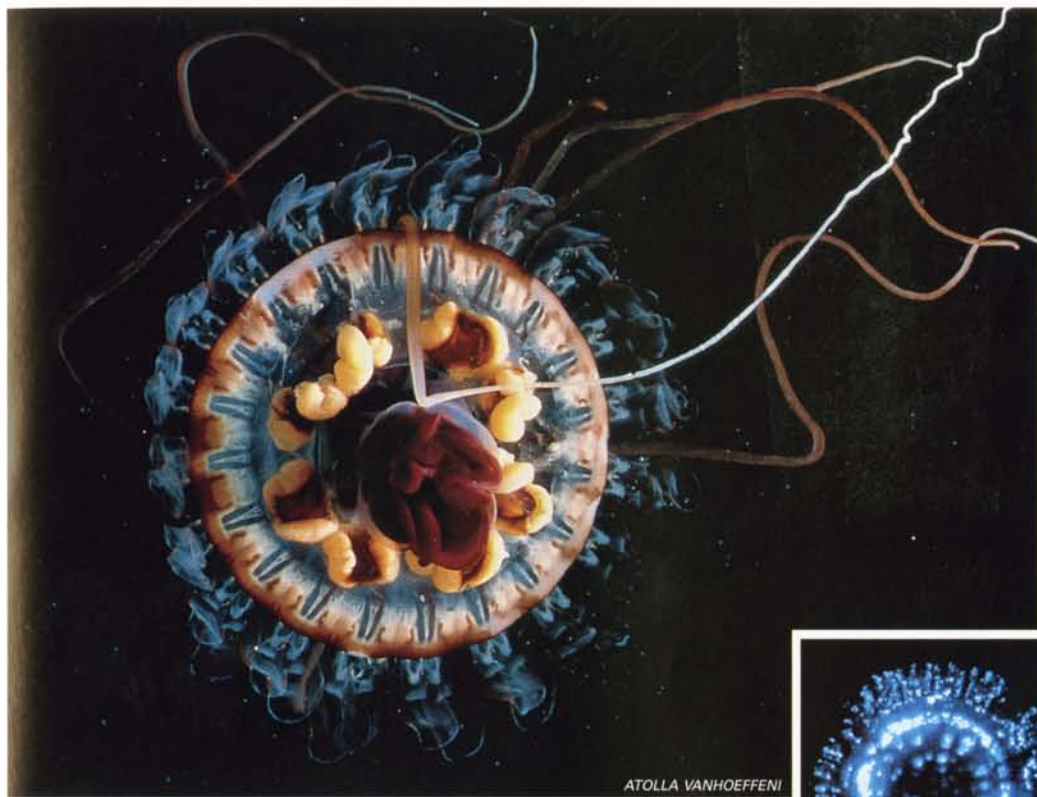




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This paper was submitted by the faculty of [FAU's Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute](#).

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ATOLLA VANHOEFFENI

## Glowing Jellyfish Have a Lot to Say

"Bioluminescence may be the most common communication on the planet," says Edith Widder of Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution in Florida. In her view the vast majority of marine organisms—and 99 percent of the biosphere is marine—are bioluminescent. Their signals warn predators, seek help, or get attention, as in these jellyfish, shown with lights both off and on.

*Atolla vanhoeffeni*, a carousel when unlit (above), lights up like a movie marquee when threatened (far right, top). *Periphylla periphylla* displays an orange bell, but when in danger (far right, bottom) it emits a glowing substance that sticks to its foe—where it may attract a predator to attack the attacker. *Bathocyroe fosteri* leaves but a ghostly glow (far right, middle), perhaps just to say, "I am here."



BATHOCYROE FOSTERI



PERIPHYLLA PERIPHYLLA



ALL BY EDITH WIDDER