

COSMOPOLITAN

MAY 2008

The **Sexy** Issue

Not for Girls Who Blush Easily

OUR **Naughtiest**
SEX
Q&A

Kristen Bell
The Sexiest Smart-ass
in Hollywood

Yeah, We Went There!

67

Little Touches
He'll Love **GUY-TESTED**
You More For

New Sex Tricks

Including the Tongue Swirl That Will Push Him Over the Edge

Feel Great Naked

Confidence Boosters for In Bed (and Out)

WHEN YOUR BOOBS ACT WEIRD

Itches, Aches, Lumps—What's Normal, What's Not, page 266

PLUS

- New Killer Ab Shapers
- The Sexiest Things to Do After Sex

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Genital Plastic Surgery Is Increasingly Popular

Gynecologists across the United States agree that a rising number of females are stressing about below-the-belt beauty. "Women are concerned with the appearance of their vaginas and labia since there is little or no hair to conceal the area," says Mary Jane Minkin, a New Haven, Connecticut, ob-gyn. "They're agonizing over body parts that they probably never gave a second thought to before the Brazilian wax took off."

That angst seems to be triggering a surge in genital plastic surgery. "Nearly all of my labiaplasty patients remove their pubic hair," reports David Matlock, gynecologic surgeon in Los Angeles. Dr. Matlock teaches MDs how to do the procedure and says his training courses are selling out. More proof of this troubling trend: According to the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, 1,030 vaginal rejuvenation surgeries (which includes aesthetic labia tightening) were performed by member surgeons in 2006, a 30 percent increase from the year before.

Staying Fresh Down South Is a Bit Simpler

Nixing hair won't eliminate your vaginal odor, but it may improve your scent. "There are sweat glands in the pubic region, and since the area is covered by hair and clothing, moisture gets locked in," says Dr. Thompson. Hair traps perspiration and traces of discharge and urine. If you're bald below, fluids are more easily wiped off or absorbed into your underwear instead of lingering on your skin.

Guys Are Jumping on the Bandwagon

Chicks aren't the only ones who go sans hair now. Salons all over the country are seeing an influx of men

getting waxed where the sun doesn't shine. Some outposts specialize in male Brazilian waxes, dubbing them sungas (after the narrowly cut male bathing suit) or boy-zilians.

Celebs Have Another Thing to Flaunt

When Brazilian-sporting starlets flashed paparazzi last year, the public saw (and discussed) every part of their anatomy. "The more celebs expose, the more there is to critique," says Bella Dishell, psychotherapist in Beverly Hills, California. Britney Spears' last crotch shot garnered 2,577 comments on PerezHilton.com, harshly dissecting the appearance of everything from her labia to her clitoris. If she'd had a patch of hair, there wouldn't have been as much to scrutinize.

An Itchy STD Now May Be Close to Extinction

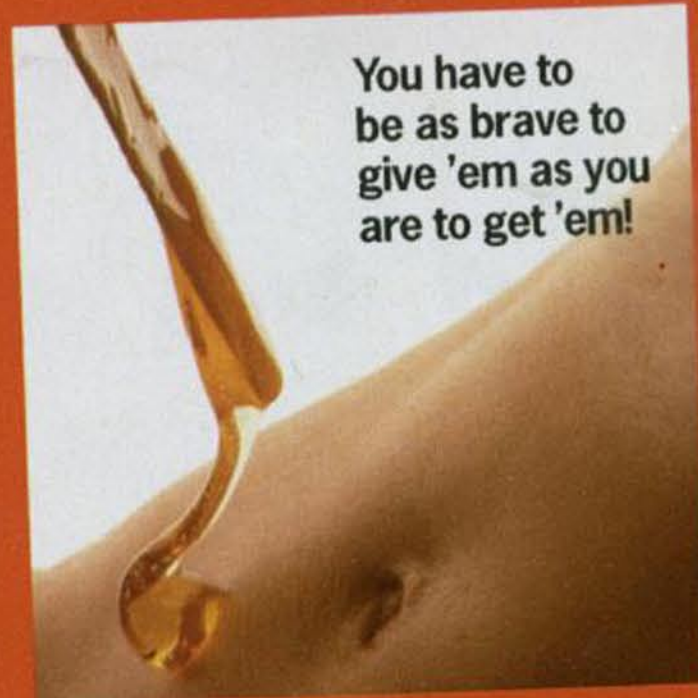
And here's some pretty amazing news: One cringe-worthy sexual-health problem—pubic lice—may be on the decline, thanks to a dearth of down-there hair. Since the little buggers live in pubes, the more people get shorn, the fewer habitats they have. "The U.S. doesn't track pubic-lice rates, but several reports imply that the number of cases is falling," says Peter Leone, MD, associate professor of medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "The Brazilian-wax trend probably impacted the drop-off."

The Brazilian Has Redefined Erotica

Guys have always been turned on by sexy images, but some experts suggest that aesthetics are more important than ever when it comes to heating things up. "The Brazilian's rise has led our culture to place greater emphasis on genital appearance as a turn-on," notes Prosterman. ■

A Waxer Spills All

One chick who does Brazilians shares hilarious tales.



You have to be as brave to give 'em as you are to get 'em!

DIRTY DUSTUP

"As I was sprinkling baby powder between a girl's butt cheeks, she farted, and the powder flew up in my face. I inhaled a bit of it."

GIRL GONE WILD

"People have all sorts of ways of dealing with the pain of a bikini wax. I've been cursed at in many languages. Once, as I ripped a waxing strip off a woman's labia, she screamed, grabbed my butt, and clawed her nails into me. I'm surprised she didn't draw blood!"

SQUIRT ALERT

"One new client began giggling uncontrollably because she was nervous. When I pressed on her pelvis, she accidentally peed all over the table."

THE TAIL END

"I have a client who says that her boyfriend gets turned on if she has a 'tail,' so I never wax between her butt cheeks. The hair there is now long enough to be braided!"

—REPORTED BY MOLLY CREEDEN