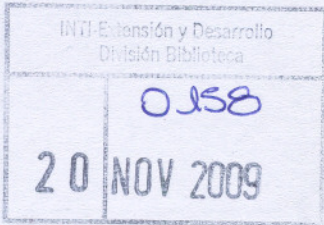


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Cover photograph (Copyright © 2009, American Society for Microbiology. All Rights Reserved.): Composite differential interference contrast micrograph of a freshwater ciliate, algae, and an amoeba. Ciliates are an important component of stream biofilms, acting as predators of bacteria and protozoa and constituting a source of nutrition for organisms at higher trophic levels. According to both microscopy and molecular analysis methods, ciliate communities differ significantly in stream biofilms subject to different human impacts. (See related article in August 2009, vol. 75, no. 16, p. 5261.)

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