

TheScientist

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MAGAZINE OF THE LIFE SCIENCES

2009
LIFE SCIENCE
SALARY SURVEY

A NEW
EXPLANATION
—& TREATMENT—
FOR MISCARRIAGE

HOW TO ACE A
JOB INTERVIEW

PLUS:
IS NIH BIASED
AGAINST SENIOR
SCIENTISTS?

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18 SEP 2009

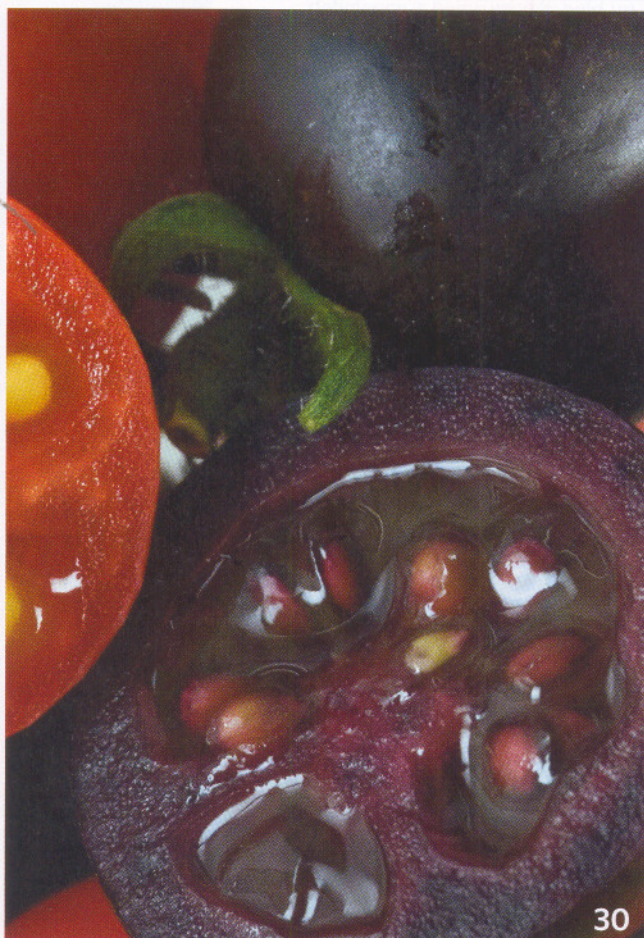
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NEW CROPS COULD PREVENT MILLIONS OF
DEATHS FROM NUTRIENT DEFICIENCIES



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Cassava with extra beta-carotene, carrots with more calcium, tomatoes richer in antioxidants—scientists have genetically engineered several biofortified food plants to tackle a scourge of developing countries, micronutrient malnutrition. The crops have yet to cover wide swaths of land, but, as BOB GRANT writes, that may be about to change.

38 Safeguarding the Foreigner Within

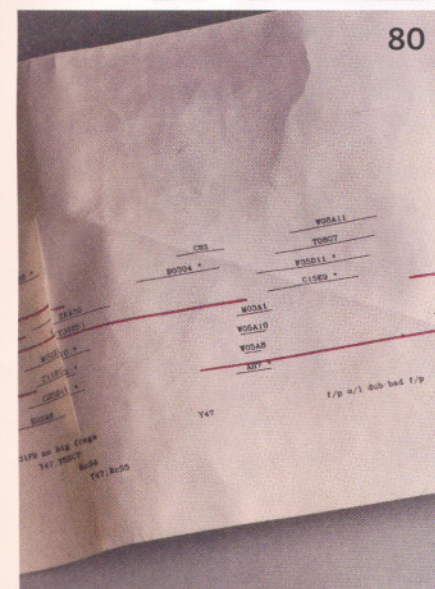
Every year in the US, hundreds of thousands of miscarriages occur. But more than half of couples who experience recurrent miscarriage never learn why it happens. A newly found cause of miscarriage raises hopes for treatment, such as a drug already on the market for other indications, identified by researcher GUILLERMINA GIRARDI. But when will clinical trials take place?

43 2009 Life Sciences Salary Survey

How does your salary compare? Plus, an analysis of the financial state of the field by JEF AKST, who found that institutions are keeping salaries static in the depressed economy by cutting jobs, forcing furloughs, and making changes to infrastructure.

ON THE COVER

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Aid for Poverty—and Pudding

New technology for curbing nutrient deficiency is being cruelly held up.

BY RICHARD GALLAGHER

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Funding preferences penalize senior investigators, lower the quality of science.

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Bring Back Reprint Requests

I miss the instant feedback from the larger scientific community on my papers.

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Following his instinct, Douglas Bishop has tracked the mechanisms behind mismatch repair and homologous recombination.

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Hot Papers: A surprise tweaks scientists' understanding of transcription; soil microbial diversity pinpointed; correcting the record about animal foraging behavior; a molecule targets cellular waste for destruction. Scientist to Watch: J. Christopher Love.

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How to expose the behaviors of genes, RNA, proteins, and metabolites in single cells

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***C. elegans* Physical Map, circa 1989**

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SEPTEMBER 2009

Online



This month at www.the-scientist.com, find the following Web features:

- What do super soybeans look like? Check out our online video, which depicts Dupont scientists' attempts to produce beans with oil that contains 20% less saturated fat and a higher proportion of oleic acid than normal soy oil.
- Extra data and analyses from this year's Salary Survey.
- Rah, rah, science!! Watch a video of professional basketball cheerleaders reciting scientific concepts, part of the "science cheerleader's" attempts to educate the public about science.

As always, find breaking news every day and leave your comments on individual stories on our Web site.



Coming in October...

Here's what you'll find in next month's issue:

- Is there such a thing as "evolution-proof" treatments for malaria, or interventions that prevent mosquitoes from evolving resistance? A group of scientists say yes—and are gathering data to prove it.
- More and more lab scientists are talking about the need to enrich the cage environment for rodents, despite some concerns that the changes could affect results. But while more facilities embrace enrichment, the consensus for what constitutes good practice, or even what constitutes enrichment at all, has remained elusive.
- How to start your own consultancy.
- A profile of Tim Hubbard at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute.
- Technologies—and strategies—for gathering better data on mammalian behavior in the lab and the field.

And much more.