

New “tiniest genome” identified

In August 2013, in the journal *Genome Biology and Evolution*, Gordon Bennett and Nancy Moran describe a new record holder, called *Nasuia deltocephalinicola*. It has a genome of just 112,000 base pairs. Imagine taking that slim novella and ripping off the last chapter. Ironically, *Nasuia* packs in *more* genes into its DNA than *Tremblaya*—137 protein-coding genes, Bennett and Moran estimate.

What’s really striking about all the record-holders for small genomes is that they all live in a single exotic ecological niche. Without exception, they can be found inside plant-feeding insects.

Read the full, original story here: [And the Genomes Keep Shrinking...](#)