

# The 70th Ko

## Fuki no hana saku

*"Butterburs bud"*

January 20-24 | Daikan (Major Cold)

### Why now?

While air reaches its coldest, soil stays warmer underground. The butterbur taps this hidden warmth through deep roots, blooming while competitors sleep - first-mover advantage in nature's economy.

### Insight

The coldest days come after the solstice turn, not before. Light has been returning for a month - the reversal is already underway, even when conditions feel hardest. This is the "hidden spring": potential precedes manifestation. The butterbur does not wait for permission. It acts on knowing, not conditions.

### Today's practice

Identify one project that is quietly building momentum beneath the surface. Give it 15 minutes of focused attention - water roots that others cannot see yet.

*"In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer."*

- Albert Camus

### Learn more

[Butterbur \(Petasites japonicus\) - Wikipedia](#)

[72 Seasons Japan - Nippon.com](#)

*Generated: 2026-01-23*