

CURRICULUM VITAE - SUMMARIZED

William Wayt Thomas
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Institute of Systematic Botany
The New York Botanical Garden
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Education:

The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill B.A. Botany 1973
The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor M.S. Botany 1976
The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Ph.D. Botany 1982

Positions Held:

Collection Manager, Herbarium, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA, 1982-83
B. A. Krukoff Research Associate, The New York Botanical Garden, 1983-86
Assistant Curator, The New York Botanical Garden, 1986-1992
Associate Curator, The New York Botanical Garden, 1992-2000
The Elizabeth G. Britton Curator of Botany, The New York Botanical Garden, 2000- 2021
Curator Emeritus, The New York Botanical Garden, 2022-present

Other Positions:

Member, Doctoral Faculty in the Plant Sciences Ph.D. Program of City Univ. of New York, 1987- Present
Adjunct Research Scientist, Earth Institute, Columbia University, 1997- 2021
Adjunct Professor, Fordham University, 2008 – 2021
Member, Doctoral Faculty of the Plant Biology Ph.D. Program of the Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil, 2012 – Present

Service (selected):

Board of Directors, International Pernambuco Conservation Initiative – U.S., 2007 – present
Board of Directors and Secretary, Rainforest Trust, 2007 – 2022

Doctoral Committee Chair or Co-Chair:

Current:

Karina de Nazaré Lima Alves, Universidade Federal Rural da Amazônia/Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, Belém, Pará, Brazil

Gabriela dos Santos Amorim. Graduate Program in Plant Biology, Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil

Former:

Ana Claudia Araújo: Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil; defended in October, 2001.

Marccus Vinícius Alves: Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil; defended in March, 2003.

Carolina Galindo da Costa, Doctoral Program in Plant Biology, Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil: defended February, 2017.

Suzana Maria dos Santos Costa, Doctoral Program in Botany, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil; defended March, 2018.

Marcelo Fernando Devecchi, Doctoral Program in Botany, University of São Paulo, Brazil, defended in July, 2017

Seth Ganzhorn, Department of Biology, Fordham University, New York, defended July, 2014

Guadalupe Edelma Licona Macedo: Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco, Recife, Brazil; defended, Feb., 2007.

Meghan McGinty, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology, Columbia University, New York, defended May, 2011.

Daniel Piotto, Yale University School of Forestry and Environment, New Haven, Connecticut; defended, Feb., 2011.

Ana Paula Prata: Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil; defended in April, 2004.

Pedro Joel Silva da Silva Filho, Doctoral Program in Botany, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil; defended May, 2018.

Raimundo Luciano Soares Neto, Doctoral Program in Plant Biology, Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil; defended Feb., 2019.

Fabio A. Vitta: Universidade Estadual de Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil; defended in 2005.

Philipy Alexandre Pereira Weber, Doctoral Program in Botany, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, defended, June, 2020.

Research Grants (selected):

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation grant for "Botanical Diversity of the Atlantic Coastal Forests of Brazil," 1989-1999

National Science Foundation grant for "The Assessment of the Needs of Free-Standing Museums for the Computerization of Collections Management and Related Research," BSR-9118843, 1991-1993

The Tinker Foundation Incorporated: Support for the Organization for Flora Neotropica; with Scott Mori and James Luteyn, 1997

American Philosophical Society grant for "The Natural History and Conservation of the Atlantic Coastal Forests of Northeastern Brazil," 1999-2000

National Science Foundation grant for "Plant Diversity in Three Reserves in Southern Bahia, Brazil," DEB 9972116, 1999-2002

National Geographic Society grant for "The Flora of the Dry Forests of Coastal Bahia, Brazil," 1999-2000

Fulbright Scholarship Program: Fulbright Senior Specialists grant in Environmental Science at the Federal University of Paraíba, João Pessoa, Brazil. 2005

National Science Foundation grant for "Plant Diversity in the Montane and Submontane Forests of Southern Bahia and Northern Espírito Santo, Brazil," DEB 0516233, 2005-2008

National Science Foundation. "Collaborative Digitization of New York Botanical Garden Herbarium Specimens from Amazonian Brazil." 2008-2011 (B. Thiers, PI; W. Thomas Co-PI).

Velux Stiftung Foundation. "Research and Conservation in the Coastal Forest of Bahia, Brazil." 2010-2012

National Science Foundation. "Coastal Forest Plant Diversity in Northeastern Brazil." DEB 0946618, 2010-2012

Science Without Borders, Special Visiting Researcher Program, Brazil:
MEC/MCTI/CAPES/CNPq/FAPs and the Graduate Program in Plant Biology of the Federal University of Pernambuco

National Science Foundation. "A multidisciplinary framework for biodiversity prediction in the Brazilian Atlantic forest hotspot." DEB1343578 Dimensions US-BIOTA-São Paulo. 2013-2018 (F. Michelangeli PI, W. Thomas Co-PI)

Google, Inc. "Support for the Development of the World Flora Online Project," 2014-2017 (M. Tulig Co-PI)

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. "Development of the World Flora Online (WFO): An Open Access Resource for All the Earth's Plants," 2014-2016 (M. Tulig Co-PI)

Fulbright Distinguished Chair in STEM Fellowship in partnership with FACEPE (Fundação de Amparo à Ciência e Tecnologia do Estado de Pernambuco) and the Federal University of Pernambuco. 2018-2019

Fondation Franklinia. "Conservation of Atlantic Forest's endangered tree species in southern Bahia, Brazil," 2020-2021 (D. Piotto Co-PI)

Research Interests:

Plant Diversity and Conservation of Brazil's Atlantic Coastal Forest

Systematics and evolution of the Cyperaceae, especially *Rhynchospora*

Systematics of the New World species of Simaroubaceae and Picramniaceae

Publications (selected):

- Thomas, W. W. 1984. The systematics of *Rhynchospora* section *Dichromena* (Cyperaceae). Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 37: 1-116.
- Thomas, W. W. 1984. A new species of *Simaba* from Pará, Brazil, with a key to the species of *Simaba* north of the Amazon River. Brittonia 36: 244-247.
- Thomas, W. W. 1988. A conspectus of Mexican and Central American *Picramnia* (Simaroubaceae). Brittonia 40(1): 89-105. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2307/2806882>
- Thomas, W. W. and G. Davidse. 1989. *Koyamaea neblinensis*, a new genus and species of Cyperaceae (Scleroioideae) from Cerro de la Neblina, Venezuela and Brazil. Syst. Bot. 14(2): 189-196.
- Thomas, W. W. 1992. A synopsis of *Rhynchospora* (Cyperaceae) in Mesoamerica. Brittonia 44(1): 14-44.
- Thomas, W. W. 1994. *Rhynchospora*, Cyperaceae. Pp. 404-422 In: G. Davidse, M. Sousa S. and A. O. Chater (general eds.), Flora Mesoamericana, Volumen 6, Alismataceae to Cyperaceae. Inst. de Biología, Univ. Nacional Autónoma de México, México.
- Brown, I. F., L. A. Martinelli, M. Z. Moreira, W. W. Thomas, C. A. C. Ferreira, and R. A. Victoria. 1995. Uncertainty in the Biomass of Amazonian Forests: An Example from Rondônia, Brazil. Forest Ecology and Management 75: 175-189.

- Thomas, W. W., A. M. de Carvalho, A. M. Amorim, J. Garrison, and A. L. Arbeláez. 1998. Plant endemism in two forests in southern Bahia, Brazil. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 7(3): 311-322. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1008825627656>
- Thomas, W. W. 1998. *Rhynchospora* (Cyperaceae). Pages 610-629, in: (J. A. Steyermark, P. E. Berry, and B. K. Holst, eds.) *Flora of the Venezuelan Guayana, Volume 4, Caesalpiniaceae–Ericaceae*. Missouri Botanical Garden Press, St. Louis.
- Thomas, W. W. 1999. Conservation and monographic research on the flora of Tropical America. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 8: 1007-1015. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1008857429787>
- Thomas, W. W. 2007. Survival of the Rarest. *Natural History* (June) 116 (5): 24-27.
- Thomas, W. W. (ed.). 2008. The Atlantic Coastal Forest of Northeastern Brazil. *Memoirs New York Botanical Garden* 100: 1-586.
- Amorim, A. M., W. W. Thomas, A. M. de Carvalho and J. G. Jardim. 2008. Floristics of the Una Biological Reserve, Bahia, Brazil. In: W. Thomas (ed.), *The Atlantic Coastal Forest of Northeastern Brazil*. *Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden* 100: 67-146.
- Mattos Silva, L. A., J. G. Jardim, W. W. Thomas, and T. S. dos Santos. 2008. Common Names of Vascular Plants of the Atlantic Coastal Forest Region of Southern Bahia, Brazil. In: W. Thomas (ed.), *The Atlantic Coastal Forest of Northeastern Brazil*. *Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden* 100: 245-318.
- Thomas, W. W. and M. R. V. Barbosa. 2008. Natural Vegetation Types in the Brazilian Atlantic Coastal Forest North of the Rio Doce. In: W. Thomas (ed.), *The Atlantic Coastal Forest of Northeastern Brazil*. *Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden* 100: 6-20.
- Thomas, W. W., A. M. de Carvalho, A. M. A. Amorim, J. Garrison, T. S. dos Santos. 2008. Diversity of Woody Plants in the Atlantic Coastal Forest of Southern Bahia, Brazil. In: W. Thomas (ed.), *The Atlantic Coastal Forest of Northeastern Brazil*. *Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden* 100: 21-66.
- Rodal, M. J., M. R. Barbosa and W. W. Thomas. 2008. Do The Seasonal Forests in Northeastern Brazil Represent a Single Floristic Unit? *Brazilian Journal of Biology* 68 (3): 467-475.
- Thomas, W. W., Araújo, A. C., and M. Alves. 2009 (2008 online). A Preliminary Molecular Phylogeny of the Rhynchosporoideae (Cyperaceae). In: W. W. Thomas, D. A. Simpson, A. A. Reznicek and J. R. Starr (eds.), *Cyperaceae – Special Issue*. *Botanical Review* 75: 22-29 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12229-008-9023-7>
- Thomas, W. W., J. G. Jardim, P. Fiaschi, M. Mariano-Neto and A. M. Amorim. 2009. Composição Florística e Estrutura do Componente Arbóreo de uma Área Transicional de Floresta Atlântica no Sul da Bahia, Brasil. *Revista Brasileira de Botânica* 32 (1): 41-54.
- Piotto, D., F. Montagnini, W. Thomas, M. Ashton and C. Oliver. 2009. Forest recovery after swidden cultivation across a 40-year chronosequence in the Atlantic forest of southern Bahia, Brazil. *Plant Ecology* 205: 261-272. DOI <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11258-009-9615-2>
- Thomas, W. W. 2011. *Nothotalisia*, a new genus of Picramniaceae from tropical America. *Brittonia* 63: 51-61. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12228-010-9130-8>
- Thomas, W. W., R. C. Forzza, F. Michelangeli, A. M. Giulietti Harley and P. M. Leitman. 2012, 2011 online. Large-scale Monographs and Floras – the Sum of Local Floristic

- Research. *Plant Ecology & Diversity* 5(2): 217-224. Special Issue: Latin American Plant Sciences Today. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17550874.2011.622306>.
- Araújo, A. C., H. M. Longhi-Wagner and W. W. Thomas. 2012. A Synopsis of *Rhynchospora* sect. *Pluriflorae* (Cyperaceae). *Brittonia* 64: 381-393. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12228-012-9252-2>
- Waterway, M., et al. (Global Carex Group). 2015. Making *Carex* monophyletic (Cyperaceae, tribe Cariceae): a new broader circumscription. *Botanical Journal of the Linnaean Society* 179: 1–42. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/boj.12298>
- Saiter, F. Z., P. V. Eisenlohr, M. R. V. Barbosa, W. W. Thomas, and A. T. Oliveira-Filho. 2015. From evergreen to deciduous tropical forests: how energy-water balance, temperature, and space influence the tree composition in a high diversity region. *Plant Ecology and Diversity*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17550874.2015.1075623>
- Ganzhorn, S.G., W.W. Thomas, F.A. Gaiotto, and J.D. Lewis. 2015. Spatial genetic structure of *Manilkara maxima*: A threatened tree species from the Brazilian Atlantic forest. *Journal of Tropical Ecology* 31 (5): 437-447. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0266467415000292>
- Saiter, F. Z., J. L Brown, W. W. Thomas, A. T. Oliveira-Filho and A. C. Carnaval,. 2016. Environmental correlates of floristic regions and plant turnover in the Atlantic Forest hotspot. *Journal of Biogeography*. 43: 2322–2331, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/jbi.12774>
- Bonet Mayedo, W. and W. W. Thomas. 2016. Two New Species of *Scleria* section *Hypoporum* (Cyperaceae) from Espírito Santo, Brazil. *Phytotaxa* 268 (4): 263–270. <http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.268.4.4>
- Buddenhagen, C.E., W.W. Thomas and A.R. Mast. 2017. A First Look at Diversification of Beaksedges (Tribe Rhynchosporae; Cyperaceae) in habitat, pollination, and photosynthetic features. In: Diversity and Phylogeny of the Monocotyledons, Contributions from Monocots V. *Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden* 118: 113-126. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21135/893275341.002>.
- Ribeiro, T., C. Buddenhagen, W. Thomas, G. Souza and A. Pedrosa-Harand. 2017. Are holocentrics doomed to change? Limited chromosome number variation in *Rhynchospora* Vahl (Cyperaceae). *Protoplasma* 2017. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00709-017-1154-4>
- Thomas, W. W. and P. J. S. Silva Filho. 2017. *Rhynchospora rheophytica* (Cyperaceae), a new species of from western Bahia, Brazil. *Brittonia* 70: 60-64. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12228-017-9499-8>
- Devecchi, M. F., W. W. Thomas, G. M. Plunkett and J. R. Pirani. 2018. Testing the monophyly of *Simaba* (Simaroubaceae): Evidence from five molecular markers and morphology. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 120: 63-82. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2017.11.024>
- Costa, A.C.G., I.S. Albuquerque, W.W. Thomas, & I.C. Machado. 2018. Influence of environmental variation on the pollination of the ambophilous sedge *Rhynchospora ciliata* (Cyperaceae) *Plant Ecology* 219: 241-250. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11258-018-0792-8>
- Thomas, W.W. 2018. Trust and the power of global collaborative projects. *Taxon* 67(6): 1062-1063. <https://doi.org/10.12705/676.3>.

- BFG (The Brazil Flora Group). 2018. Brazilian Flora 2020: Innovation and collaboration to meet Target 1 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC). *Rodriguésia* 69: 1513-1527. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1590/2175-7860201869402>
- Silva Filho, P. J., W. W. Thomas & I. I. Boldrini. 2018. Two new species of *Rhynchospora* (Cyperaceae) from Southern Brazil. *Phytotaxa* 383(1). DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.383.1.8>
- Rozendaal, Danaë M.A., Frans Bongers, ... Wayt Thomas, ... Lourens Poorter. 2019. Biodiversity recovery of Neotropical secondary forests, *Science Advances* 5(3), eaau3114. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.aau3114>
- Poorter, Lourens, ... William Wayt Thomas, ... Mark Westoby. 2019. Wet and dry tropical forests show opposite successional pathways in wood density but converge over time. *Nature Ecology & Evolution*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41559-019-0882-6>.
- Silva Filho, P. J. S., W. W. Thomas and I. I. Boldrini. 2019. Two new endemic species of *Rhynchospora* (Cyperaceae) section *Tenues* from Bahia, Brazil. *Systematic Botany* 44(3): 652-658. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1600/036364419X15620113920671>
- Schulze-Albuquerque, I., A. C. G. Costa, P. Milet-Pinheiro, D. M. A. F. Navarro, W. W. Thomas, I. C. Machado. 2019. Visual and olfactory floral cues related to ambophilous pollination systems in Poaceae. *Bot. J. Linn. Soc.* 192: 242-257. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/botlinnean/boz082>
- Piotto, D., D. Craven, F. Montagnini, M. Ashton, C. Oliver and W. W. Thomas. 2019. Successional, spatial, and seasonal changes in seed rain in the Atlantic forest of southern Bahia, Brazil. *PLOS ONE*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0226474>
- Soares Neto, R. L., W. W. Thomas, M. R. V. Barbosa & E. H. Roalson. 2020. Diversification of New World Cleomaceae with emphasis on *Tarenaya* and the description of a new genus. *Taxon*. 69: 321-336. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/tax.12231>
- Thomas, W. W. 2020 . Two new species of *Rhynchospora* (Cyperaceae) from Bahia, Brazil, and new combinations in *Rhynchospora* section *Pleurostachys*. *Brittonia*. 72, 273–281. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12228-020-09621-0>
- Weber, P., W. W. Thomas, S. T. S. Miotti. 2020. A new name and typifications in *Rhynchospora* section *Longirostres* (Cyperaceae). *Phytotaxa*. 472: 56-62. <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.472.1.7>
- Schneider, L.J.C., Pereira-Silva, L., Thomas, W.W., Matzenauer, W., Hefler, S.M., Nunes, C.S., Maciel-Silva, J.F., Prata, A.P.N., Jiménez-Mejías, P., Weber, P., Silva Filho, P.J.S., Costa, S.M., Soares Neto, R.L., Alves, K.N.L., Gil, A.S.B., Trevisan, R., López, M.G., Hall, C.F., Fernandes-Júnior, A.J., Vitta, F.A., Orsolano, G.N., Wanderley, M.G.L. 2020. **Cyperaceae in Flora do Brasil 2020 em construção**. Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro. <http://reflora.ibpj.gov.br/reflora/floradobrasil/FB100>.
- Silva Filho, P.J.S., W. W. Thomas & I. I. Boldrini. 2021. Redefining *Rhynchospora* (Cyperaceae) section *Tenues*, a phylogenetic approach. *Bot. J. Linn. Soc.* xx: 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1093/botlinnean/boab002/6132420>
- Costa, S.M., F.A. Vitta, W.W. Thomas, M. Muasya, R. Morokawa, V. Bittrich, G. Shepherd, and M.C.E. Amaral. 2021. An Updated Generic Circumscription of Cryptangieae (Cyperaceae). *Phytotaxa* 483 (3): 211-228. <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.483.3.2>.
- Thomas, W.W., N. Hensold, R. Foster, R.H. Ree, R.L. Soares Neto. 2021. *Aenigmanu*, a new genus of Picramniaceae from Western Amazonia. *Taxon* 70(6): 1239-1247. <https://doi.org/10.1002/tax.12588>

- Costa, A.C.G., W. W. Thomas, P. Milet-Pinheiro, A. C. D. Maia, D. M.A.F. Navarro, I. C. Machado. 2021. A Continuum of Conspicuousness, Floral Signals, and Pollination Systems in *Rhynchospora* (Cyperaceae): evidence of ambophily and entomophily in a mostly anemophilous family. Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden 106: 372-391. <https://doi.org/10.3417/2021674>
- Jakovac, C.C., J.A. Meave, F. Bongers, S. G. Letcher, J.M. Dupuy, D. Piotto, D.M.A. Rozendaal, M. Peña-Claros,...W. Thomas,...L. Poorter. 2022. Strong floristic distinctiveness across Neotropical successional forests. Science Advances 8(26):. <https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.abn1767>
- Soares Neto, R. L., W. W. Thomas, E. H. Roalson, and M. R. V. Barbosa. 2022. Taxonomic Revision of *Tarenaya* (Cleomaceae). Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden 107: 250-313. <https://doi.org/10.3417/2022705>
- Thomas, W. W. 2022. Picramniaceae. Pages X-X in: FNA Editorial Committee (eds.), Flora of North America. Vol. 13: Magnoliophyta: Geraniaceae—Apiaceae. Oxford University Press, New York.
- Elliott, T., Zedek, F., Barrett, R., Bruhl, J., Escudero, M., Hroudová, Z., Joly, S., Larridon, I., Luceño, M., Márquez-Corro, J. I., Martin-Bravo, S., Muasya, A. M., Smarda, W., Thomas, W. W., Wilson, K., and Bures, P. 2022. Chromosome size matters: genome evolution in the cyperid clade. Annals of Botany 130: 99-113. <https://doi.org/10.1093/aob/mcac136>
- Miyaki, C.Y., F.W. Cruz, M. Hickerson, F. A. Michelangeli, R. Pinto-da-Rocha, W.W. Thomas, A.C. Carnaval. 2022. A multidisciplinary framework for biodiversity prediction in the Brazilian Atlantic Forest hotspot. Biota Neotropica 22 (spe). <https://doi.org/10.1590/1676-0611-BN-2022-1339>
- Chaves, A.L.A., A.C.G. Costa, I.C.Machado, R. Morokawa, W.W. Thomas, S.M. Costa. 2023. Inherit the wind: evolution of reproductive traits in Cyperaceae, Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society. <https://doi.org/10.1093/botlinnean/boad067>
- Thomas, W. W. 2024. Simaroubaceae. Pages x-x in: FNA Editorial Committee (eds.), Flora of North America. Vol. 13: Magnoliophyta: Geraniaceae to Apiaceae. Oxford University Press, New York.
- Thomas, W.W., Silva Filho, P.J.S. and M. Reginato. 2024. *Rhynchospora* section *Pleurostachys* (Cyperaceae): a phylogeny and three new species from the dry forests of Bahia and Espírito Santo, Brazil Plant Ecology and Evolution 157(3): 257-269. <https://doi.org/10.5091/plecevo.117163>
- Schulze-Albuquerque, I., A.C.G. da Costa, P. Milet-Pinheiro, D.M.A.F. Navarro, W.W. Thomas and I.C. Machado. 2024. Ambophily and evidence of hydrophily as a new pollination strategy in *Eleocharis* (L.) Roem. & Schult (Cyperaceae). Plant Ecology and Diversity 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17550874.2024.2400986>
- Costa, S.M., W.W. Thomas and M.C.E Amaral. 2024. Four new species from Venezuela and identification key to *Cephalocarpus* (Cryptangieae, Cyperaceae). Phytotaxa 670: 119-126. <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.670.2.4>
- Alves, K.N.L., W.W. Thomas and A.S. B. Gil. 2024. *Rhynchospora psammophila* (Cyperaceae), a new species from the northern Amazonian savannas. Botany Letters 171: 484-492. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23818107.2024.2401167>