

## Medical Pest Profile



*Alloxantha talhouki* Photo credits: Ron Hirzel

**Common Name:** False Blister beetle

**Scientific Name:** *Alloxantha talhouki*

**Order and Family:** Coleoptera: Oedemeridae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>		Laid under bark.
<b>Larva</b>	Larva up to 16.5 mm	Grub is transparent to black. Smooth to bristly
<b>Adult</b>	11-16 mm	Iridescent bronze green body; bright red flexible elytra with 12 black spots. Mimics Meloid blister beetle.
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>	11-16 mm	Subterranean. Some species bore in stems

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Chewing. Adults feed on *Caphile arabica* in Kuwait.

**Host/s:** None

**Description of Medical Importance (Larvae and adults):** Larvae feed in stems of dead wood. No medical impact. Adults feed on pollen and nectar. Adults produce cantharidin as a chemical defense and are aposematically colored. Adults can cause blisters (blister beetle dermatitis) and are toxic to horses.

**References:**

Vázquez, X. A., 2002. *European Fauna of Oedemeridae*. Argania Edition, Barcelona, 178 pp. [ISBN 84-931847-4-8](#)

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***Alloxantha talhouki***