

APPLIED AND ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY

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Cover photograph (Copyright © 2008, American Society for Microbiology. All Rights Reserved.): The marine sponge *Ircinia strobilina*, shown in its natural habitat at Conch Reef, Key Largo, Florida, harbors a diverse community of symbiotic bacteria. The bacterial community changes when the sponge is maintained in aquaculture. Image courtesy of Hill Laboratory. (See related article in July 2008, vol. 74, no. 13, p. 4133.)