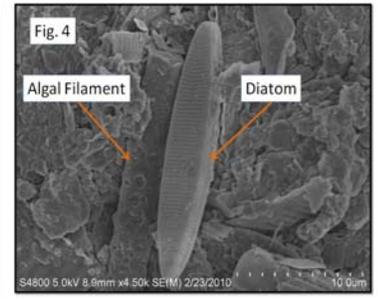




Composted Algae as an Alternative Substrate



Algal Turf Scrubber (ATS) remediates runoff water of nutrients, producing large quantities of algae in the process (Figures 1 and 2). Harvested algae is composted (Figure 3). Electron microscopy reveals that the compost is composed of filamentous algae and diatoms (Figure 4).



Composted algae is currently under study for use as an alternative substrate for ornamental container plant production (Figure 5). Crops under study includes marigold (Figure 6), petunia (Figure 7), and ligustrum (not shown). Data being collected in addition to plant growth and physiology, includes consumer preference surveys (Figure 8).