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Algal colony (approximately 5 centimeters in length) formed by intertwining chains of diatom cells. The two species of the diatom Rhizosolenia that make up this colony contain intracellular Gram-negative bacteria. These floating aggregations occur in nutrient-poor oceanic waters and have been found to fix nitrogen. See page 152. [James M. King, Marine Science Institute, University of California, Santa Barbara 93106]