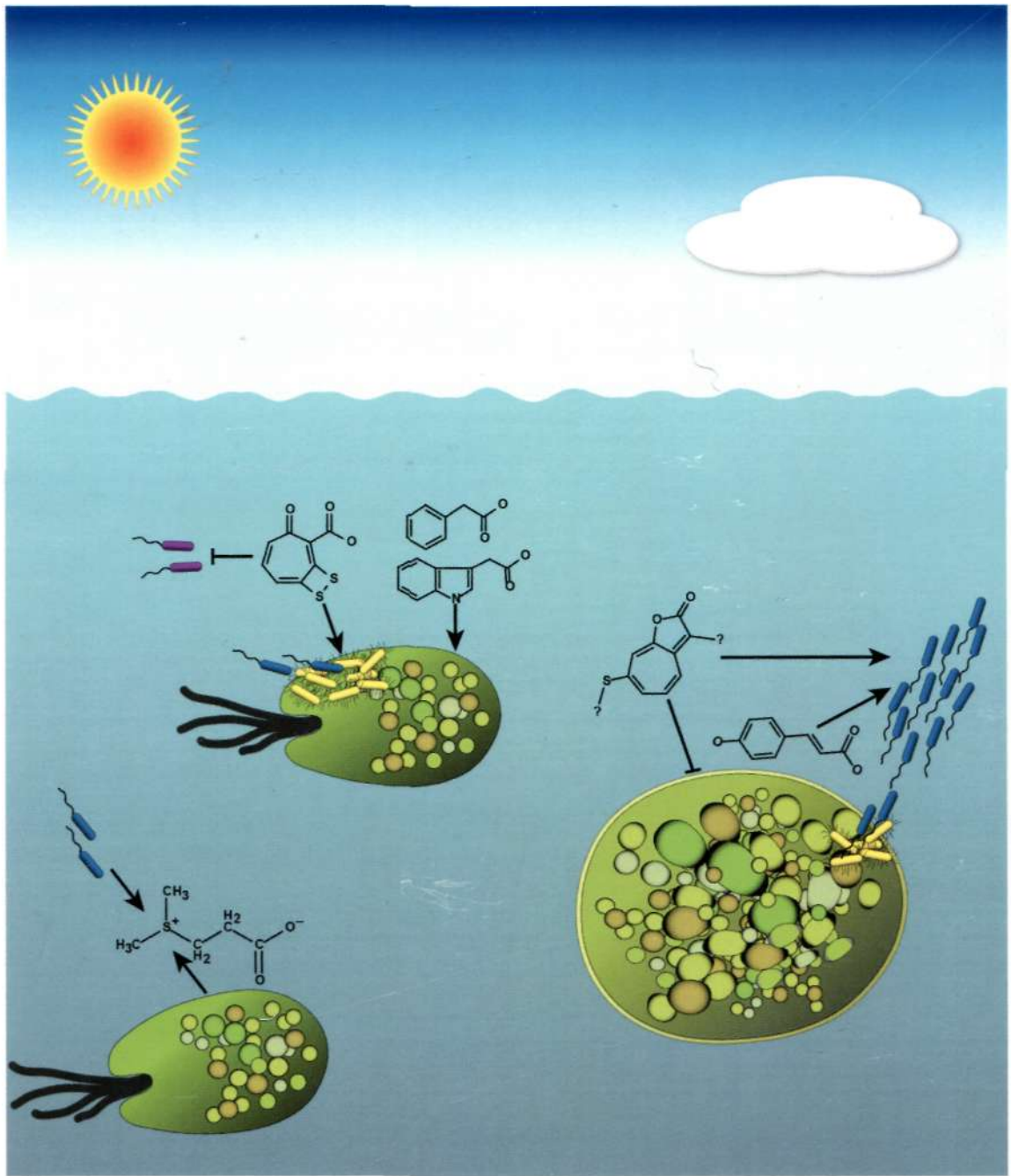


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Cover photograph (Copyright © 2013, American Society for Microbiology. All Rights Reserved.): Communications between marine *Roseobacter* bacteria and their unicellular algal hosts. Clockwise from lower left, motile roseobacters (blue bacteria) swim toward algal dimethyl-sulfoniopropionate, which they use to produce trophodithiic acid (TDA). TDA induces the sessile phase (yellow bacteria) and inhibits nonroseobacters (purple bacteria). Sessile roseobacters produce phenyl acetic acid and indole acetic acid, stimulating algal growth. Ultimately, algal death results in an increase in *p*-coumaric acid that induces the synthesis of roseobacter motility inducer (RMI), triggering the bacterial motile phase and killing the alga. The swim-or-stick switch is reset, permitting the roseobacters to renew their symbiosis with a fresh algal host. (See related article on page 637.)