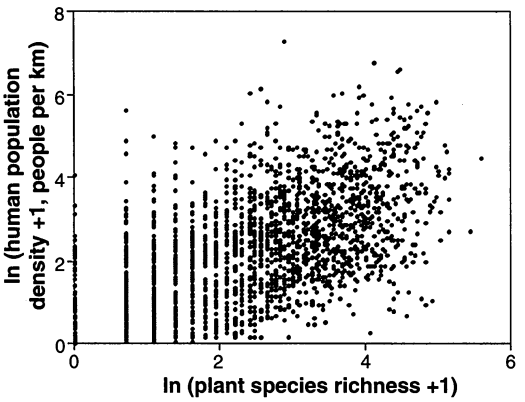
Africa, where national human census data are most reliable (*5*).

Finally, although Huston says the plant richness–NPP relation should peak at low productivity [for which (*6*) provides no evidence], we found that the continent-wide pattern is weakly hump-shaped [regression using (ln + 1) transformed data: overall r^2 = 0.42, with r^2 values for NPP and NNP[2] of 0.36 and 0.06, respectively], with the peak at higher NPP values than was true for terrestrial vertebrates (10.7 compared with 9.3 tons of carbon per hectare per year).

Although we agree that continental-scale analyses need to be supplemented by detailed, landscape-level planning (*7*), we maintain that our findings reveal a fundamentally important and taxonomically consistent problem. Conservationists, development agencies, and policymakers must address this if their efforts to maintain Africa's biodiversity are to succeed.



Positive correlation. Human population density versus species richness for 2661 African plants (*4*). Variables were (ln + 1) transformed. The relation is similar to that for terrestrial vertebrates.

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CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

NEWS FOCUS: "Max Planck's meeting of the anthropological minds" by M. Balter (17 Aug., p. 1246). A description of genetic and linguistic studies of the peoples of the Caucasus, by Mark Stoneking and coworkers in Leipzig, was inaccurate. The study compared Armenians (who speak an Indo-European language) with other Cau-

casus groups and to other Indo-European speakers, and Azerbaijanis (who speak a Turkic language) to other Caucasus groups and to other Turkic speakers. It concluded that both Armenians and Azerbaijanis are more closely related genetically to other Caucasus peoples than to groups that speak similar languages. Although these results suggest that there may have been language replacements in the region, the authors do not conclude that Armenian replaced Azerbaijani or vice versa, as was incorrectly stated in the article.

LETTERS: "UNSCEAR on the health effects from Chornobyl" by Z. Jaworowski (27 Jul., p. 605). In the discussion of the rates of noncancer diseases, editorial changes conveyed the idea that research indicating increased rates for some noncancer diseases, referred to by Richard Stone in his News Focus article "Living in the shadow of Chornobyl" (20 Apr., p. 420), was done before the latest report from the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) was released, when in fact it was published after.

NEWS FOCUS: "Down to the wire on bioweapons talks" by Richard Stone (20 Jul., p. 414). In the table entitled "A gallery of rogues," aflatoxin was incorrectly described as a protein. The aflatoxins are organic heterocyclic substituted benzopyran diones.

LETTERS: "Moral issues of human embryo research," response by L. M. Guenin (13 Jul., p. 211). The second paragraph's second sentence was modified in the editorial process and should have read, "Catholic teaching presently disapproves IVF on the ground that it is nonconjugal and could lead to eugenics." The figure caption, in posing the perfunctory question whether embryonic stem cell research comports with current Catholic teaching, obscured the pivotal question whether the fundamental principles of Catholicism command such research. "Unindividuated" at the end of the text and "intrauterine" in note 2 were misspelled.

NEWS OF THE WEEK: "Infrared gleam stamps brown dwarfs as stars" by M. Sincell (15 Jun., p. 1984). The second sentence of paragraph 3 erroneously states that the threshold mass for nuclear fusion is "seven times" the weight of Jupiter. The correct figure is 70 times the weight of Jupiter.

NEWS FOCUS: "Can adult stem cells suffice?" by G. Vogel (8 Jun., p. 1820). In paragraph 2, the flyer attributed to the Coalition of Americans for Research Ethics (CARE) was developed by Richard Doerflinger of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops; the flyer itself mentioned the CARE Web site, but was not distributed by CARE. On p. 1821, the article erroneously stated that Diane Krause, Neil Theise, and colleagues, in performing a double bone marrow transplant, tagged bone marrow stem cells with "green fluorescent protein." The cells were tagged with a membrane-bound dye called PKH26.

Letters to the Editor

Letters (~300 words) discuss material published in *Science* in the previous 6 months or issues of general interest. They can be submitted by e-mail (science_letters@aaas.org), the Web (www.letter2science.org), or regular mail (1200 New York Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20005, USA). Letters are not acknowledged upon receipt, nor are authors generally consulted before publication. Whether published in full or in part, letters are subject to editing for clarity and space.