A seedling carpet dominated by *Dipteryx oleifera* (almendro) in the forest understory of Barro Colorado Island, Panama. Seedlings here have a lower probability of surviving when surrounded by neighbors of their own species. However, rare species suffer more from the presence of like neighbors than do common species, suggesting a mechanism that shapes species abundances in diverse tropical forest communities. See page 330.

*Photo: Christian Ziegler*
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