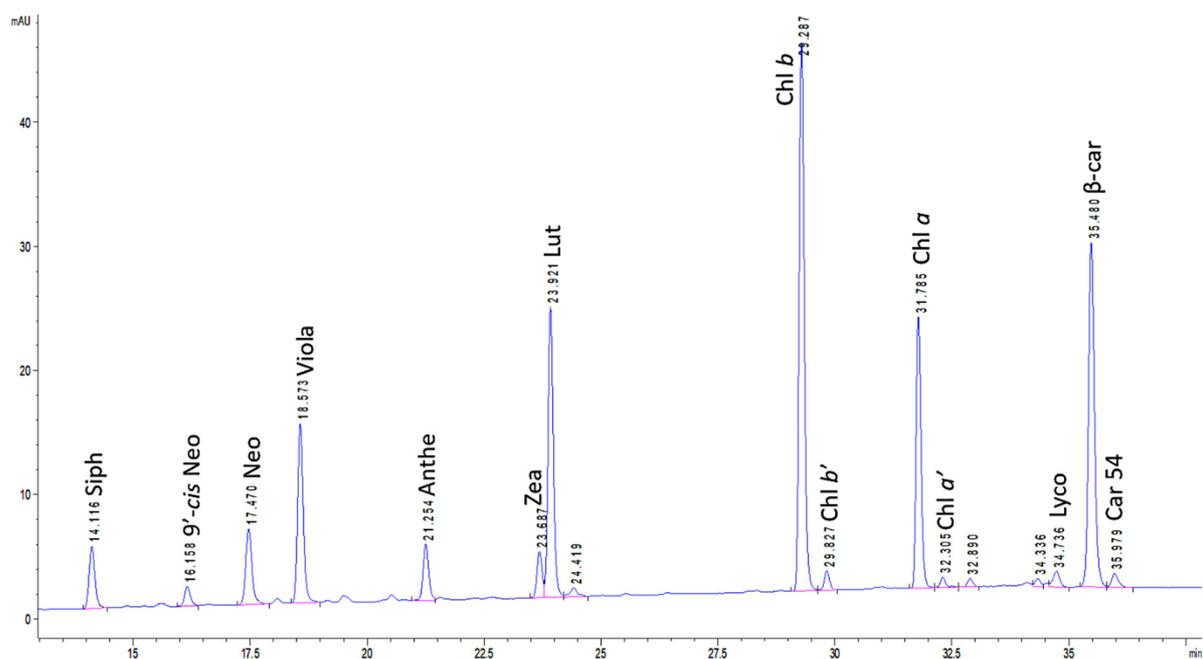


Figure S3. HPLC chromatogram at 450 nm of ethanol extract of *Nephroselmis* sp.. Siph, siphonaxanthin; Neo, neoxanthin; Viola, violaxanthin; Anthe, antheraxanthin; Zea, zeaxanthin; Lut, lutein; Chl, chlorophyll; Lyco, lycopene; β -car, β -carotene; Car 54, unidentified carotenoid (see Serive et al. [103] for UV-vis spectrum of Car 54 in HPLC system)

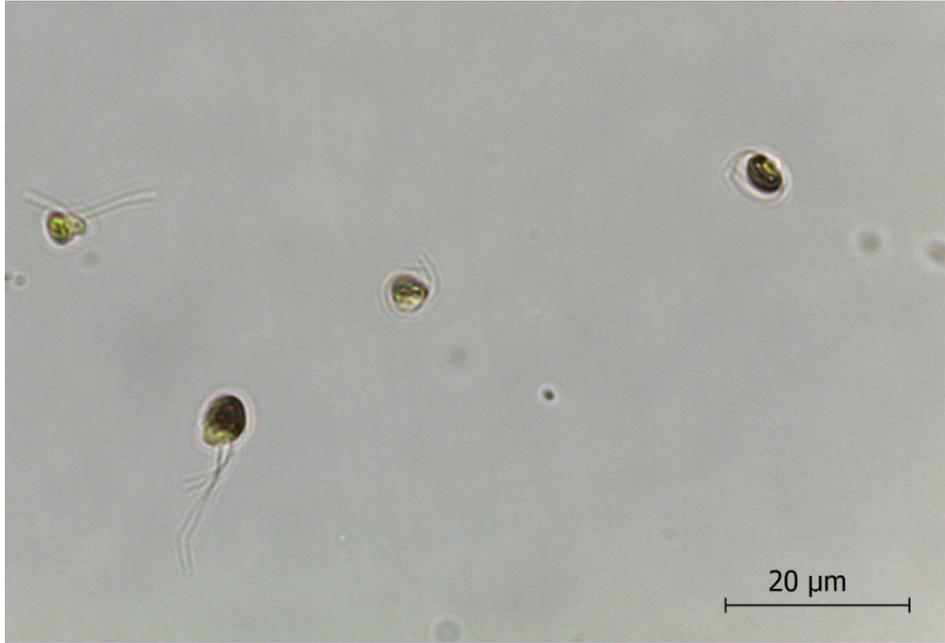


Figure S4. Microphotography of *Nephroselmis* sp.

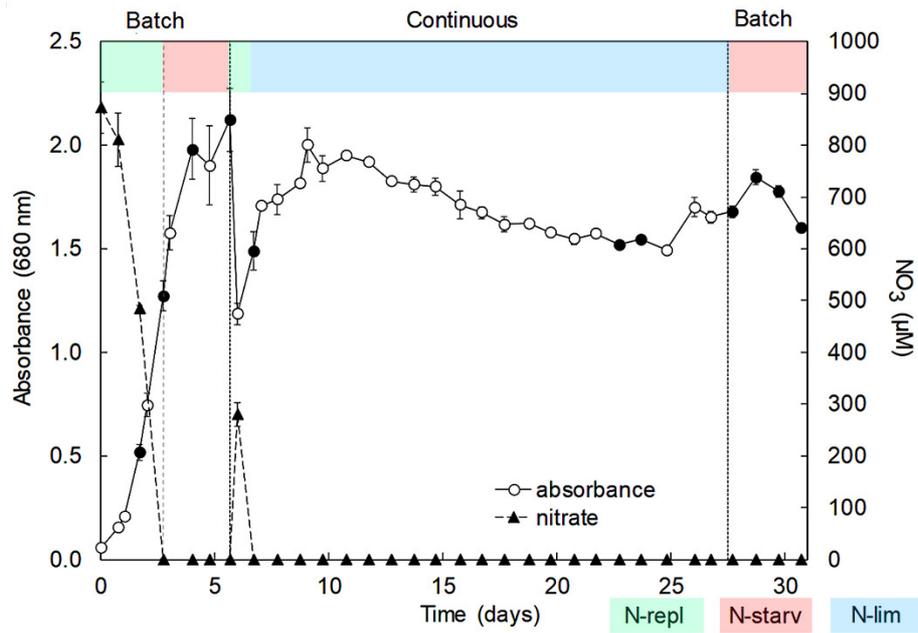


Figure S5. Absorbance at 680 nm and residual nitrate concentration (μM) over time of *Nephroselmis* sp. cultures in PBRs in batch and continuous mode. Black dots represent sample collection for antioxidant activity and carotenoids analysis. Data are expressed as mean \pm standard error (SE, $n = 2$).

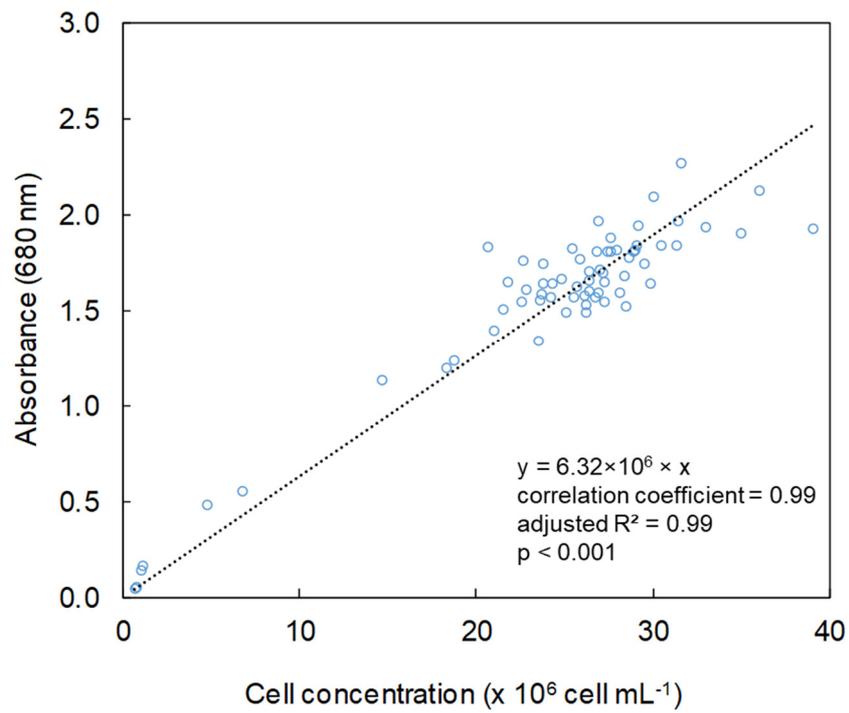


Figure S6. Pearson's correlation analysis between cell concentration in cell mL⁻¹ and light absorbance at 680 nm

Table S1. Pigment composition of *Nephroselmis* sp. (mg g⁻¹ DW) at different time of the culture. Siph, siphonaxanthin; Neo, neoxanthin (*trans* and *cis*); XCP, Xanthophyll Cycle Pigments (violaxanthin + antheraxanthin + zeaxanthin); Lut, lutein; Lyco, lycopene; β -Car, β -carotene; TC, total carotenoids; Chl *a*, chlorophyll *a*; Chl *b*, chlorophyll *b*. Data are expressed as mean \pm standard error (SE, n = 2). Different letters indicate statistically significant differences (p<0.05).

| | | Siph | Neo | XCP | Lut | Lyco | β -car | TC | Chl <i>a</i> | Chl <i>b</i> |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Batch | Day 2 | 5.00 \pm 0.80 ^b | 7.35 \pm 1.47 ^b | 9.50 \pm 0.44 ^b | 5.93 \pm 0.10 ^{bc} | 2.93 \pm 0.12 ^{abc} | 11.84 \pm 0.73 ^{ab} | 42.55 \pm 2.99 ^b | 73.75 \pm 11.24 ^b | 79.48 \pm 6.40 ^b |
| | Day 3 | 6.36 \pm 0.33 ^a | 9.58 \pm 0.75 ^a | 12.14 \pm 0.35 ^a | 7.16 \pm 0.06 ^{ab} | 3.32 \pm 0.37 ^a | 12.14 \pm 0.55 ^{ab} | 50.70 \pm 1.34 ^a | 110.15 \pm 3.79 ^a | 102.97 \pm 0.51 ^a |
| | Day 4 | 4.07 \pm 0.32 ^b | 6.08 \pm 0.61 ^b | 9.57 \pm 0.36 ^b | 7.13 \pm 0.21 ^{ab} | 2.99 \pm 0.34 ^{ab} | 11.71 \pm 0.65 ^{ab} | 41.55 \pm 1.64 ^b | 65.57 \pm 2.81 ^{bc} | 64.21 \pm 3.30 ^c |
| | Day 6 | 2.35 \pm 0.22 ^{cd} | 4.04 \pm 0.34 ^c | 7.43 \pm 0.19 ^{cd} | 6.82 \pm 0.24 ^{abc} | 2.48 \pm 0.02 ^{bcd} | 10.63 \pm 0.40 ^{bc} | 33.74 \pm 1.30 ^c | 41.67 \pm 2.18 ^{de} | 44.20 \pm 2.02 ^d |
| Continuous N-lim | N-resupply Day 7 | 4.01 \pm 0.53 ^b | 6.05 \pm 1.12 ^b | 8.60 \pm 0.64 ^{bc} | 7.97 \pm 0.84 ^a | 2.89 \pm 0.17 ^{abc} | 12.89 \pm 1.43 ^a | 42.40 \pm 4.06 ^b | 66.10 \pm 5.93 ^b | 63.94 \pm 6.83 ^c |
| | Steady state Day 23-24 | 2.66 \pm 0.24 ^c | 3.37 \pm 0.47 ^{cd} | 8.08 \pm 0.75 ^{bc} | 5.64 \pm 0.54 ^{bc} | 2.58 \pm 0.28 ^{bc} | 8.86 \pm 0.74 ^c | 31.20 \pm 2.63 ^{cd} | 51.82 \pm 5.43 ^{cd} | 45.92 \pm 3.87 ^d |
| Batch N-starvation | Day 28 | 2.33 \pm 0.07 ^{cd} | 2.94 \pm 0.00 ^{cde} | 7.63 \pm 0.29 ^{cd} | 5.92 \pm 0.36 ^{bc} | 2.70 \pm 0.09 ^{abc} | 9.24 \pm 0.59 ^c | 30.76 \pm 0.05 ^{cd} | 45.66 \pm 2.36 ^d | 41.58 \pm 2.79 ^{de} |
| | Day 29 | 1.32 \pm 0.12 ^{de} | 2.09 \pm 0.06 ^{de} | 6.08 \pm 0.52 ^{de} | 5.33 \pm 0.47 ^c | 2.26 \pm 0.01 ^{cd} | 9.42 \pm 0.54 ^c | 26.51 \pm 0.59 ^d | 29.61 \pm 2.08 ^{ef} | 30.05 \pm 2.20 ^{ef} |
| | Day 30 | 1.05 \pm 0.16 ^e | 1.94 \pm 0.15 ^e | 5.84 \pm 0.77 ^{de} | 5.56 \pm 0.85 ^{bc} | 1.85 \pm 0.23 ^d | 10.61 \pm 0.14 ^{bc} | 26.84 \pm 2.26 ^{cd} | 24.25 \pm 2.70 ^f | 28.07 \pm 2.92 ^f |
| | Day 31 | 0.74 \pm 0.12 ^e | 1.72 \pm 0.25 ^e | 5.24 \pm 0.88 ^e | 5.22 \pm 1.00 ^c | 0.95 \pm 0.16 ^e | 10.85 \pm 0.44 ^{abc} | 24.72 \pm 2.78 ^d | 20.69 \pm 2.93 ^f | 26.03 \pm 2.87 ^f |