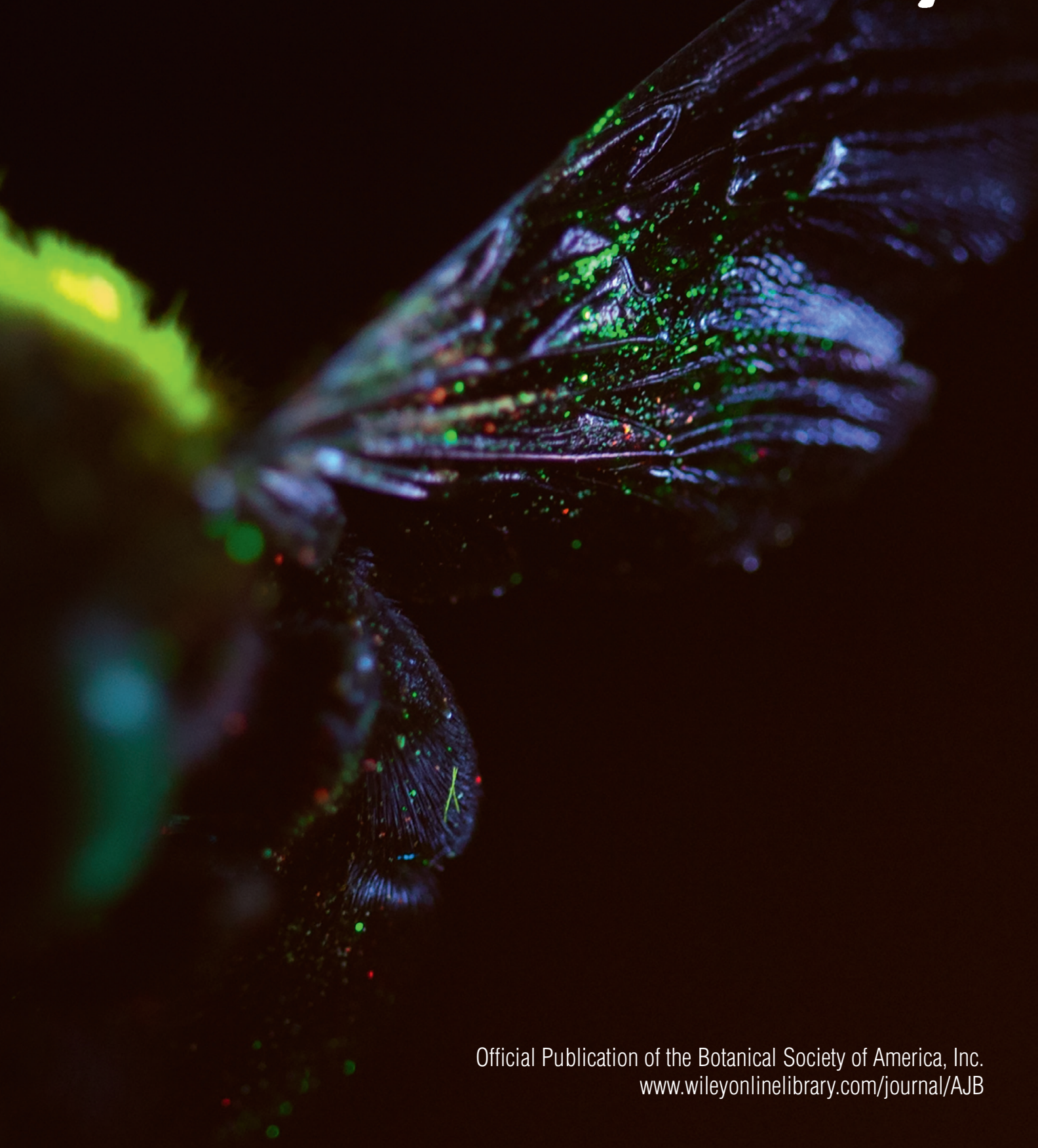


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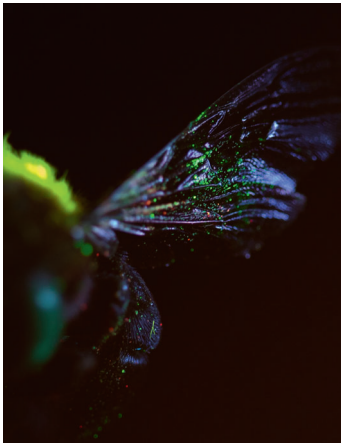
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COVER ILLUSTRATION: Pollen grains labelled with red and green quantum dots fluoresce on the wings of a carpenter bee pollinator. Quantum dots can be directly applied to the dehiscent anthers of flowers where they attach to the pollenkit of pollen grains, causing the grains to fluoresce under UV light. In their On the Nature of Things essay, "Illuminating the incredible journey of pollen", Anderson and Minnaar describe how this technology can be used to study, quantify, and map the movement of pollen in intricate detail. They predict that being able to distinguish pollen grains from individual plants may help to reveal a world of intense pollen competition where the playing field is the body of a pollinator.

Image credit: Bruce Anderson.

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