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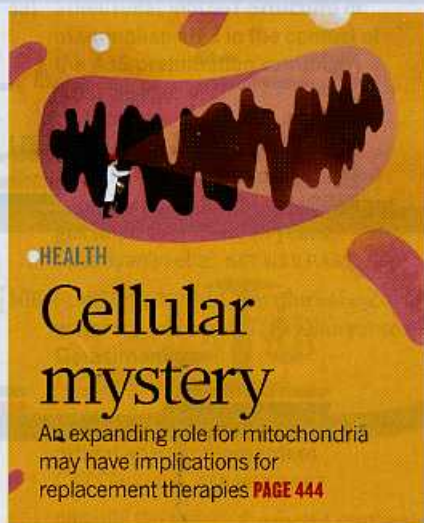
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ON THE COVER

Weed out Bad Karma

A fruit abnormality called 'mantled' can develop in agricultural oil palm cultivars derived from tissue culture, and the resulting palms are unproductive. Genome-wide DNA methylation analysis shows that hypomethylation of a single Karma retrotransposon is common to all mantled clones. The discovery of this feature — dubbed *Bad Karma* — should enable screening for higher-performing clones at the plantlet stage. **PAGES 533 & 466**

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