

Not the fireflies, the new carnivores are the glowing ones in this cave

The phenomenon made the students biologically startled.

Not only fireflies but also another carnivorous worm are capable of lighting an entire cave in the night.

Accordingly, this strange phenomenon appears at **Waitomo cave** in New Zealand. Many people who come here at night are surprised and often mistakenly think that the 'light picture' in the cave was created by fireflies. But unfortunately, that is not true. Few people suspect that this is the peak light work of a carnivorous worm called **Arachnocampa Luminosa** .



Arachnocampa Luminosa is a species of spider worm, the inside of this worm has many **fluorescent cells** glowing like fireflies. Arachnocampa Luminosa not only carries the mission of the worm, but also has the ability to **spread silk** like spiders to eat trapped prey.

The mechanism of catching is very clear, it uses its body to glow, and spread silk around the cave space from top to bottom, every corner, the terrain in the cave .

The nature of night insects is to like places with light, especially in the dark areas like caves, where the light has attracted many species to visit. It means that they were plunged into a trap that the Arachnocampa Luminosa

worm had silently prepared before.



Waitomo Cave is located in New Zealand, discovered in 1987 by Fred Mace and Maori Tane Tinorau.(Image source: PBS.)

With the intelligent catching mechanism, the spider worm *Arachnocampa Luminosa* also creates a scene of illusory light, like a fairyland or the beautiful scenery of thousands of stars shining on the universe.

However, this is not the only creature that has the ability to glow, besides fireflies, squid, octopus, some other marine creatures also have the ability to glow to create spectacular landscapes. And moreover, recently in the Solomon Islands, American researchers have also discovered a strange tortoise variety that also has spectacular glowing abilities.

Huynh Dung (According to Sciencealert)

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