



The current evolutionary “tree of life,” based on many molecular DNA analyses, shows the genetic relationships among all complex-celled (“eukaryotic”) organisms. Seven Supergroups are highlighted within triangles. Organisms called “algae” (underlined) were thought to be closely related until molecular analyses decades ago showed their different origins; the specific lack of relationship between plants and rockweeds is indicated by arrows. Graphic modified with permission from: Algae (3rd Edition) 2016. L. Graham, J. Graham, L. Wilcox, and M. Cook, L.JLM Press.