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COVER

Suspended material (scanning electron micrograph) collected by filtration of large volumes of Pacific surface waters (40°N, 160°E). Particles are a variety of microscopic marine plants (mostly coccolithophores and some diatoms) and animals. The most abundant coccoliths, 3 to 4 micrometers in diameter with rays, belong to the species Emiliania huxleyi. Hard skeletal parts of biogenic particles fall from surface to deep waters. At all depths, they dominate the suspended phases and their dissolution and attrition, in course of settling, has an important effect on the chemistry of seawater (field of view: about 45 × 50 micrometers). See page 997. [V. G. Shah, Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, India]