

Species Quest

Identification Guide

This chart can be used for the **OPAL Bugs Count Survey**



Keep an eye out for the six bugs on this card, to help with important invertebrate research. Tell us which species you spot, whenever and wherever you find them.



We'd really like you to take a photo of any that you find – this will ensure that your record can be added to national distribution maps and will be valuable for years to come.



Key



Why we'd like you to record this species



Identification features



Where to look

Two-spot Ladybird (*Adalia bipunctata*)



actual size



Is this familiar species declining in number due to competition from the non-native Harlequin Ladybird?



Small rounded beetle, 4-5mm long. Colour pattern can vary, but wing-cases usually red with 2 black spots, or black with 4 red spots.



Eats aphids (e.g. greenfly), so look on plants.

Devil's Coach Horse (*Ocyopus olens*)



actual size



rears up tail when frightened



Is this large beetle found more often in urban or rural areas?



Large and distinctive with a long, black body and short wing-cases. Usually around 25mm long.

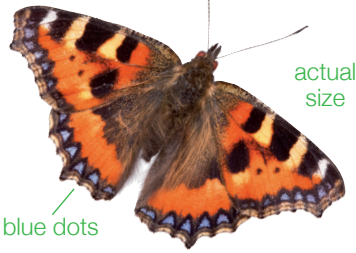


Found hiding among dead leaves, or under objects like logs and stones during the day. Hunts at night.



Careful! I might bite.

Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*)



Once common in gardens, numbers have fallen in recent years. Is it doing better in urban or rural areas?

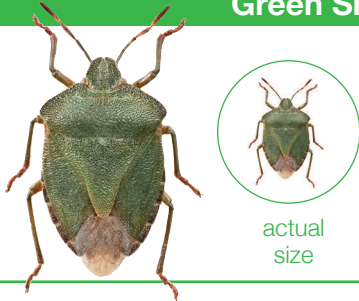


Brightly coloured orange and black wings with a row of blue dots around the outside. Wingspan 45-60mm.



Often seen on open flowers or basking in sunny spots.

Green Shieldbug (*Palomena prasina*)



Used to be found mainly in southern England, but has started to spread north. Where is it found now?



A large, shield-shaped bug, 11.5mm long. Body is bright green all over, with stripes along the edges and pale brown wingtips.



Look on plants, especially shrubs and brambles.

Leopard Slug (*Limax maximus*)



How important are parks and gardens as a habitat for this giant slug? A gardener's friend, it eats fungi, dead leaves and other slugs!

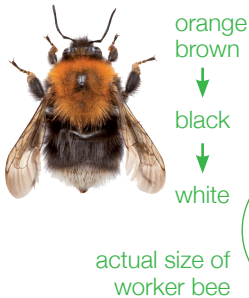


7-16cm long. Body is brown to grey and covered in dark spots and blotches. 'Tail' often stripy.



Search in damp places, like under logs and stones.

Tree Bumblebee (*Bombus hypnorum*)



Once common in gardens, numbers have fallen in recent years. Is it doing better in urban or rural areas?



Brightly coloured orange and black wings with a row of blue dots around the outside. Wingspan 45-60mm.



Often seen on open flowers or basking in sunny spots.



Careful! I might sting.