

previously adapted to ocean acidification. "This demonstrates *Emiliana huxleyi*'s ability to evolve rapidly," Bach resumes the results of the study.

Prof. Riebesell, co-author of the study and coordinator of the BIOACID project, sees this as an indication of how little we understand the long-term effects of ocean acidification: "The organisms' ability to adapt to new environmental conditions surprises us again and again. However, it does not change the fact that as ocean acidification progresses, many species will be unable to maintain their ecological niches. The loss of biodiversity is therefore inevitable. "

Reference:

Bach, L.T., K.T. Lohbeck, T.B.H. Reusch, U. Riebesell (2018): Rapid evolution of highly variable competitive abilities in a key phytoplankton species. Nature Ecology and Evolution, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41559-018-0474-x>

Links:

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Images:

At www.geomar.de/n5739-e images are available for download.

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