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>> **Science Podcast**

On this week's show: links between intensive farming and drought sensitivity in corn and a roundup of stories from our daily news site.

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COVER

A blood star (*Henricia levisculca*) near Whidbey Island, Washington state. It is one of 10 species of sea star that appear to be affected by a mysterious wasting syndrome on the west and east coasts of North America. Various levels of mortality have been confirmed in 10 other species, making this the largest documented die-off of echinoderms. See page 464 and http://scim.ag/slide_6183.

Photo: Jan Kocian

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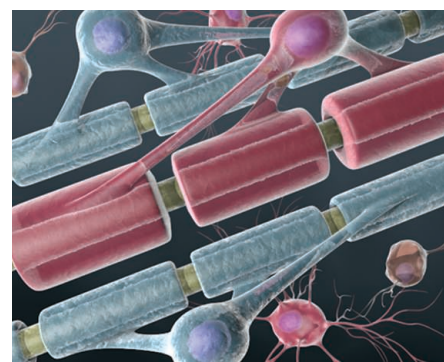
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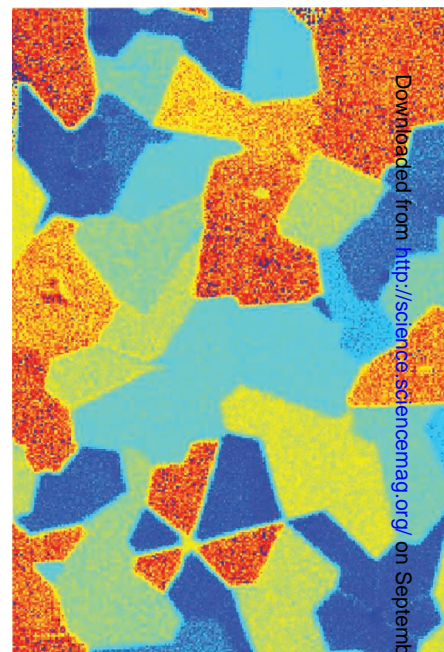
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