

two-prong approach: compilation and analysis of existing data and interpretation of high-resolution satellite data with standard protocols and definitions.

The success of the 1990 project required the cooperation of many institutions from developed and developing countries. Additional cooperation is required to improve global assessments and policy decisions with Forest Resources Assessment 2000.

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3. *Forest Resources Assessment 1990—Survey of Tropical Forest Cover and Study of Changes Processes* (Forestry Paper No. 130, FAO, Rome, 1996).
4. World Conservation Monitoring Centre, *Summaries of FRA1190 Data* (1997), www.wcmc.org.uk/

Reef Check: Complete Agreement

Because a sentence added in a revised version of the letter from Thomas J. Goreau *et al.* (11 July, p. 165) was not included in the printed letter, some readers may have formed the mistaken impression that the letter meant to criticize the purpose and value of the Reef Check 1997 project. That sentence read, "We support expanded citizens' monitoring efforts, which are important for public education and in identifying early warning signs, but we caution that the number of people able to correctly distinguish between coral diseases from bleaching and other forms of mortality is vastly less than that of certifiably accurate bird identifiers." The signatories of that letter and the letter from the organizer of Reef Check, Gregor Hodgson (11 July, p. 165), are in complete agreement that complementary efforts by professionals and trained amateurs, such as Reef Check, are urgently needed to assess the status of coral reefs around the world and protect them from rapidly increasing deterioration by widespread and multiple threats.

For those readers of the earlier article "Scientists launch survey of reef health" by Barbie Bischof (News & Comment, 6 June, p. 1494) who might have otherwise inter-

preted the photo and caption selected by *Science* to accompany the article, it should be clarified that the focus of Reef Check 1997 is to measure key indicators of human effects on coral reefs, such as numbers of edible high-value species, as stated in the article. Reef Check does not include a detailed survey of coral diseases.

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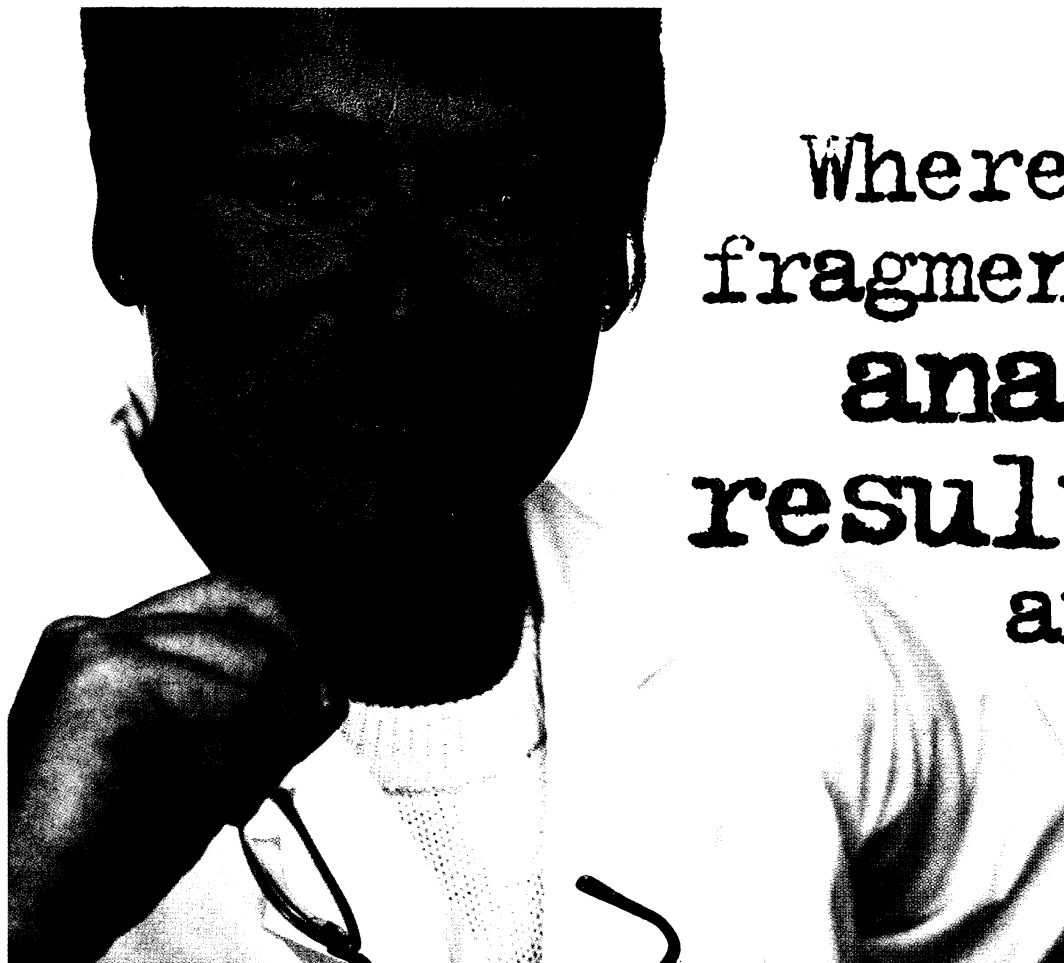
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Corn Genome Initiative

In "Corn genome pops out of the pack" (News & Comment, 27 June, p. 1960), Jon Cohen summarizes the June 1997 National Academy of Sciences colloquium "Protect-



Where great
fragment and muta
analysis
results begin
and end

"I've found the system quick and reliable while screening mutations in the trombosmodulin gene," says Ewa Nilsson; Clinical Chemistry Laboratory; Lund University Hospital; Sweden.