



Seven minutes of terror and billions of dollars to find out something we can tell them for five cents. As we listened to the NASA experts discuss all the possible results of this research – life being created or God as Creator was not on their list – by fiat declaration of themselves. This in spite of the fact that every complex chemical tested from Mars whether it has been from the Allan Meteorites to samples from previous Space Landers has been abiotic – no life stuff. So thus far there is not the slightest evidence it exists or ever existed on Mars. Congratulation to NASA by the way on “creating” (their own term used in the broadcast) a great Space Lander because we all know it didn’t happen by itself but – here’s our 5 cents worth? We again predict that life did not arise on Mars, and life will be found only where God has put it. Of course we do have an advantage. They only have the ever evolving guesses of tax payer funded scientists who were not there and have no track record of making life yet they are stuck with the foolish notion it can happen by itself – whereas we have the Word of the Creator Christ who was there when life was made. Don’t forget that when a previous NASA machine found water on Mars in 2008 we wrote: “we suspect there is no life on Mars because God has another use for Mars. It was long ago labelled a planet, which is an old word meaning “moving star”, and it serves as one of the many moving lights in the sky that God designated to serve as guides to times, signs and seasons. (Genesis 1:14)” See our report “Water Found on Mars” [here](#).

Now enjoy the out of this world Evidence NEWS number 20/12 with Editorial COMment from John Mackay and the whole Creation Research Team.

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**1. CHECK OUT OUR PREDICTIONS FILE** click [here](#).

**2. DONT MISS John Mackay in USA** Tennessee August – details [here](#).

**3. BBC BACKS DOWN ON “STUPID” COMMENT**, as reported by BBC News and *The Telegraph* 31 July 2012. In an interview with Richard Dawkins in September 2011 prominent BBC interviewer Jeremy Paxman referred to belief in creation as “religious hogwash” and those who believe it as “stupid people”. Following a complaint, the BBC Trust has acknowledged that Paxman’s comments, “were offensive to some of the audience and that there was no clear editorial purpose for their use in the context of this *Newsnight* item” and the item breached the Editorial Guidelines on Harm and Offence.

Links: [BBC](#), [Telegraph](#)

**4. ANTARCTIC PALMS FOUND**, according to articles in BBC and ScienceDaily 1 August 2012 and *Nature* vol. 488, p73, 2 Aug 2012, doi:10.1038/nature11300. An International team of scientists have studied a sediment core extracted from deep in the sea floor off the eastern coast of Antarctica by the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP). They found pollen and spores from palm trees, baobab trees, macadamia trees, *Araucaria* trees and other tropical and subtropical vegetation. They also found microorganisms called archaea, whose cell walls change their molecular structure with variations in temperature. These changes are preserved when they die, so the scientists were able to estimate the temperature of the soil they lived in. The researchers concluded the temperatures in Antarctica at the time of these trees and microbes did not go below 10 degrees Celsius (50 F), with daytime temperatures into the mid 20s (over 70 F). The sediment core is dated as 52 million years old, a period known as the Eocene. According to the *Nature* Editor’s Summary: “During the early Eocene epoch, atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations were perhaps three times those of the modern era. There was a generally flattened latitudinal temperature gradient, and the poles were much warmer than they are at present”. The warm polar regions are considered to result from a combination of the high carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and warm ocean currents. Jörg Pross, a paleoclimatologist at the Goethe University explained: “The CO<sub>2</sub> content of the atmosphere as assumed for that time interval is not enough on its own to explain the almost tropical conditions in the Antarctic. Another important factor was the transfer of heat via warm ocean currents that reached Antarctica”.

Links: [BBC](#), [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. A “generally flattened latitudinal temperature gradient” means temperatures over the world were more even than they are now. This means when the polar regions are warm enough for life, the equatorial regions are not too hot for life, as the climate alarmists would want people to assume. At present Antarctica and the high Arctic regions are uninhabitable, but think how much more of the earth would be available to live in if they were warm enough for trees and other vegetation to grow. Studies of sediment cores at the other end of the earth, the Arctic, indicate it also once supported forests. See our report “Was Greenland really green?” [here](#). Furthermore, we know from our own experiments, and from the fossil record, high carbon dioxide is associated with increased plant growth and lush vegetation, and therefore more food for animals and humans. Overall, evenly distributed warmth and a high carbon dioxide atmosphere would be good for the whole planet and the whole human race. By the way, Macadamia nuts were originally called Queensland nuts, after the tropical Australian state where they were found. Perhaps we should rename them Antarctic nuts. And no – such evidence is not the result of

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continental drift and the red laterised soils under the Antarctic snow have been a dead giveaway for a long time that the climate used to be warm and wet. (Ref. climate, weather, botany, forests)

**5. ROMAN EMPIRE WARMS UP**, according to reports in, ScienceDaily 9 July 2012, *New Scientist* 10 July 2012 and *Nature Climate Change*, DOI: 10.1038/nclimate1589. An international team of scientists led by Jan Esper of Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz has studied density of tree rings in old trees and preserved trees in Finnish Lapland. According to Esper, warm summer temperatures are associated with higher density in tree rings so they can be used to show trends in temperatures over the years the trees lived. Using their measurements the research team have reconstructed temperatures in northern Europe going back to 138 BC. A graph of their results shows cycles of warm and cool periods: a warm period during the Roman Empire followed by a cool period during the “migration era” following the collapse of the Roman Empire, then a warm period in the Middle Ages followed by the “Little Ice Age” and then the current warm period beginning around the time of the industrial revolution. These variations have been known about previously, but Esper stated, “We found that previous estimates of historical temperatures during the Roman era and the Middle Ages were too low”. This would explain why it was warm enough to grow grape vines in northern England during the Roman occupation of Britain. Although temperatures have varied, the overall trend has been a slight cooling over the two millennia. The scientists believe this is the result of small variations in the earth orbit known as Milankovitch wobbles, which result in less solar radiation on the earth.

Links: [New Scientist](#), [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. The graph produced by this research indicates that both the Roman and Medieval warm periods were warmer than the current warm period. As neither of these periods were associated with industrialisation, they are therefore evidence that the association of the current warm period with the industrial revolution is a historical coincidence rather than cause and effect. It is interesting climate researchers are prepared to blame a natural phenomenon, i.e. variation in earth’s orbit, for the cooling, but not look for natural causes for the warm periods. ALSO you may never have thought of it – but one reason the Christian Gospel was spread so quickly in the first few centuries was not just the *Pax Romanus* and not just the Roman military roadways, but the very important fact that the weather was very amenable to travel. (Ref. forests, weather)

**6. CANE TOADS EVOLVE IN SPACE** reported in ABC News in Science 22 March 2011 and *PNAS* doi: 10.1073/pnas.1018989108. Rick Shine of University of Sydney and colleagues claim to have found a new mechanism of evolution after studying the relentless march of cane toads across northern Australia. According to the researchers, the rate of toad invasion has accelerated due to the toads evolving longer legs and being able to run faster than previous generations. Shine explained: “We know it’s evolutionary because the kids of toads from different areas run just as fast as their parents. So the question is what process has caused that evolutionary change?” According to Darwin’s theory of natural selection, evolutionary changes are preserved in populations because they enhance survival and reproduction. Therefore, the long legged toads at the invasion front should survive better or reproduce more, but according to Shine, “None of the evidence says that’s the case”. In fact, the long legged toads are proving more vulnerable to predators, tend to get spinal arthritis, and reproduce less. Shine and his colleagues have come up with a new explanation: “spatial sorting”. Shine explained that the toads at the front line are a “very non-random set”. They would be “very bold and adventurous souls” that are “going to be fast-moving, fast dispersing”. Therefore, as toads with these traits find themselves in the same place they mate with each other, and the genes for the fast moving traits accumulate in the succeeding generations. Shine said: “The process can work even if there is not survival or reproductive advantage”. Shine claimed: “It’s a pretty radical concept. It’s the first really new mechanism for evolutionary change for 150 years”.

Link: [ABC](#)

ED. COM. In 2006 we wrote: "...the toads which are winning the race across Australia, are the ones that already have a gene for longer legs. As a result of leaving the others behind the faster toads are becoming temporarily separated from the shorter legged toads. Therefore, toads at the invasion front can only mate with toads of similar leg length and thus reinforce the long legged tendency". We pointed out the long legged toads at the invasion front were not evolving by Darwinian natural selection. See our original report [here](#). We did describe the process that Shine and colleagues claim to have discovered, but congratulations to them for coming up with a name for it – "spatial sorting" - but a reminder – it's not evolution either, since no new genes are actually appearing at all. (Ref. amphibians, Bufo marinus)

**7. NO ADAPTATION FOR CANE TOADS**, according to a report in Biology Open doi: 10.1242/bio.2011024 15 January 2012. Since their introduction to eastern Australia over 70 year ago cane toads have been moving westwards across northern Australia. The toads at the migration front are believed to have been evolving ways that help them invade new territory. According to a group of Australian scientists, "Previous studies of cane toads at the invasive front have identified several behavioural, morphological and locomotory characteristics that have evolved to facilitate dispersal of toads". The research team has now compared toads from the invasion front with toads that have stayed put on the east coast to see if their physiology, (internal body functions) has adapted to help them move into new territory. The researcher put the two groups of toads through a series of exercise tests, measured their endurance, and studied their blood and muscle biochemistry. They summarised their results as follows: "None of the measured physiological parameters supported the hypothesis that toads from the invasive front possess physiological adaptations that facilitate dispersal compared to toads from areas colonised in the past. The strongest difference among the three groups of toads, time to exhaustion, showed exactly the opposite trend; toads from the long-established populations in the east coast had the longest time to exhaustion". They concluded: "Successful colonisers can employ many characteristics to facilitate their dispersal, so the extent to which behaviour, morphology and physiology co-evolve remains an interesting question. However, in the present case at least, behavioural adaptations do not appear to have altered the organism's underlying physiology".

ED. COM. The "morphological and locomotory characteristics" found in the previous studies referred to by the researchers were that cane toads on the front line had longer legs and could hop faster. Therefore, they became separated from their short legged relatives and could only breed amongst themselves, so successive generations inherited longer legs. As we have explained several times, this is not evolution. This new study of internal body functions is confirmation that cane toads are not evolving, in spite of many claims on TV and in Text Books that they are. All of the variations in legs, behaviour and body functions found by cane toad researchers show no evidence toads have evolved from or into anything else, i.e. they have reproduced after their kind, just as Genesis says. (Ref. amphibians, Bufo marinus)

**8. WE FILMED** the Great Aussie Toad Race across Australia see the Creation Research DVD *Darwin's Evolution: a very unnatural selection*. Order from your nearest Creation Research office or from the online webshop [here](#).

**9. FROM THE ARCHIVES:** Each week we publish links to previous items related to this issue's topics: [Warm Antarctica](#), [Warm Arctic](#), [Cane Toads and Snakes](#).

Remember also, all our news items and quotes are archived as individual items in the Fact File on our Evidence website [here](#). Make the most of this useful resource.

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