NEWS & COMMENT

Varmus: The View From Bethesda 1364
Invader Threatens Black, Azov Seas 1366
Alchemy Altercation at Texas A&M 1367
Rubbia Floats a Plan for Accelerator Power Plants 1368

RESEARCH NEWS

The Greatest Extinction Gets Greater 1370
Is Earth's Future Climate Written in the Stars? A Stellar Blast From the Past 1372
Dioxin Tied to Endometriosis 1373
Proteins and Organic Solvents Make an Eye-Opening Mix 1374
Claim of Higher Risk for Women Smokers Attacked 1375

change partners

1401

NEWS & COMMENT

Varmus: The View From Bethesda 1364
Invader Threatens Black, Azov Seas 1366
Alchemy Altercation at Texas A&M 1367
Rubbia Floats a Plan for Accelerator Power Plants 1368

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The Greatest Extinction Gets Greater 1370
Is Earth's Future Climate Written in the Stars? A Stellar Blast From the Past 1372
Dioxin Tied to Endometriosis 1373
Proteins and Organic Solvents Make an Eye-Opening Mix 1374
Claim of Higher Risk for Women Smokers Attacked 1375

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Resistance genes are widely used to control plant diseases caused by bacteria, fungi, viruses, and nematodes. A single gene, Pto, encoding a protein kinase, confers resistance in tomato to the bacterial pathogen Pseudomonas syringae pv. tomato, as shown by the healthy leaves from genetically modified plants (diseased leaves are from susceptible, wild-type plants). The presence of Pto homologs in many crop species may expedite the isolation of other plant resistance genes. See page 1432. [Photo: Gregory B. Martin]