

confirmed by Ghosh⁷ with two wild and one domestic female. This would facilitate the sex pheromone signals to be airborne and therefore warrants further study, especially of the volatile fraction of the secretion.

Although vaginal secretion is not mentioned in *Gajashastra*, raising of the tail is a remarkably acute observation, for, even today mahouts cannot tell whether their charges have come into season⁶ and this ancient text may even now furnish leads for research.

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4. Rasmussen, L. E. I., Lee, T. D., Roelofs, W. L., Zhang, A. J. and Daves, G. D., *Nature*, 1996, 379, 684.
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NEWS

Ewald Prize for G. N. Ramachandran

The Ewald Prize of the International Union of Crystallography has been awarded to G. N. Ramachandran for his outstanding contributions to the field of crystallography: in the area of anomalous scattering and its use in the solution of the phase problem, in the analysis of the structure of fibres, collagen in particular, and, foremost, for his fundamental works on the macromolecular conformation and the validation of macromolecular structures by means of the 'Ramachandran plot', which even today remains the most useful validation tool. Ramachandran, one of India's most distinguished scientists, pioneered the development of structural molecular biology and biophysics in this country.

The establishment of the Ewald Prize, for outstanding contributions to the science of crystallography, was announced in February 1986 and was given wide publicity. The name of the Prize was chosen with the kind consent of the late Paul Peter Ewald, to recognize Professor



Ewald's significant contributions to the foundations of crystallography and to the founding of the International Union of Crystallography, especially his services

as the President of the Provisional International Crystallographic Committee from 1946 to 1948, as the first Editor of the IUCr's publication *Acta Crystallographica* from 1948 to 1959, and as the President of the IUCr from 1960 to 1963.

The Prize consists of a medal, a certificate and an award of US \$ 30,000. It is presented once every three years during the triennial International Congresses of Crystallography. The first Prize was presented during the Perth Congress, being awarded jointly to J. M. Cowley and A. F. Moodie. The second Prize was presented during the Bordeaux Congress to B. K. Vainshtein. The third Prize was presented during the Beijing Congress to N. Kato. The fourth Prize was presented to M. G. Rossmann during the Seattle Congress.

The presentation of the Ewald Prize for 1999 will be made during the Glasgow Congress Opening Ceremony on August 4.