

Bug Identification Chart



Dark-lipped banded snail (Cepaea nemoralis)



The dark- lipped banded snail has a rounded shell that is glossy yellow or pink. The shell can be up to 20mm in diameter and usually has distinctive dark spiral bands. A thick brown lip to the shell distinguishes it from the white-lipped banded snail.



Garden cross spider (Araneus diadematus)



These are common in gardens and are known as the Garden cross spider due to the arrangement of white dots on its back which form a cross. The webs are spun by the female spider who lies head- down on the web. Any prey that is caught is quickly wrapped in silk before being eaten.



Marmalade Hoverfly (Episyrphus balteatus)



The marmalade hoverfly is a common visitor to gardens where it feeds on nectar from flat-topped flowers. It is a small orange and black banded hoverfly. It has one pair of wings; bees and wasps have two pairs. The larvae eat aphids. It may look a bit like a wasp but it will not sting you.



Common striped woodlouse (Philoscia muscorum)



The Common striped woodlouse is common and widespread. It is brownish in colour and mottled with pale patches and, as the name suggests, a clear dark stripe along the back.



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Small tortoiseshell butterfly (Aglais urticae)



The Small tortoiseshell butterfly is widespread in Scotland. It has orange wings with black spots. It is fast flying in bright sunshine but can been seen when feeding on plants such as Buddhlia.



Black ant (Lasius niger)



Black ants are the ant species that you are most likely to find in gardens and sometimes indoors! On a hot and humid day between June and September male and female Black ants from many nests take to the air to mate—at this time people refer to them as 'flying ants'.



Large black slug (Arion ater)



This is a very large slug - 10-15cm in length. It is usually black in colour but can also be brick-red, orange or grey! When disturbed it contracts into a broad humped shape. The fringe of its foot is often striped.



Hawthorn shield bug (Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale)



The Hawthorn Shield bug is one of the UK's largest shield bugs and may reach a length of 2cm. Its body colour provides camouflage in hawthorn trees. If you pick up a shield bug you'll discover why they are also called 'stink bugs'. They can release a strong smelling liquid to put off predators.