

1969

Fifteen-year-old Anders Pape Møller visits Thorkil Duch, an electrician and an amateur naturalist, who advises him to keep a notebook of his observations. Duch teaches him to capture birds and wrap identifying bands around their legs to track not just species but individuals. Møller returns home and starts banding barn swallows.

1985

Møller receives his doctorate from the University of Arhus in Denmark.

1992

After a string of papers on sexual ornamentation in the barn swallow, Møller publishes a landmark *Nature* paper indicating that males with symmetric tail features were more successful at mating. Scientists skeptical of the results publish several critical letters.

A.P. Møller, "Female swallow preference for symmetrical male sexual ornaments," *Nature*, 357: 238–240, 1992.
(cited in 278 papers according to Thomson ISI)

1998

Danish ecological journal *Oikos* publishes a Møller paper describing a relationship between asymmetry in oak leaves and damage caused by plant-eating insects.

A.P. Møller, F. de Lope, "Herbivory affects developmental instability of stone oak, *Quercus rotundifolia*," *Oikos*, 82: 246–252, 1998.

1999

Nils Malmer, the editor-in-chief of *Oikos*, receives an email from Jorgen Rabøl, a former professor in Møller's lab, who suggests that the data had been fabricated.

2000

Richard Palmer and Louis Hammon publish "[The emperor's codpiece](#)," a fable that parodies Møller's work on fluctuating asymmetry.

2001

Møller and de Lope [retract the *Oikos* paper](#).

2001

Rabøl takes the case to the Danish Committees on Scientific Dishonesty (DCSD), which opens an investigation.

2002

The DCSD [finds Møller guilty of intentional fraud](#). Møller's is case number one in the 2003 annual report.

2003

Møller [appeals the DCSD finding, but loses](#). His is case number four in the 2004 annual report.

2004

Tim Mousseau and others publish letters of support for Møller in *Nature* and *Science*.

J. Moreno, T. Mousseau, "Dedication put Møller ahead, not fabrication," *Nature*, 428: 695, 2004.

R.V. Alatalo et al., "Support for a Colleague," *Science*, 303:1612, 2004.

2004

Møller's institution, the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Paris rules that there is not sufficient evidence to find Møller guilty of intentional fraud. He is therefore **presumed innocent**.

2005

Møller's bird banding permit is revoked, and a **letter is sent** to Møller's colleagues warning them not to help him in his research. Møller writes **an essay in the ISBE Newsletter** recommending changes to scientific misconduct investigation policies.