Response

Lovins questions the conclusion that current regulatory mechanisms are sufficient to oversee foods developed through genetic modification. The fact is that the FDA has absolute legal right over the foods developed by any process. New varieties produced by means of biotechnology must be shown to possess chemical equivalence with the parent materials; such proof is provided by the company making application. After review (generally requiring 12 to 18 months), the FDA rules to accept or reject; it also holds the right to remove any food product at a later date. The EPA evaluates the environmental safety of any new pesticidal product (such as the *Bt* protein), and sets daily allowances of residues of the protein and/or its derivatives in the food or in the environment. The USDA determines whether the new variety does or does not have impacts on the ecology of the environment in which it is planted and, accordingly, determines acceptability. These processes together can require up to 6 years to gain approval of a new variety developed by genetic transformation. Such requirements are not required of varieties produced by chemical or radiation mutagenesis, or by other techniques used in plant breeding.

Lovins and board members of the Council for Responsible Genetics question the independence of the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center. Legal documents that establish the Center are open to the public and confirm the independence from Monsanto Company and other companies. I would not have accepted the position as president and director of the center under other conditions. Like the authors of the letters, I, too, believe in full disclosure. I am currently a member of the Science Advisory Board of Akkadix, in San Diego, a newly established corporation, and Advisor for Biotechnology for the Rohm and Haas Corporation, in Philadelphia. I have not received support for sponsored research from the Monsanto Company since 1991 and have served only as an ad hoc consultant. I have served as an ad hoc consultant and advisor for a variety of other biotechnology companies since 1982.

I respect the right of others to disagree and expect all reputable scientists to present accurate information and honest conclusions. Regardless of the differences of opinions expressed in these letters, I believe that all can agree that the more scientists learn about plants, both within or outside of agriculture, the greater the likelihood that we will develop sustainable methods to meet the challenges of a growing population.

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Common Courtesy

My colleagues should know that some private postdoctoral fellowship agencies now send critiques of applications to applicants. Persons who write letters of reference for applicants are not notified in advance that these letters may be quoted explicitly in the critiques. It is not difficult to match explicit quotations with specific individuals who have been asked to write letters of reference. Such a practice on behalf of the agencies destroys confidentiality and, at the very least, if it is not illegal, it lacks common courtesy.

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Credit Due

In the News of the Week article "Keeping bone marrow grafts in check" by Michael Hagmann (16 July, p. 310), which accompanied the report by W. D. Shlomchik *et al.* in the same issue (p. 412), the first au-

thor of the report, Warren Shlomchik, is not mentioned. He was primarily responsible for the ideas and execution of the experiments. We, the senior authors of the report, would like to set the record straight and give credit where credit is due.

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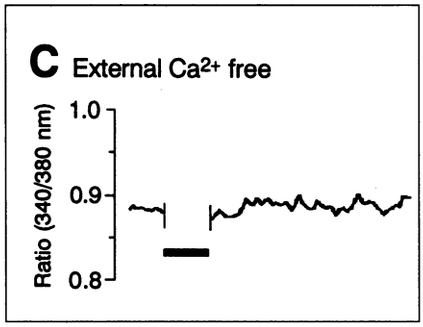
CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

In the Table of Contents for the issue of 13 August (p. 976), the legend for the photo illustrating page 1033 should have read, "Eukaryote origins put back a billion [not a 'million'] years."

The Viewpoint "A realizable renewable energy future" by John A. Turner (Energy, 30 July, p. 687) contained an error on page 689. The end of reference 14 should have read, "(available at www.eren.doe.gov/hydrogen/pdfs/25315o.pdf)."

Figure 4C (p. 885) in the report "Molecular identification of a eukaryotic, stretch-activated nonselective cation channel" by M. Kanzaki *et al.* (6 Aug., p. 882) was incorrect. The correct figure appears below.



In the Report "Estimation of particulate organic carbon in the ocean from satellite remote sensing" by D. Stramski *et al.* (9 July, p. 239), the caption for figure 1 on page 240 was incorrect. The second sentence should have read, "The fitted equation (solid line) for the APFZ is POC = $17069.0(\pm1.3)\cdot[b_{bp}(510)]^{0.859(\pm0.046)}$ (r^2 = 0.918, n = 33)], while the corresponding equation (dashed line) for the Ross Sea is POC = $476935.8(\pm1.5)\cdot[b_{bp}(510)]^{1.277(\pm0.061)}$ (r^2 = 0.953, n = 24)."

The e-mail address of Robert M. Hamilton, the second author of the editorial in the issue of 18 June (*Science*'s Compass, p. 1927), was incorrect. It should have been "bhamilto@nas.edu."

Two of the labels for figure 1A (under "Aware") in the Report "Interactions of prefrontal cortex in relation to awareness in sensory learning" by A. R. McIntosh et al. (28 May, p. 1531) were incorrect. They should have read, "Tone+/Target" instead of "Target+/Target" and "Tone-/Target" instead of "Target-/Target."

In the Report "Evolution of a protein fold in vitro" by M. H. J. Cordes *et al.* (9 Apr., p. 325), the protein data base GenBank accession number for the mutant protein was not given. It has now been assigned as 1QTG.

Table 2 of the Review "Genome sequence of the nematode *C. elegans*: A platform for investigating biology" by The *C. elegans* Sequencing Consortium (11 Dec. 1998, p. 2012) contained an error. The number of protein genes on the right arm of chromosome V should have been 1782, not 1018, as published.