

Tips for taking photos of insects with a phone camera:

- approach the subject slowly to keep from scaring it away
- specimen can be captured in a bag or container for photographing later; refrigerating can slow down the specimen to get a better photograph
- make sure the lighting is adequate for the phone to focus and get a good exposure for the photo (too bright or dark will make ID difficult); use external source if needed (e.g. desk lamp)
- move phone forward until the subject is in focus or tap screen to focus – *more zoomed in but out of focus is not better than zoomed out and focused*
- when zooming, digital zoom is not always best
- if possible make sure to get shots from a few angles and the underneath of the insect

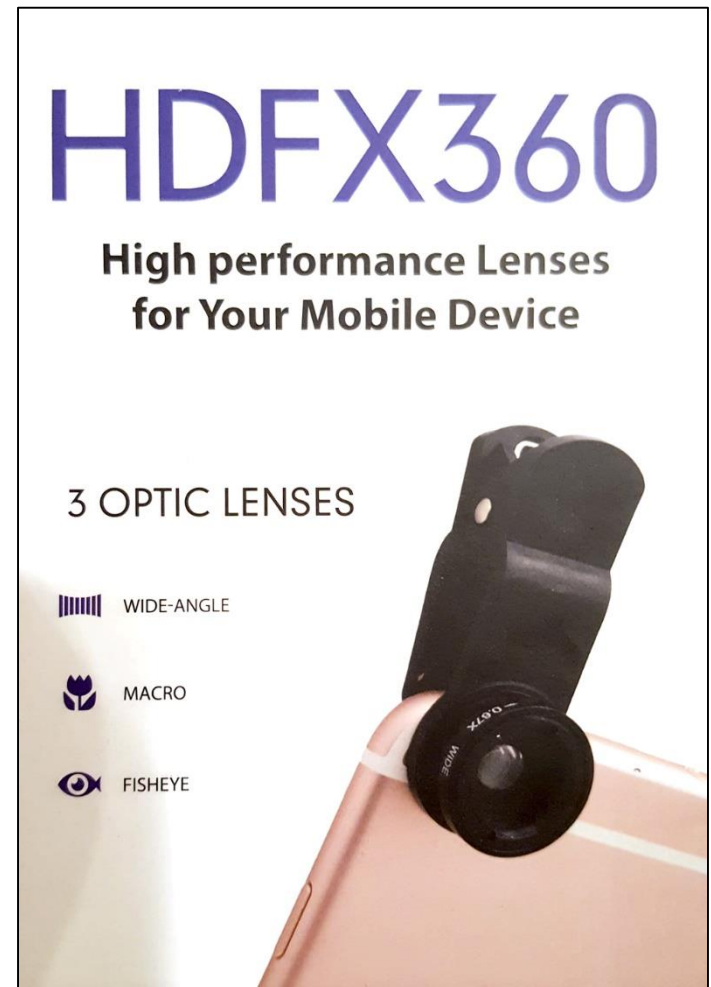
Focus & Clarity



- sometime the camera needs help
- if it is focusing on the ground or back ground, try placing your hand near the true focal point until the camera focuses there

Magnification

- some things are too small to be photographed with typical lenses
- for camera phones you can hold a magnifying glass in front of lens to increase magnification (to a point)
- lenses for phones can be purchased
- if ID is necessary it is a good idea to include a common size reference (US coin, pencil, etc.) near specimen



Magnification: Phones

- cell phones may have a macro function (usually smart phones)



Magnification: Phones



Magnification: Phones

Samsung Galaxy SIII Phone

Samsung Galaxy SIII +
magnifying glass



Notiophilus ground beetle (~4.5mm)