

# Firefly with a clutch of eggs



In 2023 at the Anamalai Tiger Reserve, after a night of spectacular synchronous displays, we were looking for any firefly activity(eggs, dead fireflies, etc) the next day. We found this female firefly with a clutch of eggs on open ground. It was applying a protective layer to the eggs with its ovipositor. Upon closer look, this firefly seemed to have lost one of its legs. It's incredible that it was still caring for its offspring. The eggs are a couple of millimeters long and hatch in about four weeks. After three weeks of development, we've observed them to start glowing faintly.

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