

## Evidence News 0511 – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 AD

Pac-man evolves into biology, frogs lose their teeth and some seeds have really got it – the nasty D word – Design, and don't miss our new [QnA](#) website; so for a good read - get stuck into Evidence NEWS 0511 with EDitorial COMment, from John Mackay and the worldwide team at Creation Research. ENews is available in 2 FORMATS – for EMAIL scroll down – for PDF click below INDEX.

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**1. HUMAN GENOME EXPERT** Dr Francis Collins says God did use Evolution! But what answer does Professor Ed Neeland give? Ed is a well published scientist who has Hons B.Sc. Double Major Biology/Chemistry, M.Sc. Organic Chemistry, Ph.D. Organic Chemistry, Postdoc Botany. See our new FAQ web site [CLICK](#). And see Ed's reply [HERE](#).

**2. PRIMORDIAL PAC-MAN** as moving oil droplets hint at life's origin, according to *New Scientist*, 23 Jan 2011, p8 and 5 March 2011, p8-9. Researchers have injected oil drops with reactive chemicals which lower the oil's surface tension and results in moving the oil drops forward. The droplets can even negotiate a maze if the entrance and exit are at opposite ends and there is a chemical gradient across it. This movement, powered by chemical reactions, is touted as "possessing life-like properties". The on-line commentary of this article goes further and claims that "if you get the conditions right, basic life may emerge fully formed."

ED.COM. This study nicely shows how intelligent scientists can inject oil drops with reactive chemicals and make them move. But does this allow us to connect the dots and explain how chemistry became biology? Just as in the oil drop study, reactive chemicals (dynamite) can also move a piece of steel very fast but the moving steel does not possess life-like properties nor does it explain how a rocketship was created. So what does making oil drops move have to say about getting the right conditions to fully form life, its machinery and the incredible complex information that enables even a single celled amoeba to move? Actually nothing! Without exception, experience has shown that complex information (like that found in the living cell) only comes from an even more complex source. That Source has already told us who was responsible for life – check out Genesis 1:1). (Ref abiotic, chemical evolution, design)

**3. FROGS RE-EVOLVE TEETH**, claims a scientist in an article in the journal *Evolution* 27 Jan 2011 DOI:10.1111/j.1558-5646.2011.01221.x, and BBC Earth News 31 Jan 2011. A tree dwelling frog named *Gastrotheca guentheri* is the only known frog with teeth on both upper and lower jaws. Other frogs do not have teeth in their lower jaws, and it is assumed that the ancestor of modern frogs lost them millions of years ago. According to evolutionary biologists, once complex structures like teeth are lost in evolution they cannot re-evolve. This concept is called "Dollo's Law".

John Wiens, Department of Ecology and Evolution, Stony Brook University, claims he has found an exception to Dollo's Law. He explained: "I combined data from fossils and DNA sequences with new statistical methods and showed that frogs lost their teeth on the lower jaw more than 230 million years ago, but that they re-appeared in *G. guentheri* within the past 20 million years." He

went on to say: "The loss of mandibular teeth in the ancestor of modern frogs and their re-appearance in *G. guentheri* provides very strong evidence for the controversial idea that complex anatomical traits that are evolutionarily lost can re-evolve, even after being absent for hundreds of millions of years". Link: [BBC](#)

ED. COM. The actual observational data we have is that *Gastrotheca guentheri* has lower teeth and others don't. No-one has observed a toothless *Gastrotheca guentheri*, and no-one has observed a toothless frog of any kind gain any teeth. It is possible that other frogs once had teeth but lost them. It is even possible that other frogs still have the genetic information for lower teeth, but are perhaps missing a chemical signal that stimulates them to grow, just as the amphibian Axolotls can grow up, but in their original environment which lacked Iodine their growth glands could not function, so they didn't. Easy to prove – buy one and put no iodine in its tank. They simply mature without leaving the tadpole stage. Back to the frogs either way, loss of teeth is degeneration, not evolution.

We also wonder why evolutionists believe so firmly in "Dollo's Law". If they can believe complex structures like teeth evolved by chance random processes from nothing in the first place, so why can't they believe complex structures can evolve again by the same processes? We suppose it takes so much faith to believe living things evolved once, they must not have enough left to believe living things evolved twice. (Ref. amphibians, devolution)

**4. SECRETS OF SELF PLANTING SEEDS REVEALED**, as described in the *Journal of Experimental Biology*, doi: 10.1242/jeb.055673, published online 26 Jan 2011. A plant named Common Storksbill, a member of the geranium family with the scientific name *Erodium cicutarium* has a most efficient way of propagating itself. Its seeds are forcibly launched into the air, rather than just falling off, and when they land they drill themselves into the ground. The seeds are covered with backward pointing stiff hairs and are attached to a strap-like structure called an awn which is held straight in the seed pod, but coils into a helix when the seed has been launched. Dennis Evangelista from University of California, Berkeley filmed the launching of the seeds and the drilling into the ground. After analysing the movement of the awn he used engineering physics to calculate the amount of energy stored in the seeds as they ripened ready for launching, and analysed the movement of the awn to see how it drove the seed into the ground. The awn "behaved like a beam bending into a stretched logarithmic spiral." He found there was sufficient energy stored in the awns as they dried out in the seed heads for them to break free, overcome air resistance as they fly through the air, and send them about half a metre from the parent plant. Once on the ground the awn coils and uncoils as the humidity changes. This movement drives the seeds into the ground, with the backward pointing hairs ensuring the seed could only move in one direction.

ED. COM. If it takes engineering physics to understand how this plant works, the real questions to ask are why and who was the engineer who made it work this way? We can rule out the plant. We should also note these seeds fit all our engineering requirements for being a good example of a designed object. All objects that we know which have provably been designed by a pre-existing intelligence are made of 'natural' matter and function according to the laws of physics and chemistry.

But the designed object is not 'natural' or self developed or uncreated. It has had a designer who applied their pre-existent information to matter and energy, to achieve a purpose that would never happen by natural processes alone. In this case, the seed awns and spikes are made of cellulose and other substances whose chemistry we understand. However, it is not just the chemicals these self planting seeds are made from that enables them to work like this. They work because the plant is programmed to use its chemicals to grow in a particular way so the resulting plant structures are manipulated into an energy storing shape. This plant organisation and programming can be traced to the plant's DNA which is also made of chemicals, which also turn out to NOT be the source of the information which directs plant growth. DNA information is stored only in the coded arrangement of the chemicals, not in the chemicals themselves. So now to the basic question –

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which engineering genius added the coded information to the original DNA so that even it would be self replicating? (Ref. botany, design, bio-engineering)

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