CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Golden Tortoise Beetle

Charidotella sexpunctata

Charidotella sexpunctata is a small North American leaf beetle that looks like a drop of liquid gold pressed onto a bindweed leaf, and its metal shine is not pigment at all. The elytra are transparen…

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.
- The colour change is hydraulic, not pigmentary, so a dead golden tortoise beetle can never be preserved gold - collectors have to photograph them ali…

What I learned

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