

but the methodology used by Turner and White does not seem to consider culture and human motivation.

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Anyone who can't believe that our tender and delicate species could possibly resort to cannibalism should read of the fate of Giovanni Verrazzano, the discoverer of New York Bay (1). In 1528 he anchored his vessel off shore of an island in the Caribbean Sea and landed from a skiff to meet a crowd of natives, as did many captains who landed along the North American coast from Florida to Labrador. His audience immediately murdered him, then cut him up and ate him on the spot, while his brother watched helplessly from beyond the surf line.

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#### References

1. S. E. Morrison, *The European Discovery of America: The Northern Voyages* (Oxford Univ. Press, New York, 1971), p. 315.

## World Population and Food Supplies

The subtitle of the article by Charles Mann, "Reseeding the Green Revolution" (Special News Report: World Food Prospects, 22 Aug., p. 1038) reads, "High-yielding varieties of wheat, rice, and maize helped double world grain production. A repeat performance is now needed [because of continuing world population growth], and that will require a new commitment to agricultural research." It seems important to repeat the question that Garrett Hardin (1) often asked: "Do we have a shortage of food or a longage of people?"

Is it responsible for scientists to hold out the hope that endless population growth can be matched by endless doublings of world food production? At some point, probably sooner rather than later, we are going to run into the limits set by the law of conservation of stuff. The people of the world would be better served if we scientists gave our primary attention to the achievement of zero or negative population growth, first in the United States and then worldwide, so that further increases in agricultural production could be devoted to substantially improving diets worldwide.

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#### References

1. G. Hardin, *Science* **162**, 1243 (1968).

## Maximizing U.S. Population?

With regard to the special section on "Human-dominated ecosystems" (25 July, pp. 485-525), who will be brave enough to echo the 25-year-old call of the President's Commission on Population Growth and the American Future to stabilize this country's population, which was about 205 million in 1972 (1)? Congressional disregard of the commission's admonition that immigration policy would have to respect demographic goals means that, instead of leveling off at 240 million people by the year 2030 and then slowly declining (2), the U.S. population will probably reach 500 million by mid-21st century (3). It has become "politically incorrect" to present the data showing that immigrant women now contribute nearly 18% of all births nationally (making the difference be-

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What do I need to  
get **Hi** purity of  
a biomolecule with  
a single **Trapstep**

(The answer is  
in the question, Marc)