

# APPLIED AND ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY

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*Cover photograph* (Copyright © 2007, American Society for Microbiology. All Rights Reserved.): Gelatinous biofilms on pebbles of the River Tarn, France. Repeated dog poisonings occurred in 2003 and 2005 at the edge of this river, most likely due to ingestion of benthic neurotoxic cyanobacteria. Sampling of floating scum material, or blackish gelatinous biofilms such as those evident in this photo, permitted Cadel et al. to isolate several axenic strains of filamentous cyanobacteria that were shown to produce anatoxin-a and/or homoanatoxin-a, a class of neurotoxins exclusively synthesized by certain representative photosynthetic prokaryotes. Photo by C. Peyraud-Thomas. (See related article in December 2007: volume 73, issue 23, page 7605.)