

Flamboyant Flower Beetle

Scientific Name: *Eudicella gralli*

Class: Insecta

Order: Coleoptera

Family: Scarabaeidae



The Flamboyant flower beetle or striped love beetle as it is sometimes called is a brightly colored member of the scarab beetle family. Their shells seem to have a prismatic quality, refracting the ambient light to give the green of their carapace a rainbow tint. The adults reach a size to about one and half inches. The males have a “Y” shaped horn to fight over females. The females have a shovel-like tusk to burrow into wood.

Range

Africa, Uganda

Habitat

Rainforests of Africa

Gestation

During this period they will dig into wood to lay eggs.

Litter

Unknown

Behavior

Because of their need for wood and flowers, the flamboyant flower beetle has an ecological role as a decomposer as it eats the items of the scrubland and further makes it into smaller substances. Also by feeding on fruit and pollen, it is often responsible for blower pollination.

Reproduction

The eggs are laid in wood troughs dug by the female and the larvae feed on dead wood and leaf litter.

Wild Diet

Rotting fruit, pollen, nectar, and tree sap