veloping countries than in corn because breeders in these crops are routinely putting elite lines into public collections and these elite lines are exchanged for traditional crop varieties to the benefit of all.

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The Broad Reach of Helminthology

HOW DOES MEDICAL HELMINTHOLOGY FACE the new millennium? That is the question D. G. Colley, P. T. LoVerde, and L. Savioli raise in their Policy Forum "Medical helminthology in the 21st century" (24 Aug., p. 1437). Aside from advancing the general field of parasitology, those studying helminths during the last century made great contributions to many other branches of the medical sciences, most notably, immunology and pathology. With the "worst of times" scenario that now exists for helminth research, as pointed out by Colley and co-authors, we should emphasize there are a variety of novel research areas that could be fruitful for those trained in fields other than helminthology. In addition, helminth infections present good model systems for studying numerous nonhelminth diseases, such as those with inflammatory, allergic, and chronic granulomatous components.

Scientists in disparate disciplines, from both the academic and private sector alike, should be encouraged to look more closely at what the field of helminthology has to offer. Many years ago, the National Institutes of Health had the foresight to organize repositories of helminth life cycle stages (for those in schistosomiasis and filariasis research) and make them freely available to interested investigators. This was a major step in helping investigators branch into research areas they otherwise would have been unwilling to pursue because of the labor-intensive demands of these life cycles.

It is a given that studying helminth infections holds the promise of reducing the human suffering in countries where these infections are widespread. It is equally likely that recruiting and supporting scientists from many disciplines to study these parasites can lead to significant scientific contributions far outweighing the direct public health benefits to those afflicted with these worm burdens.

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CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

TECHNICAL COMMENTS: "Inverse modeling of atmospheric carbon dioxide fluxes" (12 Oct. 2001, the full text is available at www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/294/5541/259a). The affiliation address for Philippe Peylin was incorrect. It is Laboratoire de Biogeochimie Isotopique, CNRS-UPMC-INRA, 4 Place Jussieu, 75252 Paris, France. Also, the following acknowledgement was inadvertently omitted: "The authors thank D. Baker for helpful discussions on the tradeoff between aggregation error and estimation error, and for the depiction of it given in Fig. 1."