



Cover: Male satin bowerbirds in eastern Australia spend several months each year building, defending and displaying at bowers constructed of twigs and decorated with brightly colored objects. Bowders are the exclusive sites of courtship and mating. Males compete for bower ownership; many are unsuccessful and even among bower-holders there is substantial variation in mating success. Bower ownership is energetically demanding, and Chappell et al. (pp. 3186–3196) found that adult males have higher aerobic capacity than females and juvenile birds, and that performance is repeatable within seasons and across years. Surprisingly, there is no difference between bower-holders and males that lack bowders. Photo credit: Mark Chappell.

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