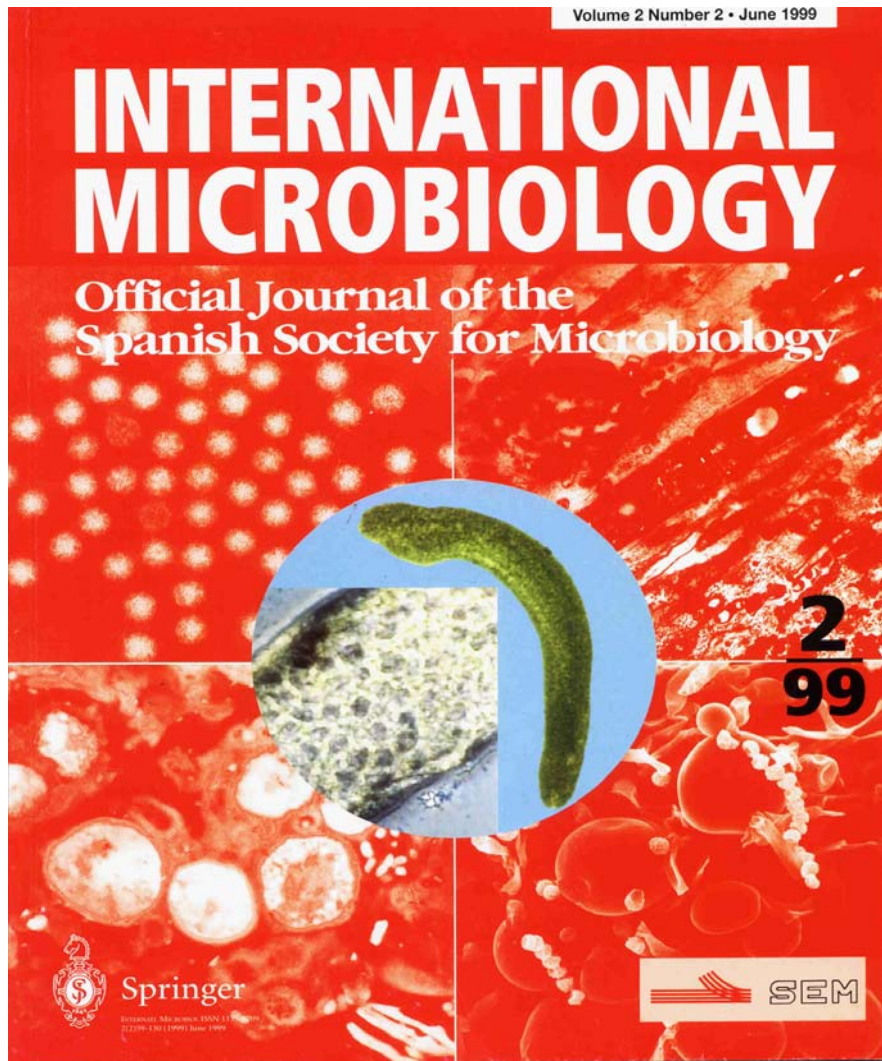


Volume 2 Number 2 · June 1999



### COVER

CENTER. The symbiotic flatworm *Convoluta roscoffensis*, collected by Andrew Wier on the beach at Puerto de Santa María, Cádiz, Spain. The length of the animal is  $2.86 \pm 0.30$  mm ( $n = 10$ ). In the inset can be seen numerous green algal cells, 20–30  $\mu$ m in diameter, the worm's endosymbiotic photosynthetic partner, most likely *Platymonas* sp. Photographs by Andrew Wier and Lynn Margulis, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, USA. On pp. 81–86 of this issue appears an article on “Bacterial symbioses. Predation and mutually beneficial associations”, by I. Esteve and N. Gaju.

Upper left. Human astrovirus serotype 1 isolated in stool from a child with acute gastroenteritis. Serotyping was performed with Oxford astrovirus reference antisera. Immune electron micrograph by Albert Bosch, University of Barcelona, Spain. (Magnification, ca. 200,000 $\times$ )

Upper right. In situ ultrastructure of the prokaryotic complex community of a microbial mat from the Ebro Delta, northeastern Spain, studied in the frame of the European program “Laboratoire Européen Associé (LEA) CNRS-CSIC, Sciences de la mer”. Transmission electron micrograph by Marie-Odile Soyer-Gobillard, Oceanologic Observatory of Banyuls, France. (Magnification, ca. 2,500 $\times$ )

Lower left. Endolithic microbial community formed by algal and fungal cells within sandstone rock of the Ross Desert (Antarctica). Scanning electron microscopy in backscattered electron mode (SEM–BSE) micrograph by Jacek Wierzechos, University of Lleida, and Carmen Ascaso, Environmental Sciences Center, CSIC, Madrid, Spain. (Magnification, ca. 2,800 $\times$ )

Lower right. Hülle cells and conidia of *Emericella varicolor* var. *varicolor* isolated by J. Antonio Leal from leaves of *Prunus laurocerasus*. Micrograph obtained in a Philips XL 20 scanning electron microscope, Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas, CSIC, Madrid, Spain. (Magnification, ca. 1,750 $\times$ )