

Figure S3:

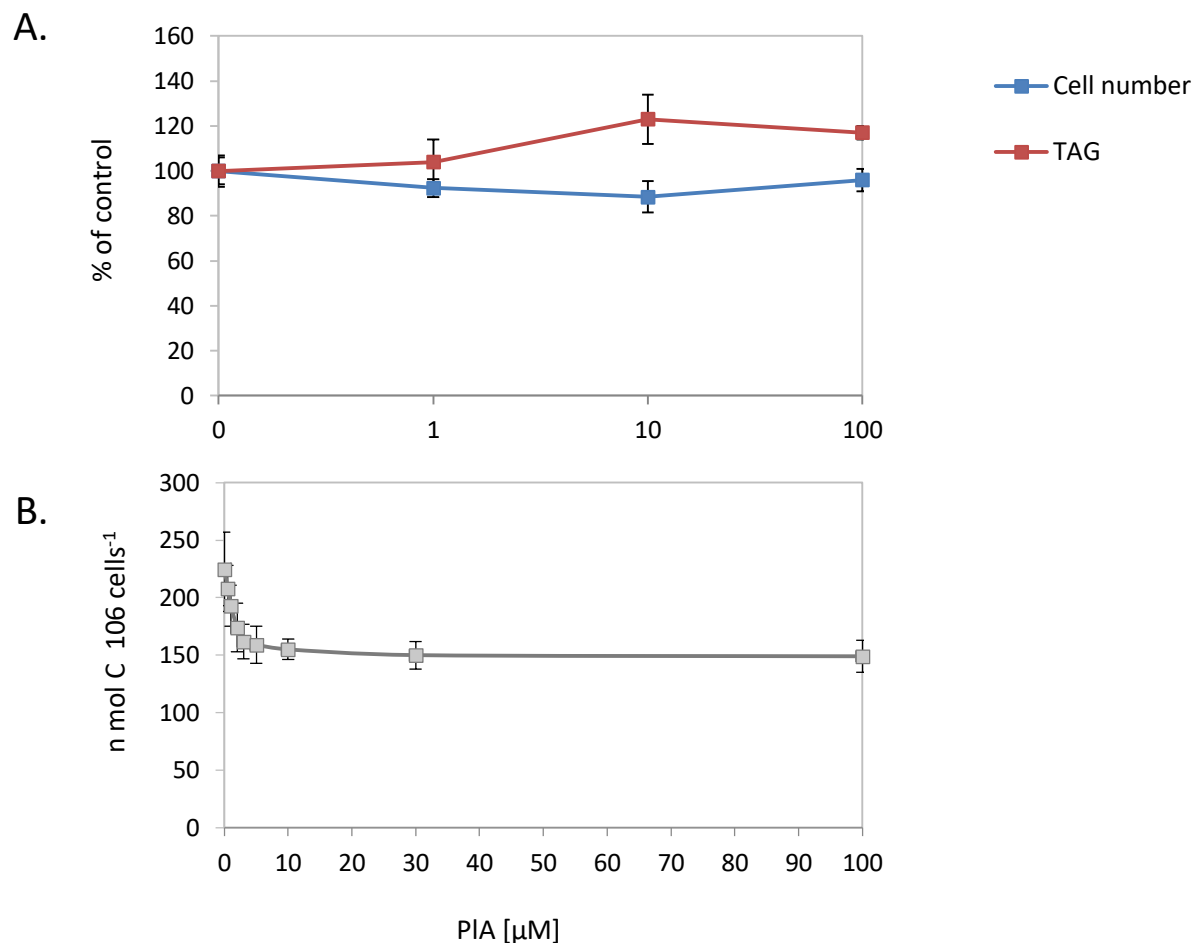


Fig. S3A: Does PIA influence TAG formation in *D. tertiolecta*? *D. tertiolecta* cells were cultured for 4 days in N-deficient media in the absence or presence of the indicated concentrations of PIA. TAG level was measured by the iodine method. Results are expressed as % of control values (- PIA). The control (100%) values represent  $1.3 \times 10^6$  cells<sup>-1</sup>,  $0.75 \pm 0.05$  μg TAG · 10<sup>6</sup> cells<sup>-1</sup>.

Fig. S3B: Competition-dilution of supplemented PIA with internal PIA pools. *D. tertiolecta* cells were cultured for 24 h in complete growth medium in the presence of 50 mM <sup>14</sup>C-bicarbonate and PIA at the indicated concentrations. At the end of the incubation lipids were extracted and the level of incorporation of <sup>14</sup>C into the total lipid fraction was determined. Results are expressed in n mol C 10<sup>6</sup> · cells<sup>-1</sup> and represent 3 independent experiments. PIA - palmitic acid. error bars represent standard deviation.