Selection criteria
The criteria for selection are: work of outstanding importance, scientific excellence, originality and interest to a wide spectrum of biologists. The Editors are responsible for all editorial decisions and they make these decisions based on the reports received from the referees and/or Editorial Board members.

Many more manuscripts are submitted to us than we have space to print, and we give preference to those that present significant advances of broad interest. Submission of preliminary reports, articles that merely confirm previous findings, and of articles that are likely to interest only small groups of specialists, is not encouraged. All articles are sent to Editorial Board members for an initial assessment of their suitability, and may be returned to authors without further consideration if this assessment makes it seem unlikely that they will be accepted.

GUIDANCE FOR AUTHORS
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Cover image: Anti-plant-symbionts involve a third partner, a fungus of the order Coniothyrium, that is grown by the ants within plant cavities. Labelling the fungus with a fluorescent dye, in order to track its fate in the anti-plant system, shows that it is killed as a food source. (See pages 3940-3947, image courtesy of Rumsas Blatt.)