

SCIENCE'S COMPASS

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.

in the context of the coastal fishing villages, largely independently of systematic agriculture. The data relevant to this issue are less ambiguous than the dates. As Sandweiss and Moseley point out, Aspero has domesticated plants going down into its lower levels. The cotton used in making the nets is also a domesticated crop. Because these nets are essential for exploiting the abundant anchovy populations on the coast, the maritime fluorescence discussed by Moseley is agriculture dependent from the beginning. At the time Aspero was excavated, before Caral and other inland sites were recognized as having early occupations, it seemed reasonable to propose that these agricultural resources came from simple floodplain agriculture.

This proposal is no longer viable. The dominance of marine resources in the food remains at Caral and the combination of domesticated plant remains at Aspero demonstrate that the preceramic people in the Supe Valley had a mixed economy. The fishermen of Aspero were as dependent on the inland farmers for plant resources as were the inland farmers dependent on coastal fishermen for their protein resources.

Whether the exploitation of marine resources played a "formative role" in the development of complex society in the Andes is at best uncertain. The new dates from Caral and emerging data on other inland sites require a comprehensive reassessment of both the chronology and economic organization of the Supe Valley and its immediate neighbors. The origins of complex society in the Andes now appear to be economically quite similar to other world areas with an agricultural foundation and extensive economic interaction between different subregions.

JONATHAN HAAS,¹ WINIFRED CREAMER²

¹The Field Museum, 1400 South Lakeshore Drive, Chicago, IL 60606, USA. E-mail: jhaas@fieldmuseum.org. ²Anthropology Department, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115, USA. E-mail: wcreamer@niu.edu

References and Notes

1. M. E. Moseley, *The Maritime Foundation of Andean Civilization* (Cummings, Menlo Park, CA, 1975).
2. R. Feldman, thesis, Harvard University (1980); R. Feldman, in *Early Ceremonial Architecture in the Andes*, C. B. Donnan, Ed. (Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, DC, 1985), pp. 71–92.
3. M. E. Moseley, *The Incas and Their Ancestors* (Thames & Hudson, New York, 1992); *Carolina Biology Reader 90* (Carolina Biological Supply, Burlington, NC, 1978).

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

PERSPECTIVES: "The race to beat the cuprates" by E. Dagotto (28 Sept., p. 2410). The statement that T_c may be increased by increasing the lattice spacing, since the electronic pair binding is an intramolecular property, has already appeared in S. Chakravarty, M. Gelfand, S. Kivelson, *Science* **254**, 970 (1991). See also P. Lammert *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **74**, 996 (1995), and references therein. The author apologizes for this omission.

NEWS OF THE WEEK: "Hopkins reviews investment in Indian cancer drug trial" by P. Bagla and E. Marshall (10 Aug., p. 1024). In the diagram of tetramethyl nordihydroguaiaretic acid, the "methyl" groups on the chemical structure should have been labeled "MeO" to indicate the presence of an oxygen atom.

ASM CONFERENCES

Immunity to Bacterial, Viral, and Protozoal Pathogens

MARCH 20–24, 2002
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Scientific Organizers:
Eric G. Pamer
Memorial Sloan-Kettering
Cancer Center

Rafi Ahmed
Emory University

Abstract Deadline:
December 15, 2001

Registration Deadline:
February 20, 2002



For more information, registration, and online abstract submission, visit www.asmsa.org/mtgsrc/conferences.htm.

1752 N Street, NW ■ Washington, DC 20036
T. 202.942.9261 ■ F. 202.942.9340

visit our website and

register
to

WIN

a New
Volkswagen
Beetle from...

spectrum
Laboratory Products
An ISO 9002 Registered Company

1.800.632.9154



ScientistsWanted.com