

TheScientist

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F1000'S MAGAZINE OF THE LIFE SCIENCES

Oink, Oink

CAN CONGRESSIONAL
EARMARKS BREED
GOOD RESEARCH?

CAN HEAT SHOCK
PROTEINS COOL
OFF AGING?

WHY BACTERIA
ARE LIKE TONY
SOPRANO

DO WOMEN
MAKE BETTER
PIs?

PLUS:
FLIES LOVE
ALCOHOL.
REALLY LOVE IT.



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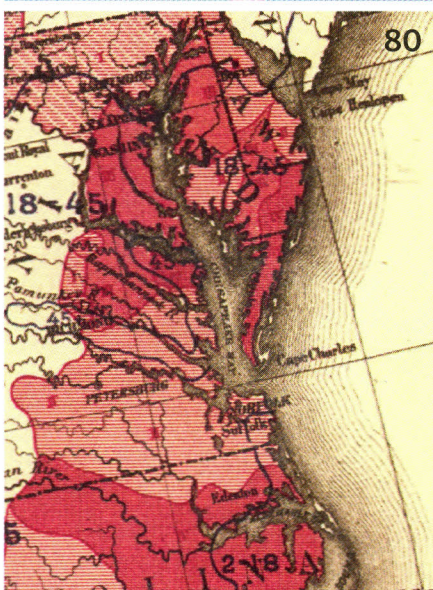
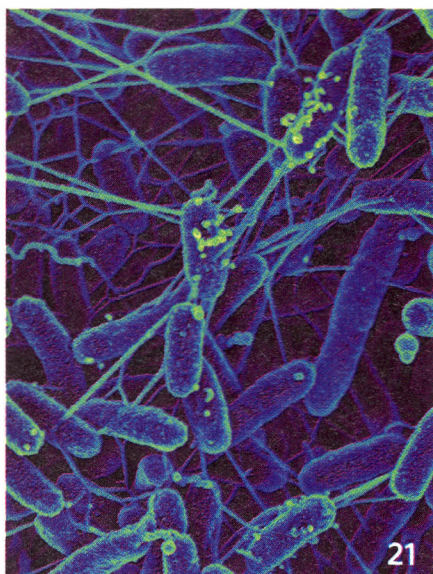
- 32** **Science, Side of Pork**
COVER STORY » It's the other source of science funding. Earmarks have been on the rise for the past 40 years, and thousands of projects now get billions of dollars directly from Congress every year, sidestepping the traditional competitive, peer-review process that characterizes most federal grants. **BOB GRANT** asks: Are earmark-funded projects legit? Plus, see the steps to getting an earmark, and the qualities Congress looks for in pork-worthy projects.

ON THE COVER

Illustration by Tim Tomkinson



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An increasing amount of data is showing that the battle over the body between pathogens and hosts needs much more than a simple military metaphor to describe it, says **JEF AKST**—think undercover infiltration, front organizations, and forced suicide.
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The accumulation of misfolded protein marks the accrual of years as a body ages, according to **RICHARD MORIMOTO**, at Northwestern University. If scientists can find a way to increase the production of heat shock proteins—which oversee protein folding—could they slow aging and reduce the risk of disease?



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