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ON THE COVER



Worker termites (*Longipeditermes longipes*) carry masticated leaves back to their colony in the rainforest of Malaysian Borneo. Processionary termites are important decomposers of leaf

litter and can confer ecosystem resilience, as these insects often thrive during periods of environmental stress. Consequently, during drought, an uptick in termite activity and abundance leads to increased soil moisture, soil nutrient heterogeneity, leaf litter decomposition, and seedling survival. See page 174. Photo: Chien C. Lee

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