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Cover: An American pipit (*Anthus rubescens*) silhouetted against the Beartooth Mountains of Montana, USA. On pages 4125-4136 of this issue, J. F. Storz, G. R. Scott and Z. A. Chevron review mechanisms of adaptation and acclimatization to high-altitude hypoxia in vertebrates. They conclude that, in birds and mammals, the acclimatization response to environmental hypoxia sometimes represents a form of maladaptive phenotypic plasticity. Thus, blunted erythropoietic and pulmonary vasoconstriction responses to hypoxia may often represent genetically based adaptations that counteract the plastic response. Photo by Alex Badyaev.

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