

Primers for Rapid Mapping

Operon Technologies now has 500 different 10-base oligonucleotide primers in stock, for use in the new genetic mapping method developed by Williams *et al.* (*Nucleic Acids Res.*, 18 6531-6535). In this method, single 10-base primers are used to amplify DNA polymorphisms, which are useful as genetic markers. This method has considerable advantages over RFLP methods. Operon's primers are available for immediate shipment at \$150 per kit of 20 sequences, with no charge for domestic delivery. Please call or fax for details.

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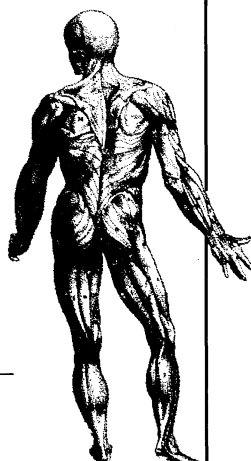
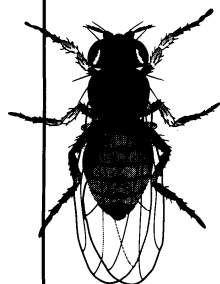
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unwanted senescence was causing me to see double, that some antisense RNA had mucked up my optic nerves. When a second look detected no second *Science*, my worry was replaced with the thought that antisense RNA cloning was being practiced on these homozygous fruits. Have the National Institutes of Health approved this practice? Could Congressman Dingell's staffers be investigating at this very moment? Perhaps the congressional subcommittee that funds the National Endowment for the Arts can come up with a reason to investigate. Or maybe the General Accounting Office will be asked to determine whether agency libraries that subscribe to *Science* have been shortchanged six tomatoes.

AL DUBA
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Reply: The image provided by the authors was of six tomatoes. Our art department duplicated the image for the cover of *Science* for the sake of design. This shows that we will publish only results that can be duplicated.—EDS.

Jellyfish Aloft

In his article "Space may be bad for your health" (*Research News*, 27 Sept., p. 1491), Eliot Marshall states that the "2000 jellyfish lofted into space aboard the space shuttle in June swam around placidly, much as they do on Earth." Many of the 2478 jellyfish swam, but *not* as they do on Earth. The tiny jellyfish (ephyrae) are immune neither to microgravity in space nor to gravity on Earth when they swim. Indeed, on Earth, they tend to sink when they stop swimming. Therefore, Marshall's reference to NASA's budget being as "immune to gravity" as the "lofted" jellyfish is inappropriate.

DOROTHY SPANGENBERG
Eastern Virginia Medical School,
Norfolk, VA 23501-1980

Ynes Mexia's Legacy

Ynes Mexia was indeed a remarkable woman (*Book Reviews*, 23 Aug., p. 917), even more remarkable if any of her plant collections "went to Asa Gray," since Gray had been dead for 33 years when Mexia began her botanical activities in 1921.

ROBERT ORNDUFF
Department of Integrative Biology,
University of California,
Berkeley, CA 94720

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