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COVER

Oblique aerial photograph of a Louisiana salt marsh dominated by smooth cordgrass, Spartina alterniflora. In the marsh interior, Spartina dieback, characterized by sparse vegetation and open water bodies, is evident. Ecophysiological studies show that roots of highly productive streamside Spartina (adjacent to streambanks) respire aerobically, while that of the inland and dieback sites respire anaerobically. See page 439. [R. Boyd, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803]