

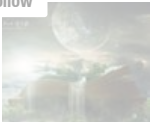


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Luring hornets: Scientists unlock sex pheromone of notorious honey bee predator

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From phys.org - October 12, 12:39 PM

"Over the past decade, Asian hornets, predatory insects with a widespread and expanding population, have invaded parts of Europe and Korea. *Vespa velutina* has a growing reputation as a species that proliferates rapidly, preys on honey bees and poses risks to humans.

Now a biologist at the University of California San Diego and his colleagues in Asia have developed a solution for controlling Asian hornets derived from the insect's natural chemical mating instincts.

As reported in the Oct. 11 edition of Scientific Reports, UC San Diego's James Nieh and researchers at the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Yunnan Agricultural University have deciphered the sex pheromone of *Vespa velutina*. Further, they developed a method of controlling Asian hornets by luring males into traps baited with synthesized versions of the pheromones."

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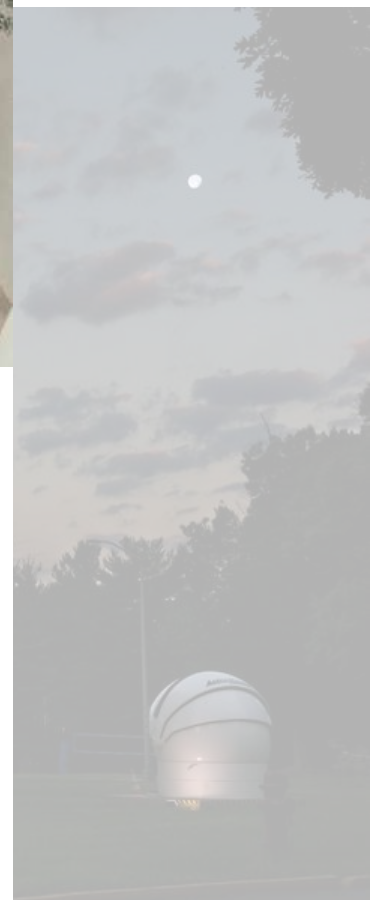
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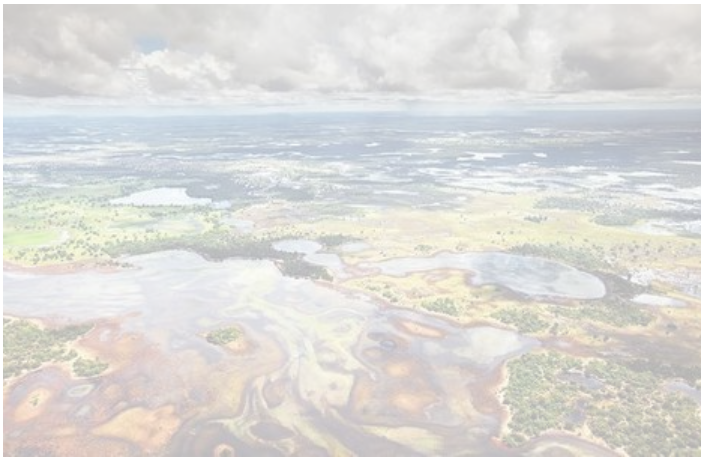
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fhtness, a highly useful property that

Ocean atmosphere rife with



From www.fubiz.net - October 17, 3:28 AM

DK Publishing published the beautiful book Natural Wonders of the World, a collection of travel and natural pictures to discover astonishing landscapes around the world.

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Whales and dolphins have rich 'human-like' cultures and societies

From phys.org - October 16, 11:47 PM

" Whales and dolphins (Cetaceans) live in tightly-knit social groups, have complex relationships, talk to each other and even have regional dialects - much like human societies.

A major new study, published today in Nature Ecology & Evolution, has linked the complexity of Cetacean culture and behaviour to the size of their brains.

The research was a collaboration between scientists at The University of Man-

microbes



From www.eurekalert.org - October 17, 12:05 AM

" Microbes are dispersed widely over the oceans with islands acting as stepping-stones to help transport of land-based organisms."

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Mapping the Many Ways Cities Have Changed Animal Behaviors

From www.citylab.com - October 14, 6:16 AM

" A new book maps how animals navigate a world heavily altered by urban development and climate change."

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chester, The University of British Columbia, Canada, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and Stanford University, United States.

The study is first of its kind to create a large dataset of cetacean brain size and social behaviours. The team compiled information on 90 different species of dolphins, whales, and porpoises. It found overwhelming evidence that Cetaceans have sophisticated social and cooperative behaviour traits, similar to many found in human culture.

The study demonstrates that these societal and cultural characteristics are linked with brain size and brain expansion—also known as encephalisation.”

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Lake Erie Gets Legendarily Slimed, Again

From www.citylab.com - October 14, 5:11 AM

“ A virulent algae bloom feeding on agricultural nutrients has transformed the water, yet again, into something green and oozing.”

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NASA Satellite Reveals Source of El Niño—Fueled Carbon Dioxide Spike



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The Burmese Star Tortoise Is Back From the Brink of Extinction

From www.atlasobscura.com - October 13, 11:49 AM

“ A meteoric return for a slow and steady reptile.”

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Will Italy's Ominous Supervolcano Erupt Soon?

From www.scientificamerican.com - October 13, 11:49 AM

"The OCO 2 mission serendipitously coincided with one of the strongest El Niños on record"

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You Can Now Take a Virtual Hike Around Canada's Polar Desert

From www.atlasobscura.com - October 13, 11:37 AM

"Quttinirpaaq National Park just became the northernmost spot on Google Streetview."

From www.scientificamerican.com - October 13, 11:46 AM

"Phlegrean Fields is waking up. Scientists are trying to predict what it will do next, and what its unrest means for volcanoes worldwide"

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Sticky feet evolved differently in geckos and anoles - Futurity

From www.futurity.org - October 13, 4:10 AM

"Two different groups of lizards—geckos and anoles—have similarly sticky feet, but took two very different evolutionary roads to get there."

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A clownfish can take on a shark, but this predicament may prove harder to handle

From www.popsci.com - October 13, 4:05 AM

"It isn't just corals that bleach—sea anemones do too. And when they bleach due to warming waters, fish pay the price."

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Geologic evidence is the forerunner of ominous prospects for a warming earth

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These are the most beautiful pictures of bugs you will ever see

From www.popsci.com - October 13, 4:01 AM

"Photographer Levon Biss takes pictures of insects that defy imagination. Take a new look at the six-legged creatures that share this world with us."

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We can finally map the spiral arm on the far side of the galaxy

From www.eurekalert.org - October 13, 2:12 AM

"While strong seasonal hurricanes have devastated many of the Caribbean and Bahamian islands this year, geologic studies on several of these islands illustrate that more extreme conditions existed in the past. A new analysis published in Marine Geology shows that the limestone islands of the Bahamas and Bermuda experienced climate changes that were even more extreme than historical events."

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Luring hornets: Scientists unlock sex pheromone of notorious honey bee predator

From www.newscientist.com - October 13, 1:59 AM

"Using a jet of radio waves, astronomers have begun to map the other side of the Milky Way. Within 10 years we could have a complete map of the entire galaxy"

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Carbon dioxide levels lower than thought during super greenhouse period

From [phys.org](#) - October 12, 12:39 PM

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Study shows removing invasive plants can increase biodiversity in stream waters

From [phys.org](#) - October 12, 8:21 AM

"Concentration of carbon dioxide during an intense period of global warmth may have been as low as half the level previously suggested by scientists, according to a new Dartmouth College study.

The study found that carbon dioxide may have been less than 1000 parts per million, or ppm, during the Earth's early Eocene period. This runs counter to thinking that concentration levels were as high as 2000 ppm in the same time frame.

By comparison, current levels of carbon dioxide observed at NOAA's Mauna Loa Observatory are around 400 ppm.

"This research provides important information about the planet's climate past and adds an important chapter to the Earth's history book," said Ying Cui, Oberling Postdoctoral Fellow at Dartmouth College.

Climate researchers focus on the early Eocene, a so-called "super greenhouse" period, to better understand how the Earth historically responds to changes in carbon dioxide levels, and to help make better climate projections. Both the Arctic and Antarctic were ice-free in this time period as temperatures averaged about 10 degrees Celsius warmer than present day.

The early Eocene was also characterized by five periods of extreme warmth—known as hyperthermals—that occurred between 52-56 million years ago when the Earth warmed an additional 2 C - 8 C above the already higher temperatures."

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Tracking the viral parasites of giant viruses over time

From [www.eurekalert.org](#) - October 12, 8:18 AM

"In freshwater lakes, microbes regulate the flow of carbon and determine if the bodies of water serve as carbon sinks or carbon sources. Viruses exist amidst all bacteria, usually in a 10-fold excess and include virophages which live in giant viruses and use their machinery to replicate and spread. Reported in *Nature Communications*, researchers at The Ohio State University and the

DOE Joint Genome Institute have effectively doubled the number of known virophages."

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This Is What Half a Year For One of Greenland's Most Imperiled Glaciers Looks Like

From www.eurekalert.org - October 12, 8:19 AM

" Restoration projects to remove invasive plants can make a positive impact on native plant species. But a new study featured in the journal Invasive Plant Science and Management shows restoration has an additional benefit. Removal of invasive species growing alongside a stream or river can also improve the biodiversity of aquatic organisms."

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Asteroid grazes past Earth in

'critical' rehearsal

From earthar.com - October 12, 1:02 AM

" Satellites have changed how we see the world. That includes being able to watch climate change overrun everything beautiful in agonizing detail. "

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Evolution: The beneficiaries of mass extinction

From [phys.org](#) - October 12, 7:14 AM

"A house-sized asteroid grazed past Earth Thursday, passing harmlessly inside the Moon's orbit, as predicted, to give experts a rare opportunity to rehearse for a real strike threat in future.

Dubbed 2012 TC4, the object's passing allowed scientists to practice spotting incoming objects, predicting their size and trajectory, and tracking their passage with a global network of telescopes and radars.

"We pretended that this was a critical object and exercised our communication," said Detlef Koschny of the European Space Agency's Near-Earth Object programme.

The trial run was "a big success," he said, despite some instruments not working as planned.

A radar system in Puerto Rico, for example, was out of service due to damage from the recent hurricane there.

"This is exactly why we do this exercise, to not be surprised by these things," Koschny told AFP.

The asteroid flitted past around 0541 GMT at less than 44,000 kilometres (27,300 miles) from Earth's surface—just above the 36,000 km plane at which hundreds of geosynchronous satellites orbit our planet.

This was about an eighth of the distance between the Earth and the Moon.

Scientists had predicted that TC4 was between 10 and 30 metres (33-99 feet) wide. In the end, it measured some 10-12 metres—the smaller end of the range.

"This means it must be very bright," to make it appear bigger, said Koschny. Observations also revealed that TC4 spins around its axis in about 12 minutes, "which is quite fast."

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From [www.eurekalert.org](#) - October 11, 11:47 AM

"Mass extinctions were followed by periods of low diversity in which certain new species dominated wide regions of the supercontinent Pangaea, reports a new study."

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Study identifies whale blow

microbiome

An Enormous Hole in Antarctica's Sea Ice Could Help Solve a Climate Riddle

From www.eurekalert.org - October 11, 1:57 AM

"A new study by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) and colleagues identified for the first time an extensive conserved group of bacteria within healthy humpback whales' blow--the moist breath that whales spray out of their blowholes when they exhale. The research published Oct. 10, 2017, in mSystems, an open-access journal of the American Society for Microbiology."

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From earther.com - October 12, 12:56 AM

"An enormous hole in the the wintertime sea ice surrounding Antarctica is attracting considerable scientific attention. Researchers think the so-called Weddell polynya is part of a natural cycle, but its present size—the biggest it's been since it was first spotted in the 1970s—could help us understand the processes controlling Antarctic circulation, and how the Southern Ocean is changing due to human-caused climate change."

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Goldfish produce alcohol to survive the winter

From [sciencenordic.com](#) - October 11, 2:23 AM

“Oxygen is key for the survival of most animals with vertebras, including fish – and humans. Key, in this respect, means that most would die within minutes of being deprived of oxygen.”

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