in adverse environmental conditions. Although sporulation occurs only in some bacteria (such as myxobacteria and streptomyces), a usual and less extreme form of cell differentiation in response to adverse environmental conditions is the somewhat similar stationary phase (*2*). In *Escherichia coli*, for example, the stationary phase (*2*) and PCD (*3*) are two possible (and likely concomitent) responses to nutrient limitation; it is tempting to speculate that intercellular communications similar to those operating in *B. subtilis* allow the reciprocal fine tuning of these responses. The existence and nature of such a social control of cell survival and cell death in *E. coli* and other bacteria remain to be investigated.

Fulton addresses the divergence time of multicellular plants. Recent phylogenic analyses suggest that plants, fungi, and animals, as well as dinoflagellates, chromophytes, and ciliates, diverged rapidly around 1 billion years ago (*4*). Estimates of plant, animal, and fungi branching have led to contradictory results, suggesting either that plants and animals diverged more recently than fungi (*5*) or that animals and fungi diverged more recently than plants (*6*). One of the most recently published exhaustive phylogenic analyses suggests that animals, fungi, and plants last shared a common ancestor about 1 billion years ago and that animals and fungi are more recently related than animals and plants (R. F. Doolittle *et al.*, Articles, 26 Jan. 1996, p. 470). Accordingly, the branching of plants before fungi and animals in the phylogenic tree at a point of around 1 billion years ago should have been shown more accurately. The main aim of presenting the tree was, however, to illustrate the fact that various forms of PCD have been identified in divergent kingdoms of organisms, suggesting either that PCD is an evolutionarily conserved feature of ancient origin or that PCD evolved independently several times.

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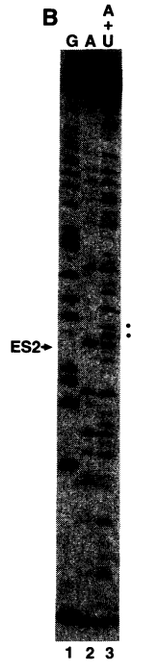
Corrections and Clarifications

The two markers on the right side of the electrophoresis gel shown in figure 3B (p. 1190) of the Research Article "RNA editing: A mechanism for gRNA-specified uridylate insertion into precursor mRNA" by M. L. Kable *et al.* (30 Aug., p. 1189) were placed incorrectly during publication. The correct figure appears at right.



In the response by D. S. McKay *et al.* (p. 1640) to letters titled "Past life on Mars?" (20 Sept., p. 1639), the microscope technology mentioned should have read, "field emission gun scanning electron microscope."

In the editorial "New online tools for scholars: 2" by Floyd E. Bloom (20 Sept., p. 1637), in the next-to-last paragraph, the fourth line should have read, "online materials will be available each Thursday around 5 p.m. Eastern Time. . . ."

The title of the report "Interaction of U2AF^{65} RS region with pre-mRNA branch point and promotion of base pairing with U2 snRNA" by J. Valcárcel *et al.* (20 Sept., p. 1706) was printed incorrectly on page 1706. It was correct in the table of contents.

In the issue of 9 August, the photograph in the table of contents (p. 712) and in the Research News article "Genes vs. teams: Weighing group tactics in evolution" (p. 739) should have been credited to the Honeybee Science Research Center, Tamagawa University, Tokyo.

Letters to the Editor

Letters may be submitted by e-mail (at science_letters@aaas.org), fax (202-789-4669), or regular mail (*Science*, 1200 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005, USA). Letters are not routinely acknowledged. Full addresses, signatures, and daytime phone numbers should be included. Letters should be brief (300 words or less) and may be edited for reasons of clarity or space. They may appear in print and/or on the World Wide Web. Letter writers are not consulted before publication.