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Seagrass Restoration

Nature, to be commanded, must be obeyed.

Novum Organum
Francis Bacon

Contributions are welcome and should be sent to the Editor, UW Arboretum, 1207 Seminole Highway, Madison, WI 53711 (608) 263-7889. Instructions to contributors are printed at the back of each issue.

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Metric Conversion Table

centimeter	cm	0.39 inch
meter	m	39.37 inches
kilometer	km	0.62 mile
hectare	ha	2.47 acres
liter	l	0.90 quart
kilogram	kg	2.90 pounds
gram	g	0.035 ounce

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Cover:

Hovering in submarine gloom on the floor of Florida's North Biscayne Bay, Seagrass Restorationist Anitra Thorhaug works at the painstaking task of installing seagrass plants on bare sand. Undersea "prairies" dominated by various species of grasses are highly productive plant communities, and play an important role in nearshore ecosystems in many parts of the world, but have suffered extensive damage in the past as a result of disturbances such as dredging, pollution and disease. Thorhaug is one of a small cadre of restorationists who have begun to take on the exacting, exhausting, and sometimes dangerous work of restoring seagrass beds. The bracelet on Thorhaug's left arm holds metal pins used to hold plants in place while they become established. A story describing the exploits of the seagrass restorationists begins on page 5.

Photo courtesy of Anitra Thorhaug