

British Nature Guide

Interesting Mediterranean Minibeasts



Fire Bug

These bugs are only found near Lime trees and Tree-mallow plants. They eat seeds and fruit. They are often found together in large numbers.

The Fire Bug has been found in southern Britain, but it is not a regular breeding species in this country.



Praying Mantis

The Praying Mantis looks like an alien creature. It is found standing still on plants waiting for small insects to land nearby. It only uses 4 of its 6 legs to walk. It uses its front legs to catch small insects to eat.

The Praying Mantis does not live in the wild in Britain.



Crab Spider

Crab Spiders are common around the Mediterranean. This one is yellow. It is hard to see on the flower. It sits still and waits for a fly to land. It grabs the fly and kills it with poison before eating it.

We do find Crab Spiders in Britain in the summer. Look for them on bright yellow flowers.