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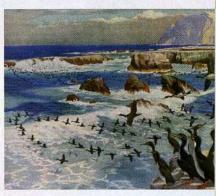
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COVER

False-colored laser confocal fluorescence photomicrograph of *Microcoleus vaginatus* PCC9802 (blue) and *Microcoleus steenstrupii* SON82 (red) (image width: 0.3 millimeters). These two cyanobacterial strains are representative of the most abundant microbes in soil crusts of the arid lands in the western United States. *M. vaginatus* favors cooler climates, whereas *M. steenstrupii* prefers warmer areas. See pages 1533 and 1574.

Image: Estelle Couradeau and Ferran Garcia-Pichel/ W. M. Keck Bioimaging Laboratory, Arizona State University

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J. Zhou et al.

Research Article Summary; for full text: http://dx.doi.org/10.1126/science.1236086

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