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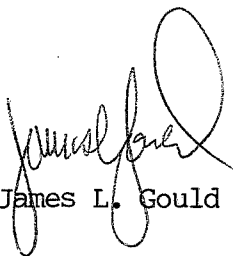
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To the Editors:

I read with interest the article "Yellow Rain" by Seeley et al. I was puzzled by an apparent omission: were the samples of honey bee feces obtained by my student, Dr. F. C. Dyer, and others tested for the presence of trichothecene toxins? I cannot imagine that such distinguished scientists as Drs. Seeley and Meselson (the two authors I know) would not have sought to establish this conclusive link in their chain of argument, and the omission of any reference to such tests naturally leads me to wonder if perhaps normal honey bee feces test negative for the toxins in question. If this is the case, I think it is important that the readers of SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN be made aware of the fact, since it admits the possibility of several alternative interpretations of the data--including, perhaps, a modified version of the one advanced by our government.



James L. Gould

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