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Cover photograph:

Scanning electron micrograph, taken by biological oceanographer Marcia M. Gowing of the Institute of Marine Sciences at the University of California–Santa Cruz, of a *Parmelea* cell from a sediment trap deployed at 200 meters in the Ross Sea in December 1995. These siliceous algal cells are about 6 micrometers in diameter (not counting the spines) and were also found in fecal pellets produced by microzooplankton. This work was part of the multidisciplinary Ross Sea Bloom Dynamics Experiment (see pages 125–130) and examined the role of microzooplankton in controlling the production and fate of carbon in diatom vs. *Phaeocystis* blooms. During a month-long cruise aboard the *Nathaniel B. Palmer*, other researchers focused on primary, new, and bacterial production, bacteria and phytoplankton growth, carbon flux from the euphotic zone, and sulfur cycling.

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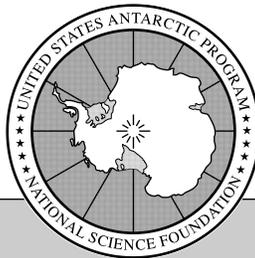
The Antarctic Treaty, which provides the legal framework for the area south of 60°S latitude, reserves the region for peaceful purposes and encourages international cooperation in scientific research. The United States cooperates with other Treaty Nations in research and logistics. By Presidential directive, the National Science Foundation is responsible for budgeting and managing U.S. activities in Antarctica. This effort includes the U.S. Antarctic Research Program, station and research ship operations, Coast Guard icebreaker operations, and the U.S. Navy's Operation Deep Freeze.

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Antarctic Journal of the United States, established in 1966, reports on U.S. activities in Antarctica and related activities elsewhere, and on trends in the U.S. Antarctic Program. The Office of Polar Programs (National Science Foundation; Room 755; 4201 Wilson Boulevard; Arlington, Virginia 22230; telephone: 703/306-1033) publishes the journal.

The *Antarctic Journal* review issue is sold by the copy through the U.S. Government Printing Office. Requests for prices of individual issues, address changes, and information about related matters should be sent to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The Director of the National Science Foundation has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business required by law of this agency.

Although the National Science Foundation attempts internally to make papers published in the *Antarctic Journal* error-free, papers generally are not refereed for scientific content merit.