

## Coconut bug

### What is it?

Adult coconut bugs (*Amblypelta cocophaga*) are 14-15 mm long and green-yellowish-brown in colour. They are extremely shy, well-camouflaged and therefore difficult to find on host plant.

The eggs are laid singly, usually on the lower surface of leaves, but sometimes on flowers and fruit. They are 2 mm long, oval in shape and golden-green when first laid, turning to a darker green and finally deep-red as they mature.

### What damage does it cause?

Saliva injected into the plant during feeding is toxic and produces blackened, necrotic areas. The infested area provokes a gummy discharge, and if it is on or associated with the young fruit it can cause them to drop prematurely. Most fruit crops, including mangoes are at risk. Plantation eucalyptus can suffer around 40% losses.

### Where is it found?

The coconut bug is found in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Singapore and the Solomon Islands.

### How can I protect my orchard from the coconut bug?

Check your orchard frequently for the presence of new pests and unusual symptoms. Make sure you are familiar with common mango pests so you can tell if you see something different.

**If you see anything unusual, call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881.**

EXOTIC PLANT PEST HOTLINE  
**1800 084 881**

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### Want more info?

If you would like more information, or to download a copy of the Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Mango Industry, visit [www.planthealthaustralia.com.au](http://www.planthealthaustralia.com.au), email [admin@phau.com.au](mailto:admin@phau.com.au) or phone (02) 6215 7700.