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Coevolutionary adaptations in plants and insects

Cover image: Pictured is a Hapigia sp. caterpillar, a herbivore associated with the Amazonian tree genus Inga. María-José Endara et al. found that closely related Inga species have highly divergent antiherbivore defenses. Further, closely related lepidopteran herbivores prefer grazing on Inga species with similar defenses rather than on closely related plants. According to the authors, plants may evolve rapidly based on herbivore selection. However, the evolutionary trajectory of herbivores may be slow and based on the herbivores' own traits at the time they encounter a new host. See the article by Endara et al. on pages E7499-E7505. Image courtesy of María-José Endara.

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