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**Cover image:** *Araucaria angustifolia* (Brazilian pine) growing in Campos do Jordão, Brazil. de Oliveira et al. (this issue, pages 116–130) elucidated the polyamine biosynthetic pathway during seed development using molecular, biochemical, and physiological approaches. Polyamines and amino acids accumulated differently in embryos and megagametophytes, and the transition from the globular to the cotyledonary stage was marked by an increase in spermidine and spermine contents, and up-regulation of *AaADC* and *AaSAMDC* genes. Putrescine is made from arginine, which was present at low content, while citrulline was the main amino acid recorded. These results provided insights into molecular and physiological aspects of conifer embryogenesis for both basic and applied studies. **Photo:** Bruno V. Navarro.

# Tree Physiology

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