

## 4. CONCLUSIONS

1. Cadmium ions and cold stress reliably induced cell death, in particular programmed type
2. Programmed cell death was accompanied only by several, but limited, specific morphological changes
3. The occurrence of internucleosomal DNA fragmentation is not a reliable indicator of PCD
4. Particular cell cycle phases yield to 50 $\mu$ M CdSO<sub>4</sub> treatment with a different intensity
5. Different stress conditions induced nuclear malformations, which were however, probably not interrelated to PCD