

Hibiscus Harlequin Bugs

Tectocoris diophthalmus



Adaptation to environment

- One of few insects that displays maternal care: females lay clusters of eggs around a twig & guards them until they hatch
- Also known as “stink bugs” as they produce a repellent smell when disturbed; bright colours advertise to predators that they smell & taste horrible.

Feeding relationships

Where do I live? Mangrove Shore

What do I eat?

- Suck sap from hibiscus plant.

What eats me?

- Their effective smell defence means they are seldom eaten.
- Wasps parasitise eggs.

- Bright metallic colours, with many different patterns within same species, with orange coloration especially in females.