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Cockroach Immunity

Although I was pleased to see our work on the American cockroach cited in the article by Virginia Morell about female immune responses (News, 11 Aug., p. 773), I feel I must come to the defense of the male cockroach, which was characterized as less than able to withstand toxic challenges of honeybee venom. In fact, 80% of male roaches will survive a lethal dose of the venom delivered 2 weeks after immunization with a toxoid preparation (*1*). However, as Morell correctly implies, female roaches do indeed have superior immune responses compared with those of males. In fact, we have found that the female roach is so much more adept at generating a protective response that it requires a second immunization of males to even begin to match the response levels found in females receiving only a single immunization.

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References

1. L. E. Duwel-Eby *et al.*, in *Immunology of Insects and Other Arthropods*, A. P. Gupta, Ed. (Academic Press, New York, 1991), pp. 385–402.

Corrections and Clarifications

The Random Sample item "Diagnostic imagery for Florida" (8 Sept., p. 1343) should have stated that the accompanying map shows the Caloosahatchee River flowing *out of* Lake Okeechobee (to the Gulf of Mexico), not *into* it.

In the response by O. Steinbock and K. Showalter to a technical comment by D. Gareth Williams ("Minimal path algorithms," 21 July, p. 418), the word "his" was inadvertently inserted by *Science* before the word "co-workers" in the second sentence. The authors originally wrote, "We wish to emphasize that path finding from reaction-diffusion waves, which was suggested by Babloyantz and co-workers in 1991 (*2*) [J. A. Sepulchre, A. Babloyantz, L. Steels, in *Proceedings of the International Conference on Artificial Neural Networks*, T. Kohonen, K. Makisara, O. Simula, J. Kangas, Eds. (Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1991), pp. 1265–1268; J. A. Sepulchre and A. Babloyantz, in *Chemical Waves and Patterns*, R. Kapral and K. Showalter, Eds. (Kluwer, Dordrecht, 1995), pp. 191–217], represents a mechanism by which physical and biological systems might optimize transit times and distances." *Science* regrets the error.

References related to citation 2 include J. A. Sepulchre and A. Babloyantz, *Phys. Rev. E* **48**, 187 (1993); A. Babloyantz and J. A. Sepulchre, *Physica D* **49**, 52 (1991); and J. A. Sepulchre and A. Babloyantz, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **66**, 1314 (1991).

Letters to the Editor

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