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Laser confocal fluorescence micrograph of Streptomyces antibioticus ATCC 11891 after 7 h growth in confluent surface cultures. Samples were stained with SYTO 9 and propidium iodide, allowing the visualization of live (green) and dead (red) segments alternating in the same hypha. The striking pattern observed suggests a kind of cell-death programme affecting the young, compartmentalized mycelium. Image courtesy Dr J. Sánchez, Universidad de Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain. See the paper by Manteca et al. in the November 2005 issue (vol. 151, part 11), pp. 3689–3697.
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