

# Animal Fact Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Golden Tortoise Beetle

*Charidotella sexpunctata*

The Golden Tortoise Beetle is a small, brilliant beetle known for its metallic gold coloration, which can change to red or brown when disturbed or dead. Its body is rounded and shield-shaped, resembling a tortoise shell.

### Quick facts

**Classification:** Invertebrate

**Family:** Chrysomelidae

**Habitat:** Forests, gardens, and fields with host plants

**Diet:** Herbivore

**Conservation status:** Least Concern

**Lifespan:** 2-3 months

**Weight:** 0.01-0.03 grams

**Scientific name:** *Charidotella sexpunctata*

### Did you know?

- The golden color of this beetle fades to dull brown or red when it is handled or dies, due to changes in fluid beneath its transparent cuticle.
- Golden Tortoise Beetles can alter their color rapidly in response to stress. Their larvae carry a shield made of their own feces and shed skins for protection.

### What I learned

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