NIH Image 1.60 - A Cost Effective Image Analysis Software for Undergraduate Biology Laboratories

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NIH Image is a public domain image analysis software originally written by Wayne Rasband at the National Institute of Mental Health. This software allows students to quantify aspects of digitized images captured from a microscope, scanner, video camera or other sources. Area, length and perimeter are all easily calculated with minimal time investment. Additionally, images can be stacked to create time lapse animations.


Initial student responses on the use of this software for independent projects in our introductory course have been positive. We currently have six 7500/275 Power Macs with built-in video capture capabilities which are connected to Scientific FlexCams. These machines were used by 40 lab groups during the Spring 1998 semester. We anticipate the purchase of six more machines with microscope video capture cameras to augment student use.