



So how would you produce electric flowers, cacti demisters, and bees with computerised sensors, while you were blowing the daffodil's trumpet and blasting off with fungal power, as well as planning to be at the Ken Ham / John Mackay joint Seminar in September downunder?

G'day again from the Creation Guy John Mackay climbing Pyramid Hill as you read this and g'day also from our worldwide team as you read Evidence News 13/13 with EDitorial COMment.

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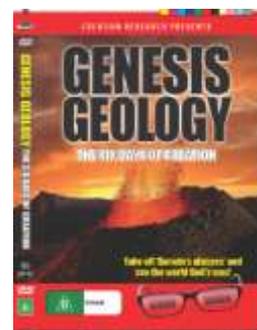
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1. GENESIS GEOLOGY DVD available from our offices worldwide via web shop [CLICK](#). A great look at how the created world began. Reveals an exciting picture of God's signature in the rocks. Learn how to get rid of the world's evolutionary view and see things through the Mind of Christ the Creator, who was there. Details events of the first 6 days of the earth's history as recorded in the Bible, the geological implications, and the evidence of creation. Filmed at the Isle of Wight Dino Dig for Families, UK. (Suits 12yrs +).



2. CACTI COLLECT FOG, according to report in *Nature Communications*, doi: 10.1038/ncomms2253, 4 December 2012. Cacti are well known for efficient methods of storing water, but before they can store water they have to collect it. Lei Jiang of the Institute of Chemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing

and colleagues, have studied how a cactus named *Opuntia microdasys* is able to harvest water from fog. This plant has clusters of spines made up of fine strap-like filaments set in bases named trichomes. The scientists examined the spines with an electron microscope and recorded the movement of water droplets along them. They found the tips of the spines were covered with tiny conical barbs that provided a larger surface area for collecting water droplets, and these were orientated in such a way as to force the water to move down grooves in the sides of the spines. The grooves are arranged in a spiral, and become wider and smoother as they get closer to the base. This facilitated the movement of drops to the bases where other drops from adjacent spines coalesced into one large drop on the trichome. The water is then rapidly absorbed by the trichome and stored within the stem. The research team wrote: "The integration of the multiple functions within the spines and the trichomes, including water deposition, collection, transportation and absorption in the cactus, facilitated an efficient fog collection system". They also suggested, "The investigation into the structure–function relationship within this system may offer systematic options that can be used to design novel materials and devices to efficiently collect fog". Researchers then suggested such fog collecting devices could help people to live in arid areas.

ED. COM. The usual explanation for cacti spines is that they evolved to deter animals from eating the cactus. However spikes that function as mere animal deterrents do not need such a well designed system for collecting water. The findings of this study remind us that if you ask how would you deliberately design plants for a world watered by a rising mist, such as is described in Genesis 2:5-6, the fog collecting system of these cacti would have been a great solution. What was their subsequent track record to desert type survivors? The Bible does record that after Noah's flood the climate and the environment rapidly degenerated. Droughts are the key to desert formation, and these begin to get a mention within several centuries after Noah. Cacti, with their ability to extract water from fog, rather than waiting for rain to moisten the soil, survived in such arid places whilst other plants died out. This is natural selection, but it is not evolution. Natural selection eliminates living things, but it is not a process that produces new life or new structures, such as the cactus water collecting system. It removes living things that can no longer survive in a tough environment, e.g. plants without fog collecting systems, and such a process has become a dominant eliminator only since the flood. It was not part of God's original very good creation.

We are also pleased to see researchers admit it will take brainy design to make fog collecting devices to help people living in arid areas. Oops ... that means they have no excuse for rejecting God's original smart design to make cactus fog collecting devices. (Ref. succulents, biomimicry, water cycle)

3. ELECTRIC BLOOMS COMMUNICATE WITH BUMBLEBEES, according to articles in BBC Nature News, ScienceNOW and ScienceDaily 21 February 2013, and ABC News in Science 22 February 2013. Plants use colourful and fragrant flowers to indicate to bees they have pollen and nectar. Scientists have now found another means for flowers and bees to communicate – by electric fields. Plants carry a small negative charge, and bumblebees take on a small positive charge as they fly. When a bee lands on a flower this charge difference helps transfer the pollen. It also means that for a brief time after a bee has visited a flower and collected nectar and pollen the flower's electric field is changed. A group of scientists at University of Bristol, UK tested bumblebees to see if they could detect changes in electric fields using artificial flowers where researchers deliberately manipulated the electric fields. They found bees could recognise differences in electric fields between charged and uncharged flowers, so they suggest that detection of electric fields enables bees to quickly know which flowers have recently been visited by other bees, and therefore will not have as much nectar and pollen. Therefore, bees do not waste energy, but are not deterred from visiting other flowers of the same species, colour and fragrance, that still have plenty of pollen and nectar. Daniel Robert, a professor in the University of Bristol's School of Biological Sciences, explained: "We just now have discovered that electrical potentials, an unavoidable by-product of flying in air for bumblebees and being grounded for the flower, is being exploited to benefit both parties". He went on to say: "Bees have what has been observed to be flower constancy, (meaning that) once they forage, they tend to keep going to one type of flower, and they

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keep going until they feel that the rewards are not worth it anymore. We think that flowers have their say in that strategy, and inform the bees that the supply will be back soon". He also explained: "The last thing a flower wants is to attract a bee and then fail to provide nectar: a lesson in honest advertising since bees are good learners and would soon lose interest in such an unrewarding flower. The co-evolution between flowers and bees has a long and beneficial history, so perhaps it's not entirely surprising that we are still discovering today how remarkably sophisticated their communication is". According to Robert this "dynamic interaction" is "another example of the beauty of evolution".

Links; [ABC](#), [BBC](#), [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. We do need to add that Dominic Clarke, who designed the artificial charged flowers in the laboratory, commented to BBC Nature: "Animals are just constantly surprising us as to how good their senses are. More and more we're starting to see that nature's senses are almost as good as they could possibly be". Can't help it can they ... "nature's senses are as good as they can be, eh?" And co-evolution is responsible! What an amalgam of meaningless words strung together to hide ignorance. It is true that when a bee lands on a flower, the negative charge in plants, the positive charge on bees, and changing electric field are natural phenomena, which can be explained by the laws of physics. BUT ...that actually does not explain how bees can make use of it. To do that the bee requires some means of sensing the change, and the inbuilt brain circuitry to interpret it, plus an inbuilt program to act on it, none of which are explained by laws of physics and chemistry.

The idea that "co-evolution" can produce such sophisticated communication is pure wishful thinking on behalf of those who believe in naturalistic, chance random evolution, as is the concept that some god named "nature" made the bees' senses "almost as good as they could possibly be". This observed "dynamic interaction" works in the same way as modern computer sensors which have dynamic interaction programs built into them – they are created with the right circuitry and response programs. In the case of bees, God the Creator made it Bee ... and it is and was very good. (Ref. pollinators, botany, biophysics)

4. DAFFODIL TRUMPET EXPLAINED, according to an article in ScienceDaily 9 March 2013, entitled "How the Daffodil Got Its Trumpet". The most distinctive feature of the daffodil flower is its corona, commonly referred to as the "trumpet". It has always been assumed that the corona is made from modified petals. Robert Scotland, Oxford University, UK and colleagues from Harvard University, the United States Department of Agriculture and University of Western Australia have studied gene activity of the different parts of the daffodil flowers as they develop and found the corona developed as a distinct structure, separate from petals, with gene activity more like that of the stamens. All parts of the daffodil flower sit on a base called the hypanthium, and Robert Scotland explained: "We found that the corona develops from the hypanthium, and is not simply an extension of the petals or stamens. The corona is an independent organ, sharing more genetic identity with stamens, and which develops after the other organs are fully established".

Link: [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. Actually, this study does not explain "how the daffodil got its trumpet". To do that you would need to explain how a plant with no trumpet changed into one that has it, so you would need to show what turned on all the appropriate genes at the right time during the flower's development to make the corona. Randomly turning them on is never observed to produce a useful structure. The unique gene sequences and structure of the corona is real evidence that the genus *Narcissus*, which includes daffodils, narcissi and jonquils, was created as a separate kind with all its features fully formed. All attempts to breed daffodils with any other flower form have only resulted in flowers with a muddled structure that may be attractive to people, but are usually infertile, as seen in "double daffodils". When "trumpeted" flowers are allowed to breed naturally they always breed after their kind, just as Genesis tells us. (Ref. botany, bulb flowers)

5. AMAZING HEAT POWER USED BY FUNGUS to launch spores caught on film by Joseph DeDalto (<http://www.thermalvideo.com/blog/thermal-infrared-video-comparison-of-spore-release> blog 2 July 2013). This video shows the release of spores of a fungus named Sclerotinia. DeDalto explained: “The first ones to emerge (blue, on right) create a wind that carries subsequent spores (yellow) higher. The last spores to emerge (red) can fly as high as 20 centimeters, much farther than any single spore could go by itself. The fungus stores pockets of heat from natural decay to be used during reproduction, aiding the spores to go further up vertically for a better chance to catch passing winds”.

ED. COM. Now wouldn't you save money if you could store heat for future purpose like this fungus does? But this would require forward planning, and it is the same for the fungus which also must have a means to store heat before it can use it. Heat storage in this world against a future need is only known to occur with intelligent creativity, but this fungal use reveals an extra factor about the original creation which all you creationists need to think through. A plant which uses “heat from natural decay” to multiply after its own kind means that some decay processes were at work in the original good world to recycle nutrients. Some of these processes involve simple chemical breakdown, which does produce heat. Therefore, the second law of thermodynamics was at work even in the original creation, prior to Adam sinning. Much plant material/and animal excrement recycling also involves fungi and bacteria, which reminds us these were originally all “very good”. The fact that many fungi, including Sclerotinia, can now cause disease is due to another kind of decay – mutations which alter the way they grow, reproduce and interact with other living things. For example, see our report “Mutation Turns Friend to Foe” [here](#).

Recycling plant nutrients also means there was ‘death’ and decay of plants before the Fall of Man, but is this a contradiction of the Biblical statement that death came into the world as a result of Adam's sin? (See Romans 5:12 and I Corinthians 15:21? For more details see the Creation Research article: *Biblical Biology: Questions of Life and Death*. PDF [here](#). (Ref. mycology, sporangia, reproduction)

6. FROM THE ARCHIVES: [Flowers and Bumblebees](#), [Flower Formation Genes](#), [Cactus Watering](#), [Plant and Fungi Movement](#)

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