

The concluding section of the volume provides an evolutionary context for sexual behavior as well as a mix of other topics. C. J. Erickson, for example, provides a discussion of pair bonding from a sociobiological perspective. In another chapter, E. B. Keverne presents the intriguing but highly speculative notion that two olfactory pathways may operate in mammals, including primates, to carry chemical signals of import for sexual behavior. One of these pathways is involved with sexual attraction, which is highly labile and subject to environmental and experiential factors, and another is involved with sexual performance once a pairing occurs. The latter may be less labile and even immune to cortical input.

The volume is not without shortcomings. The sequence of chapters is haphazard, and a number of chapters detract from the flow of ideas because they present information in highly specific and somewhat peripheral areas of inquiry. Fortunately, the chapters contain good summaries so the reader can make informed decisions about what to exclude.

Although the volume is longer than necessary, it contains many excellent reviews of current research into the basis of sexual behavior, and, more important, it suggests specific experiments and investigative strategies that will help us to understand this fascinating set of phenomena.

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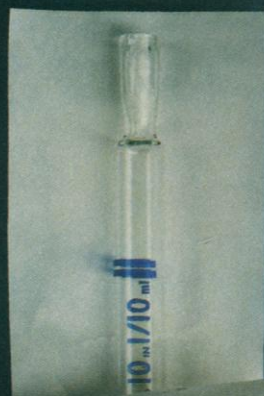
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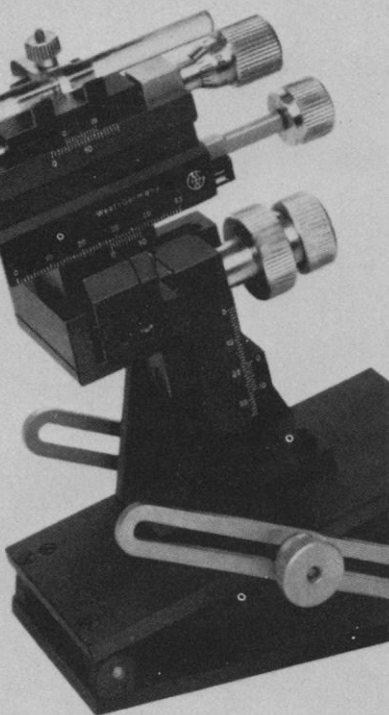
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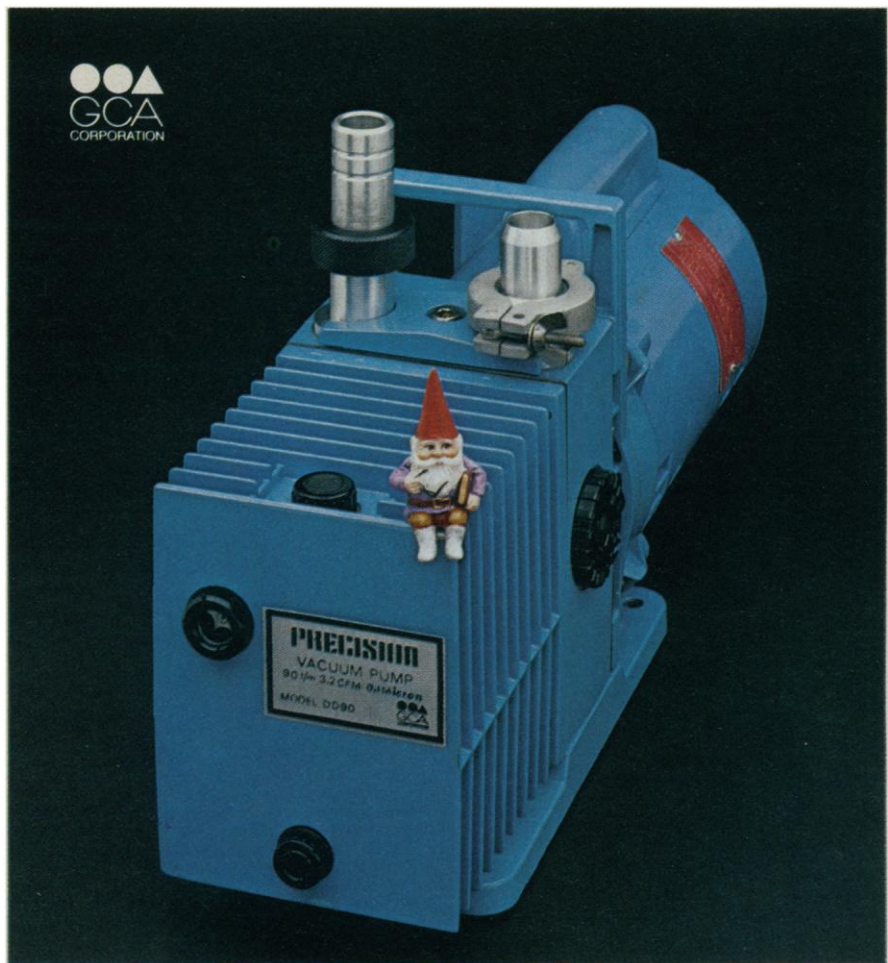
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