

**Title:** ホタル — Silent Sparks

**Abstract:** For centuries, ホタル have inspired wonder and deep reverence from cultures around the world. Yet the scientific study of fireflies has only blossomed in recent decades. This talk presents some novel discoveries that have contributed greatly to our understanding of firefly biochemistry and behavior. Potential reasons for the 20<sup>th</sup> century decline in firefly population observed worldwide will be presented, together with a brief ecohistory about successful restoration of firefly populations in Japan.

**Biography:** Sara Lewis, Ph.D. is Professor of Biology at [Tufts University](https://www.tufts.edu/) in Boston. Author of 80+ scientific papers, Lewis presented a [TED Talk](#) in 2014 and wrote a popular science book, [\*Silent Sparks: The Wondrous World of Fireflies\*](#) (Princeton University Press, 2016).

