



## **ERIN SPARKS**

### **Bracing for Impact: Optimizing Maize Roots for Anchorage**

The yield potential of agricultural crops is limited by crop mechanical failure called “lodging”. In maize, brace roots are proposed to limit lodging, but are poorly studied. Research in the Sparks lab focuses on defining the development, function, and environmental responsiveness of maize brace roots.

**Spring 2021 PSLA**

**LECTURE**

**SERIES**

**April 5, 2021**

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**SEMINAR takes place  
live via**

**[UMD Zoom](#)**

**Time:**

**12PM**

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Since 2017, I have been an assistant professor in Plant and Soil Sciences at the University of Delaware. My background training includes biomedical engineering, developmental biology, and plant molecular biology.