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The inset cover image shows an artificially coloured SEM picture of a pistil originating from an apomictic *Paspalum notatum* genotype at the post-meiotic stage (photograph by Ana María González, CONICET, Argentina). Styles connect the fringe-like stigmata to the ovule (orange). Apomixis is desirable in agriculture because it guarantees the perpetuation of superior genotypes by self-seeding without loss of hybrid vigour, and the genus *Paspalum* provides a good model system for studying this asexual reproductive system in grasses. See Ortiz *et al.* (pp. nnn–nnn).