



Ten years 'Aquatic Microbial Ecology': an appreciation by the publisher

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As publisher of *Aquatic Microbial Ecology* (AME) and as co-founder of this important scientific journal I am deeply grateful to the various groups of persons who have contributed to AME's development and success: The Managing Editors, the members of the Editorial Board, the authors who entrusted us with the publication of their research, the reviewers who critically and carefully assessed the scientific merits of the submissions, and the local staff of Inter-Research, who have carefully and professionally prepared the accepted manuscripts for publication.

When I was offered the opportunity to take over *Marine Microbial Food Webs*—the predecessor of

AME—8 volumes of that journal had been published from 1985 to 1995. After changing title, format and appearance, and after reorganizing and enlarging the Editorial Board together with Fereidoun Rassoulzadegan and John Dolan, a period of close co-operation and of hard work began. It took some time before AME started to publish more and more volumes per year and before it became the companion journal of *Marine Ecology Progress Series* (MEPS). But then AME 'exploded'. It rapidly climbed up the ladder of impact-factor evaluation and it became another flagship of Inter-Research.