

## Species of the Month 5/2024 || Electric Blue Jumper

6 May 2024 || TO NUS Community

Electric Blue Jumpers may be small but they are hard to miss, given their highly glossy and reflective bodies. 🕸️ 🕷️  
Read on to find out how the reflective bodies play an important role in the females' mate choice!\*

# CAMPUS IN A TROPICAL RAINFOREST

## SPECIES OF THE MONTH

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Photo by Tan Robbin

### ELECTRIC BLUE JUMPER

*Phintella vittata*

#### APPEARANCE

- Electric Blue Jumpers possess alternating transverse glossy black and electric blue or green bands on the carapace and abdomen, making them hard to miss despite their small sizes.
- The males have blackish legs, while females have pale yellow legs.

#### HABITAT

- Electric Blue Jumpers can typically be found in shrubs in gardens or wastelands.
- Their distribution is widespread, across South-east Asia and parts of East and South Asia.


#### DIET

The Electric Blue Jumper primarily feeds on small insects. However, they have also been observed to feed on nectar of certain plants, likely to supplement the nutrient needs which insects alone cannot provide.

#### FUN FACT

The highly glossy and reflective bodies of Electric Blue Jumpers reflect a type of ultraviolet light, which plays an important role in mate choice by the females.

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\*Species of the Month will take a break in June and return in July.