

# Comment pieces of the year

The highlights of our expert comment pieces, chosen by our editors.

19 December 2012

Helpfulness, reproducibility and dual-use are among the top topics of 2012. A [subscription](#) is required to view this content.



## Turing at 100

In this collection of features and opinion pieces, Nature celebrates Alan Turing who, in a handful of papers over a tragically short lifetime, shaped many of the hottest fields in science today.

23 February 2012



## Public health: The toxic truth about sugar

Added sweeteners pose dangers to health that justify controlling them like alcohol, argue Robert H. Lustig, Laura A. Schmidt and Claire D. Brindis.

2 February 2012



## Mutant flu special

When scientists created a form of the H5N1 avian flu virus that is transmissible between mammals, debate raged over how much of this and other dual-use research should be published.

3 May 2012



## Drug development: Raise standards for preclinical cancer research

C. Glenn Begley and Lee M. Ellis propose how methods, publications and incentives must change if patients are to benefit.

29 March 2012



## Seismology: Why giant earthquakes keep catching us out

A spate of huge earthquakes in the past seven years has provided humbling lessons, says Thorne Lay.

8 March 2012



## Sociology: Honour the helpful

Alexander Oettl presents evidence that scientists who share advice and expertise enhance their colleagues' productivity.

27 September 2012



## Model organisms: There's more to life than rats and flies

The tiny number of model organisms constrains research in ways that must be acknowledged and addressed, warns Jessica Bolker.

1 November 2012



## Futures market: Wall Street's thirst for water

Moves towards a global water commodities market must be stopped. It will push the price of food far beyond the peaks of the past five years, warns Frederick Kaufman.

25 October 2012



### **Digital archives: Don't let copyright block data mining**

Matthew L. Jockers, Matthew Sag and Jason Schultz explain why humanities scholars have pitched in to the Authors Guild v. Google lawsuit.

4 October 2012



### **Neil Armstrong (1930–2012)**

Engineer, pilot, astronaut and the first human to walk on the Moon: Roger D. Launius reviews his life and achievements.

20 September 2012

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