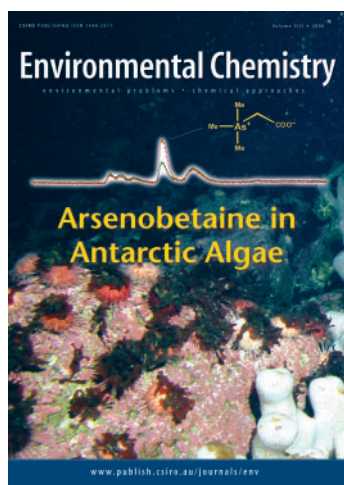


Environmental Chemistry

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Although arsenic occurs in marine animals at high concentrations, the pathways by which it is biotransformed and accumulated remain largely unknown. The observation that some species of algae can contain significant concentrations of arsenobetaine, a major marine arsenic species, is relevant to explanations of the source of this compound to marine animals and its transport through the marine food web. See M. Grotti et al., pp. 171–175.



Decreasing trends in rainfall over large areas of eastern and south-western Australia have resulted in critical water shortages. Three possible reasons are (1) a change in atmospheric circulation as a result of greenhouse gas forcing; (2) changes in land usage have affected surface moisture, albedo and cloud formation; and (3) airborne particulates associated with urban areas have acted to decrease the mean efficiency of rainfall, the growth of urban areas thereby causing an underlying decreasing trend in rainfall. See E. K. Bigg, pp. 184–193.

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