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FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEM RESEARCH IN WATER
QUALITY MANAGEMENT

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Freshwater ecosystem research in water quality management

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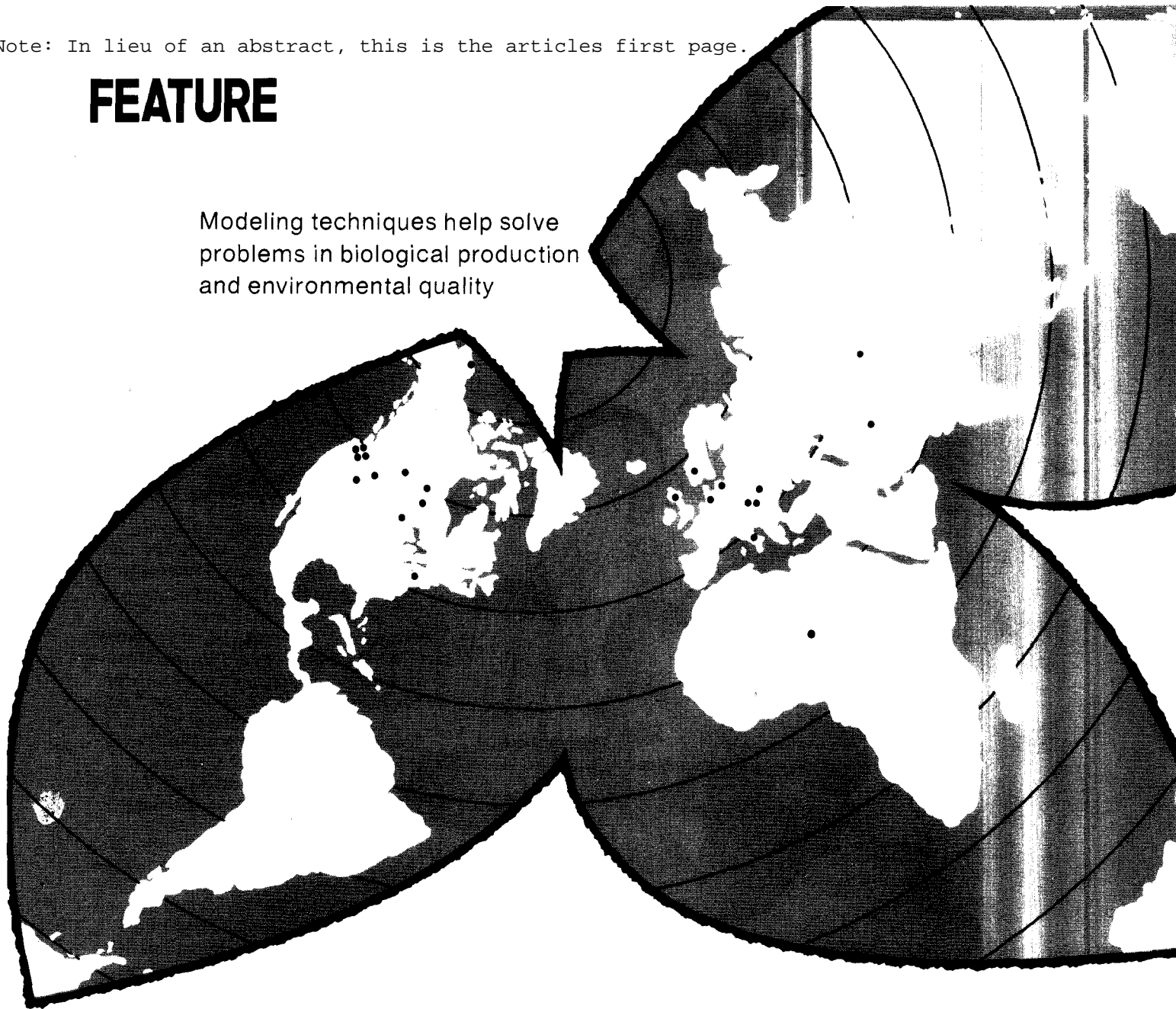
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FEATURE

Modeling techniques help solve problems in biological production and environmental quality



How our natural resources function and how their sub-component systems interrelate had not been comprehensively and concurrently examined until recently. Although the global network of terrestrial and aquatic habitats can be considered as unique research sites, coordinated investigations regarding their status and conservation requirements have never existed. As the pressures on and for man became more apparent, many scientists turned their attention toward the international responsibilities of food supply, the environment, populations, and man's role in these areas.

In 1964, the International Council for Scientific Unions (ICSU) created a Special Committee for the International Biological Program (SCIBP). The committee organized a research program directed toward defining the biological basis of productivity for human welfare and provided the opportunity for a global study designed to determine:

- organic production on land, in fresh waters, and in the seas
- potentialities and uses of new as well as existing natural resources
- human adaptability to changing conditions.

At the outset of the IBP (*ES&T*, June 1968, p 411), it was clear that each of the 60 nations involved could and would emphasize the research areas of principal importance to it. Planning these extensive research efforts oc-

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