

SALTMARSH TIGER BEETLE

Eunota severa

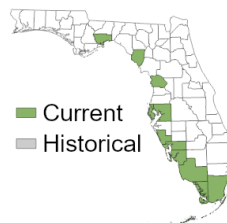
Order: Coleoptera

Family: Carabidae

FNAI Ranks: G4/S2

U.S. Status: none

FL Status: none



Description: May appear olive/dark green to almost black with a small light spot at the middle edge of the elytra, j shaped markings distally, and no obvious pits on the elytra. It also has a bright white labrum and dense setae on the sides of its abdomen and thorax.

Similar Species: The Punctured Tiger Beetle (*Cicindela punctulata*) and the Elusive Tiger Beetle (*Eunota striga*) are similar but both have obvious pits on their elytra and the latter has a dark brown to black, rather than white, labrum (Pearson et al. 2006).

Habitat: Known from alkali mud flats and similar open habitat associated with salt marshes (Choate 2003, Pearson et al. 2006).

Seasonal Occurrence: There are records in the FNAI database from late February through late August.

Florida Distribution: Known from along the Gulf coast from Wakulla County in the eastern Panhandle south to the Keys but with a ca. 350 km² disjunction between about Tampa and the southern tip of the peninsula.

Range-wide Distribution: Gulf of Mexico from Texas to the Florida Keys.

Conservation Status: While it inhabits salt marsh and similar habitats along the Gulf Coast, less than ten occurrences are known.

Protection and Management: Preserving salt marsh and similar habitat is the best management strategy at present, as relatively little is known about its biology.

References: Choate 2003, Pearson et al. 2006



lateral view © Steve Collins



preying upon Elusive Tiger Beetle (*Eunota striga*) © Steve Collins