

# Reef conservation promoted by public aquaria and scientists – SECORE

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Reef tank, Burgers' Zoo, Netherlands



Reef tank, Steinhart Aquarium, CAS, USA



Sexual recruits, *A. palmata*, 6 months old



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**SECORE** [www.secore.org](http://www.secore.org) is an international initiative of public aquaria and scientists to stimulate coral reef conservation through **public outreach, training workshops, collaborative research projects, and field restoration.**

## Restoration of *Acropora palmata*

In 2010, SECORE has set up the first permanent **coral nursery on Curacao** (Netherlands Antilles) to develop effective restoration techniques using sexual coral reproduction. The project is carried out in collaboration with the **Curacao Sea Aquarium** and **CARMABI**.



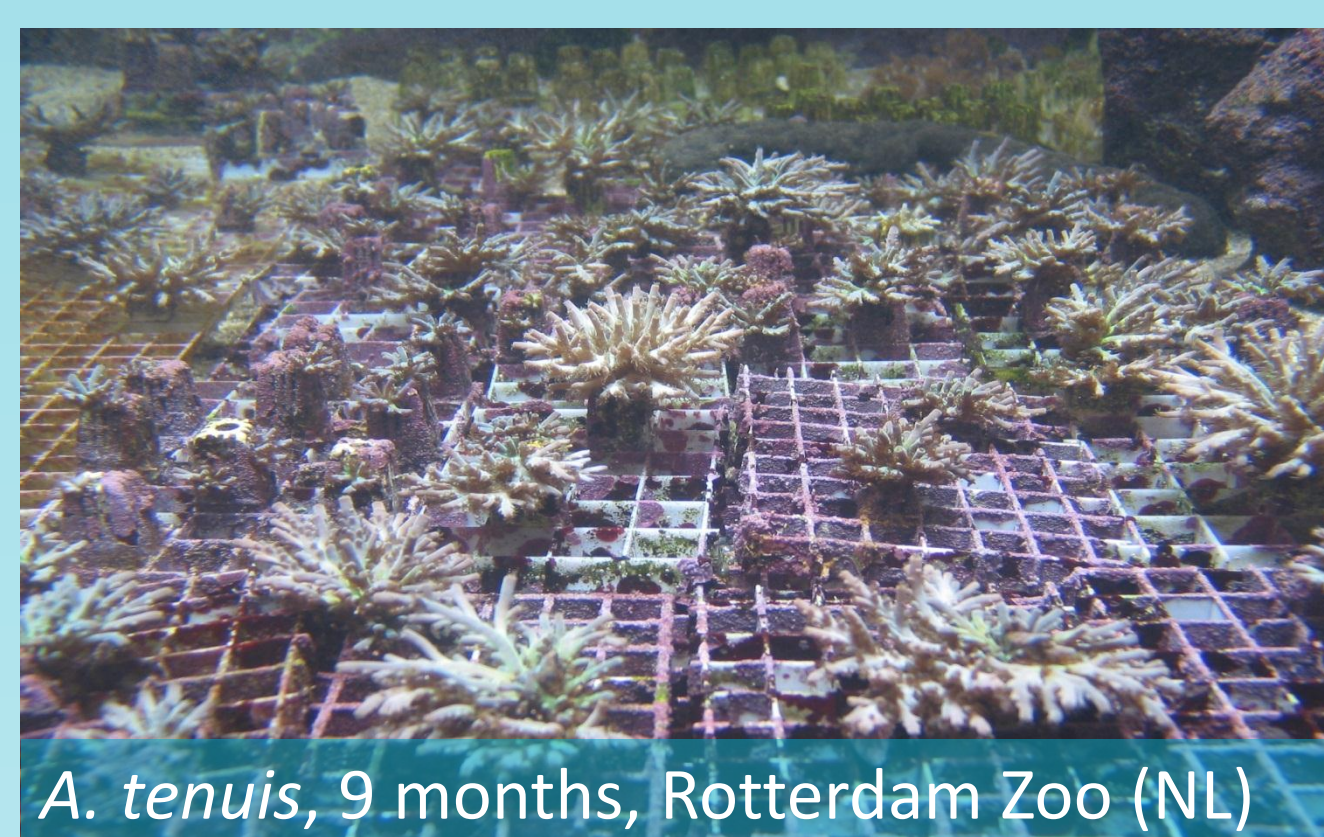
Population genetics  
Iliana Baums' Lab, Penn State



Cryopreservation  
Mary Hagedorn's Lab, Smithsonian

## Recent activities

- First *A. palmata* recruits (# >1,500) ever raised in captivity
- Help establish first global frozen repository
- Staff of 47 institutions trained in workshops



*A. tenuis*, 9 months, Rotterdam Zoo (NL)



SECORE larvae settlement tiles, Version 1



Practice handling of gamete nets



Fertilization work at shore

## Training workshops

Public aquarium professionals and scientists are trained in **aquaculture** and **breeding techniques** using sexual coral reproduction. The workshops provide a unique logistical setting for **field experiments** and help to raise **public awareness** in the local community.

## SECORE Foundation

SECORE was turned into a non-profit foundation in 2012; originally set up to tackle the loss of coral reefs in the Caribbean, SECORE now plans to expand its program on a global scale.

## Acknowledgements

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