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Functional Plant Biology

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Cover illustration: Environmental scanning electron microscope images of leaf rust (*Puccinia triticina*) on wheat leaves (see Bürling *et al*. 337–345). (Upper left): Wheat leaf with several leaf rust pustules, and release of spores to the environment; (Upper right): rupture of the cuticular membrane and formation of leaf rust pustule; (Lower left): detailed view of the newly formed *P. triticina* spores; (Lower right): germinated spores and germ tubes searching for stomata. Photographs by Knut Wichterich, Kathrin Bürling and Mauricio Hunsche.