



Creation Is Of GOD, NOT Evolution by Paul A. Bartz

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

Lima Bean Defense

Anyone who has ever worked with plants is familiar with spider mites. There are many varieties, but one of the most dangerous to the lima bean is the two-spotted spider mite. These mites inject their saliva into a plant's tissues, dissolving them. One of the mites' biggest enemies is a carnivorous mite that feeds on these two-spotted mites. These carnivorous mites are small and travel wherever the winds carry them. When two-spotted mites attack a lima bean, the plant sends out a special chemical signal. When this distress signal reaches surrounding lima beans, they, too, begin to send the signal even though they are not under attack. The signal carries several messages to different species. Spider mites not on the plant being attacked are repelled from the area. On the other hand, any carnivorous mites that drift into the area will stay to



feed on the two-spotted spider mites. As a result, the lima bean defends itself by sending specific messages to three different species!

The lima bean's intelligent defense strategy is difficult for evolutionists to explain. It is easily accounted for by a Creator Who cares about all His creatures.

Paul A. Bartz, **Bombardier Beetles and Fever Trees**, William Agosta, 1997, pp. 28-30. Photo: Female spider mite by Gilles San Martin - CC BY SA 2.0