CONTENTS

12 AUGUST 2016 • VOLUME 353 • ISSUE 6300

647 & 708
Targeting amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

647 ONE TARGET FOR AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS THERAPY?
Targeting a single protein reduces both toxic repeat RNAs and proteins
By S. Mizielinska and A. M. Isaacs
REPORT P. 708

648 MEASURING THE PASSAGE OF BRAIN TIME
Many brain areas are under both circadian and homeostatic control
By C. A. Czeisler
REPORT P. 687

650 ATMOSPHERIC RADICAL CHEMISTRY REVISITED
Sunlight may directly drive previously unknown organic reactions at environmental surfaces
By V. Vaida
REPORT P. 699

641 OIL IN THE FOREST
A rash of spills in the Amazon has scientists and villagers scrambling to understand oil's effects on the ecosystem
By B. Fraser

FEATURES

638 FROM BARK TO BEDSIDE
Clinical trials in pets are ramping up, but will they benefit human health?
By D. Grimm

634 NIH PLANS TO FUND HUMAN-ANIMAL CHIMERA RESEARCH
Agency would subject experiments—such as growing human organs in pigs—to extra ethical review
By J. Kaiser

633 CAN CAPTIVE BREEDING SAVE MEXICO’S VAQUITA?
Scientists mull a risky strategy to save an imperiled porpoise
By B. Goldfarb

635 PARTICLE NO-SHOW AT LHC PROMPTS ANXIETY
Accelerator enters prime discovery phase, but the clock is ticking
By A. Cho

637 SCIENTISTS SPLIT ON OREGON OLD-GROWTH FOREST PLAN
The northern spotted owl is again the center of controversy
By W. Cornwall

INSIGHTS

PERSPECTIVES

644 MAKING SENSE OF THE EXOPLANET ZOO
The diversity of substellar objects may call for a rethinking of our labeling conventions
By R. Oppenheimer
RESEARCH ARTICLE P. 673

646 TWISTS AND TURNS IN GATING ION CHANNELS WITH VOLTAGE
The EAG potassium channel may use an alternative voltage-dependent gating mechanism
By G. E. S. Toombes and K. J. Swartz
RESEARCH ARTICLE P. 664

POLICY FORUM

653 THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE-CHANGE NEOSKEPTICISM
Decision science and risk management are underutilized
By P. C. Stern et al.

NEWS

IN BRIEF

628 News at a glance

IN DEPTH

632 FOUNDER’S DEATH UNSETTLES EGYPT'S SCIENCE CITY
Nobel Prize–winning chemist Ahmed Zewail was key to fundraising and recruitment
By R. F. Service

633 CAN CAPTIVE BREEDING SAVE MEXICO’S VAQUITA?
Scientists mull a risky strategy to save an imperiled porpoise
By B. Goldfarb

634 NIH PLANS TO FUND HUMAN-ANIMAL CHIMERA RESEARCH
Agency would subject experiments—such as growing human organs in pigs—to extra ethical review
By J. Kaiser

635 PARTICLE NO-SHOW AT LHC PROMPTS ANXIETY
Accelerator enters prime discovery phase, but the clock is ticking
By A. Cho

637 SCIENTISTS SPLIT ON OREGON OLD-GROWTH FOREST PLAN
The northern spotted owl is again the center of controversy
By W. Cornwall

IN BRIEF

628 News at a glance

IN DEPTH

632 FOUNDER’S DEATH UNSETTLES EGYPT'S SCIENCE CITY
Nobel Prize–winning chemist Ahmed Zewail was key to fundraising and recruitment
By R. F. Service

633 CAN CAPTIVE BREEDING SAVE MEXICO’S VAQUITA?
Scientists mull a risky strategy to save an imperiled porpoise
By B. Goldfarb

634 NIH PLANS TO FUND HUMAN-ANIMAL CHIMERA RESEARCH
Agency would subject experiments—such as growing human organs in pigs—to extra ethical review
By J. Kaiser

635 PARTICLE NO-SHOW AT LHC PROMPTS ANXIETY
Accelerator enters prime discovery phase, but the clock is ticking
By A. Cho

637 SCIENTISTS SPLIT ON OREGON OLD-GROWTH FOREST PLAN
The northern spotted owl is again the center of controversy
By W. Cornwall

FEATURES

638 FROM BARK TO BEDSIDE
Clinical trials in pets are ramping up, but will they benefit human health?
By D. Grimm

634 NIH PLANS TO FUND HUMAN-ANIMAL CHIMERA RESEARCH
Agency would subject experiments—such as growing human organs in pigs—to extra ethical review
By J. Kaiser

633 CAN CAPTIVE BREEDING SAVE MEXICO’S VAQUITA?
Scientists mull a risky strategy to save an imperiled porpoise
By B. Goldfarb

635 PARTICLE NO-SHOW AT LHC PROMPTS ANXIETY
Accelerator enters prime discovery phase, but the clock is ticking
By A. Cho

637 SCIENTISTS SPLIT ON OREGON OLD-GROWTH FOREST PLAN
The northern spotted owl is again the center of controversy
By W. Cornwall

INSIGHTS

PERSPECTIVES

644 MAKING SENSE OF THE EXOPLANET ZOO
The diversity of substellar objects may call for a rethinking of our labeling conventions
By R. Oppenheimer
RESEARCH ARTICLE P. 673

646 TWISTS AND TURNS IN GATING ION CHANNELS WITH VOLTAGE
The EAG potassium channel may use an alternative voltage-dependent gating mechanism
By G. E. S. Toombes and K. J. Swartz
RESEARCH ARTICLE P. 664

POLICY FORUM

653 THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE-CHANGE NEOSKEPTICISM
Decision science and risk management are underutilized
By P. C. Stern et al.
664 STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY
Structure of the voltage-gated K⁺ channel Eagl reveals an alternative voltage sensing mechanism J. R. Whicher and R. MacKinnon
> PERSPECTIVE P. 646

669 PHYSICS
Laser spectroscopy of muonic deuterium R. Pohl et al.

673 EXTRASOLAR PLANETS
Direct imaging discovery of a Jovian exoplanet in a triple-star system K. Wagner et al.
> PERSPECTIVE P. 644

669 PHYSICS
Laser spectroscopy of muonic deuterium R. Pohl et al.

673 EXTRASOLAR PLANETS
Direct imaging discovery of a Jovian exoplanet in a triple-star system K. Wagner et al.
> PERSPECTIVE P. 644

699 ATMOSPHERIC CHEMISTRY
Atmospheric photochemistry at a fatty acid–coated air-water interface S. Rossignol et al.
> PERSPECTIVE P. 650

702 LIFE HISTORY
Eye lens radiocarbon reveals centuries of longevity in the Greenland shark (Somniosus microcephalus) J. Nielsen et al.
> PODCAST

705 HYDROLOGY
Continental patterns of submarine groundwater discharge reveal coastal vulnerabilities A. H. Sawyer et al.

708 NEURODEGENERATION
Spt4 selectively regulates the expression of C9orf72 sense and antisense mutant transcripts N. J. Kramer et al.
> PERSPECTIVE P. 647

RESEARCH ARTICLES

REPORTS
678 ORGANOMETALLICS
Isolation and structural and electronic characterization of salts of the decamethylferrocene dication M. Malischewski et al.

682 SOFT ELECTRONICS
Highly stretchable, transparent ionic touch panel C.-C. Kim et al.

687 SLEEP RESEARCH
Local modulation of human brain responses by circadian rhythmicity and sleep debt V. Muto et al.
> PERSPECTIVE P. 648

691 BRAIN MICROCIRCUITS
Imprinting and recalling cortical ensembles L. Carrillo-Reid et al.

694 ECONOMIC POLICY
The impact of homelessness prevention programs on homelessness W. N. Evans et al.

644 & 673

A Greenland shark (Somniosus microcephalus). These creatures are among the world’s largest carnivorous sharks and are distributed throughout Arctic waters. For decades, the longevity of this slow-growing species has remained a mystery. Using well-established radiocarbon dating techniques applied on Greenland shark eye lens tissue, Nielsen et al. estimate that these animals are the longest-living vertebrates known to date. See page 702. Photo © Nick Caloyianis/National Geographic Creative
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