

Correspondence

Reply

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To the Editor:

We thank D'Amato et al¹ for drawing our attention to a thunderstorm-related asthma outbreak that was associated with another pollen, in this case the weed pollen *Parietaria* species. We agree that the 4 conditions we outlined in our editorial² need not only apply to grass pollens, although most previous reports do appear to have been linked to this form of pollen. However, any pollen grains, grass, weed, or tree, that are abundant and can rupture and release respirable allergenic starch granules would be expected to behave in a similar way in the presence of a thunderstorm outflow.

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REFERENCES

1. D'Amato G, Cecchi L, Liccardi G. Thunderstorm-related asthma: not only grass pollen and spores. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2008;■■■:■■■.
2. Marks GB, Bush RK. It's blowing in the wind: new insights into thunderstorm-related asthma. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2007;120:530-2.

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