

Re: WHY HAS THIS SITE BECOME SUCH A SPAM TARGET???

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2008-03/msg01220.html>

- *From:* "Dave L. Renfro" <renfr1dl@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 9 Mar 2008 05:36:51 -0700 (PDT)
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David R Tribble wrote (in part):

It wasn't a problem until a few days ago. Before then, I recall seeing only perhaps 10% of the messages as spam. Lately, though, it's ballooned to above 95%.

Until a few days ago it wasn't much of a problem for me either to read from google, since even when 2 out of three threads were spam, at least they were obviously spam. That's one of the nice things about spam, at least so far — the spammers make it so obviously spam (this especially goes for e-mail) that I can dismiss as spam messages/e-mails at a rate of about two to three per second. I'd hate to give them any ideas, but you'd think any dummy could come up with something better than "Ride till she comes" (this is a real spam e-mail title from my e-mails), such as "I have a question about your last e-mail".

However, in the past few days it's gotten so bad at google that less than 1 in 10, maybe even less than 1 in 20, thread titles even appear to be real sci.math, and that's including requests for solutions manuals. I've taken to looking at the titles at The Math Forum's sci.math web page, and either responding directly from there or looking for the thread I'm interested in at google. The Math Forum seems to be down this morning, though, so I'm not sure if I'll be posting much (anymore?) today . . .

Dave L. Renfro

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