
From: Corina Tarnita [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 14, 2012 12:38 PM
To: Jeffrey Epstein
Subject: Re:

well it stinks in the cities but in the savannah, there's the sweetest =mell of red soils, black soils, fresh grass and occasional animal dung.

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012 at 8:34 AM, Jeffr=y Epstein <j=evacation@gmail.com <mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com> > wrote:

kenya

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012 at 8:31 AM, Corina=Tarnita [REDACTED]
> wrote:

what smells?

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012 at 7:28=AM, Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com
<mailto:jeevacation@gm=il.com> > wrote:

<=lockquote class="gmail_quote" style="margin:0 0 0 .8ex;border-left:1px=#ccc solid;padding-left:1ex">
ive never been but always wanted to go.. what about the smells?

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012 at 4:04 AM, Corina Ta=nita [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] wrote:

i'm studying relationships between ants =nd trees -- ants defend trees against herbivores; trees provide food and s=elter for the ants. and there's a very interesting ant that in certain=parts of kenya is a good mutualist and in other parts is parasitic (steril=zes the tree and prevents it from reproduction). i made a model to show th=t can happen when the system is invaded by another ant species which is ag=essive and dominant -- so the presence of a third species can lead to a sw=tch in the behavior of an existing one, from mutualist to parasite.

the reason it sterilizes is because then the tree diverts th= energy resources otherwise used for reproduction into making more food an= shelter for the ants. this way the ant colony gets larger and stronger an= has a much better chance against takeovers by the invader.

now that trees are budding and flowering we're goin= to different regions where the invasive ant is present, absent, or presen= but not yet spread all over the system, and measure how that affects the =ehavior of the other ant species. thus far it's quite promising -- the=hypothesis seems to be supported and the model turns out to be predictive =f the amount of sterilization observed in the different regions.

have you ever been to kenya? i'm falling in love wi=h the place..

On Thu, Apr 12, 2012 at 9:03 AM, Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

what is the experiment

On Thu, Apr 12, 2012 at 8:13 AM, Corina Tarnita [REDACTED] wrote:

dear jeffrey,

i'm so sorry but i will miss your visit to cambridge. i'm in kenya now at a research center here doing modeling and field work with my collaborators and we decided to extend the trip because finally the rains are coming (and that part is crucial for our experiment).

i'm really really sorry and hope to see you sometime soon.

c

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