

## Cantharidae - BCN Checklist

after Keith Alexander, 2003 [*Provisional atlas of the Cantharoidea and Buprestoidea (Coleoptera) of Britain and Ireland*, Huntingdon: BRC. NERC]

Species	UK status	BCN status	Conservation designation	Length mm	Habitats	Adult season
<b>CANTHARINAE</b>						
<i>Podabrus alpinus</i>	f	vr		11-13	open, structurally varied woodlands; mainly found in well-wooded hill country of the north and west and across the Weald; attracted to pine. Northants only.	mid May - late July
<i>Ancistronycha abdominalis</i>	r		Nb	12-15	open woodland/wood-edge in hill country	late May - mid June
<i>Cantharis cryptica</i>	a	o		7-8	woodland, hedgerow, scrub, tall vegetation	early May - mid August
<i>Cantharis decipiens</i>	a	f		7-10	woodlands and various habitats with some tree cover	late April - mid July
<i>Cantharis figurata</i>	o	o		6.5-8	rush-pasture, open damp woodlands, tall waterside vegetation	late May - end July
<i>Cantharis flavilabris</i> (called <i>nigra</i> in some recent British works)	a	f		4.5-7	lowland marshes, rush-pasture, hay meadows [has a black scutellum]	late May - late July
<i>Cantharis fusca</i>	r	ext?	RDB3	10-13	fens, marshy/damp grassland, wood-edge, coastal shingle	May - June (July)
<i>Cantharis lateralis</i>	f	f		5.5-6.5	marshy places of all kinds, hay meadows	late May - mid August
<i>Cantharis livida</i>	f	o		11-14	structurally varied mosaics of tall grassland, scrub, trees, open woodland etc	mid May - end July
<i>Cantharis nigra</i> (formerly <i>thoracica</i> )	o	o		4.5-7	fens, reedbeds, marshes, marginal vegetation [has a red scutellum]	June - mid August
<i>Cantharis nigricans</i>	a	f		7-11	most habitats, possibly favouring damp places	mid May - July
<i>Cantharis obscura</i>	r		Nb	8.5-10	open woodland/wood-edge/hedgerows, mainly in NW hill country	May - June
<i>Cantharis pallida</i>	f	o		7-8.5	wetlands	late May - early August
<i>Cantharis paludosa</i>	o			4-5	acid peatlands in blanket bogs and valley mires; northern & western species	late May - mid July
<i>Cantharis pellucida</i>	a	o		9-12	most habitats but particularly broadleaved woodlands on neutral/basic soils	early May - July
<i>Cantharis rufa</i>	a	f		8.5-11	most types of open habitat but especially marshy ones inc. saltmarsh	mid May - mid July
<i>Cantharis rustica</i>	a	f		9-12.5	tall grassy habitats	mid May - end June
<i>Rhagonycha elongata</i>	r		Na	6-7.5	boreal woodlands in northern Scotland, mainly pine forest	late May - early July
<i>Rhagonycha fulva</i>	a	a		8-10	most habitats	end June - early September
<i>Rhagonycha lignosa</i>	a	f		6.5-7	trees and shrubs	early May - end July
<i>Rhagonycha limbata</i>	a	f		5-6*	mainly in dry, open semi-natural grasslands but also in other situations	early May - end July
<i>Rhagonycha lutea</i>	o	o	Nb	6-7	open well-structured woodland, wood-edges, scrub (adult lives in canopy foliage)	early June - mid July
<i>Rhagonycha testacea</i>	f	f		4.5-6*	wet woodlands and scrubby marshes	mid May - end July
<i>Rhagonycha translucida</i>	o	r	Nb	10-12	open well-structured woodland, wood-edges, old wood-pasture, scrubby downland (adult lives in canopy foliage)	June - July
<i>Silis ruficollis</i>	o	o	Nb	6-7	fens, reedbeds, marshes, marginal vegetation	mid June - end July

a = abundant, f = frequent, o = occasional, r = rare, v = very, ext = extinct

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<b>MALTHININAE</b>						
<i>Malthinus balteatus</i>	o	o		2.5-3	wooded habitats with a high water table eg. floodplain woodland, seepage woodland, wooded lower fringes of downland	early June - August
<i>Malthinus flaveolus</i>	a	f		4.5-5.5	most lowland habitats that include trees and shrubs, inc. hedgerows and scrubby hillsides	end May - end August
<i>Malthinus frontalis</i>	o	o	Nb	3.5-4.5	strongly associated with large, old, native broadleaved trees. Habitats inc. old wood-pasture, well-wooded riverbanks. Mainly lowland.	early June - early August
<i>Malthinus seriepunctatus</i>	f	o		3-4	broadleaved woodlands	late April - mid August
<i>Malthodes crassicornis</i>	r		RDB3	1.7-2.3	relict, old lowland forest and ancient wood-pastures; larvae develop in red-rotting heartwood of old open-grown oaks	mid May - late June
<i>Malthodes dispar</i>	o	r		3-4	wet woodlands inc. carr and stands of willow on alluvial floodplains	early June - early August
<i>Malthodes fibulatus</i>	o	o	Nb	3.3-4*	broadleaved woodlands on chalk and limestone inc. plantations and recent woodlands (where close to older stands?) In BCN mainly in the west Peterborough area, so far.	mid May - mid June
<i>Malthodes flavoguttatus</i>	o			3.5-4	wooded hill country of northern and western Britain, inc. open heathland. Absent from south-east.	late May - early August
<i>Malthodes fuscus</i>	o	?		3.3-4.5*	wooded hill country of northern and western Britain and across the Weald in the south-east. Unsubstantiated records from East Midlands and East Anglia.	late May - end July
<i>Malthodes guttifer</i>	o	r		4-5*	found mainly in semi-natural oak and birch woodland on acid soils. Damp soils may be important. Associated with a wide range of wooded situations inc. clumps of grey/goat willow in damp pastures.	mid May - end July
<i>Malthodes lobatus</i>	vr			1.5-2.8	frist recorded only recently from Britain, on downland in Sussex and from damp riverside grasslands in Devon	prob. June - August
<i>Malthodes marginatus</i>	f	f		3.5-4.5	commonest member of genus. Most wooded situations throughout Britain	early May - end August
<i>Malthodes maurus</i>	r	r	Nb	3.5-4*	most recent records are from well-wooded country along river valleys but exact habitat associations unclear (rarer than the Nb status suggests)	early May - end July
<i>Malthodes minimus</i>	f	f		3.3-4*	common in well-wooded country throughout southern Britain, sparse in the north	mid May - early August
<i>Malthodes mysticus</i>	o			3.5-5*	wooded hill country of northern and western Britain, inc. open heathland. Absent from south-east except for relict populations in New Forest, Weald, etc. Absent from East Midlands and East Anglia.	late May - end August
<i>Malthodes pumilus</i>	o	o	Nb	1-1.5	most records from ancient wood-pastures and well-wooded riverbanks, believed to develop in heart-rot of large old trees. Also regularly occurs on calcareous grassland sites in southern England, usually those with some scrub. In BCN mainly in the north Hunts/mid Peterborough area so far.	mid May - end July



**Bedfordshire  
Cambridgeshire  
Northamptonshire**

**RDB1** = Red Data Book category 1, nationally endangered

**RDB2** = Red Data Book category 2, nationally vulnerable

**RDB3** = Red Data Book category 3, nationally rare

**Na** = Nationally Scarce category A (recorded, or expected to occur in, 30 or fewer of the c.2800 10km squares in Britain)

**Nb** = Nationally Scarce category B (recorded, or expected to occur in, 31-100 10km squares in Britain)

Comments welcome, to [nick.millar@wildlifebcn.org](mailto:nick.millar@wildlifebcn.org) please

\* lengths from Reitter (1911) based on continental material

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