1053-05-88Arash Asadi and Luke Postle\* (ljpostle@math.gatech.edu), 2735 Defoors Ferry Rd, Atlanta,<br/>GA 30318, and Robin Thomas. Sub-Exponentially Many 3-Colorings of Triangle-Free Planar<br/>Graphs.

Thomassen conjectured that every triangle-free planar graph has exponentially many 3-colorings. He proved that it has at least  $2^{n^{1/12}/20000}$  distinct 3-colorings where *n* is the number of vertices. We show that it has at least  $2^{\sqrt{n/432}}$  distinct 3-colorings. (Received August 20, 2009)