

Beetles



Boring Beetle

A boring beetle (*Poecilips fallax*) lays its eggs inside Rhizophora propagules. Just as they are becoming established in the mud, the seedlings can be seen drooping because of the larvae eating them from within. Once the beetles have pupated, they leave the propagule by boring their way out.

There are apparently no males. The females produce young that are technically their sisters. This is a strategy adopted by certain insects, where adverse, but stable, conditions mean that adaptations that come with sexual reproduction are not a high priority.