

一项研究发现，自 1995 年以来，由于气候变化导致海水变暖，澳大利亚大堡礁珊瑚数量下降了一半以上。

There is no time to lose. That's the **stark warning** from Australian researchers about the health of the world's largest **reef** system.

情况紧迫，时不我待。这是澳大利亚研究人员对世界上最大的珊瑚礁系统健康状况发出的严厉警告。

They say its **coral** has been under a **sustained** attack by warmer seas driven by climate change. This causes **bleaching**.

研究人员们说，由于气候变化导致的海水升温，大堡礁的珊瑚受到了持续攻击。这会导致珊瑚白化。

Under stress, the corals **expel symbiotic algae** which lives in their **tissues** and gives them their colour and energy.

面对环境压力，珊瑚会排出生活在其细胞组织中，并为其提供颜色和能量的共生藻。

The study asserts that this is **compromising** the Great Barrier Reef's ability to recover.

这项研究坚称，这损害了大堡礁的恢复能力。

1. 词汇表

stark warning	严厉警告
reef	礁
coral	珊瑚
sustained	持续的
bleaching	颜色淡化, 白化
expel	排出
symbiotic	共生的, 共同栖息的
algae	藻类, 海藻
tissues	(动植物的细胞) 组织
compromising	损害, 伤害

2. 阅读理解: 请在读完上文后, 回答下列问题。(答案见下页)

1. True or false? *Climate change has played a role in the loss of the corals.*
2. What did the Australian researchers warn of?
3. What happens to the corals when they are under stress?
4. Where in the corals does symbiotic algae live?

3. 答案

1. True or false? *Climate change has played a role in the loss of the corals.*

True. The warmer seas driven by climate change attacked the corals continuously, which causes bleaching.

2. What did the Australian researchers warn of?

The Australian researchers warned of the health of the world's largest reef system – the Great Barrier Reef.

3. What happens to the corals when they are under stress?

When the corals are under stress, they expel symbiotic algae.

4. Where in the corals does symbiotic algae live?

It lives in the corals' tissues.