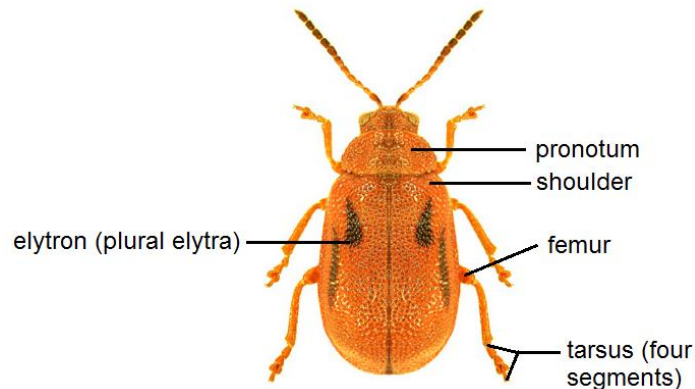


Keys to the British species of subfamily Galerucinae, tribe Galerucini

This document contains keys to the genera of family Chrysomelidae, subfamily Galerucinae, tribe Galerucini containing more than a single species. Genera with a single British species are named in the key to genus. The keys are derived partly from Joy (1932) *A Practical Handbook of British Beetles* and partly from the German keys by Arved Lompe, published at <http://www.coleo-net.de/coleo>. I have translated these and they are reproduced here with the author's permission. Food plant associations are from the Biological Records Centre's Database of Insects and their Food Plants (<http://www.brc.ac.uk/dbif/>)



Checklist

From the Checklist of Beetles of the British Isles, 2012 edition, edited by A. G. Duff (available from www.coleopterist.org.uk/checklist.htm).

Genus *Galerucella* Crotch, 1873

- calmariensis* (Linnaeus, 1767)
- lineola* (Fabricius, 1781)
- nymphaeae* (Linnaeus, 1758)
- pusilla* (Duftschmid, 1825)
- sagittariae* (Gyllenhal, 1813)
- tenella* (Linnaeus, 1761)

Genus *Galeruca* Geoffroy, 1762

- laticollis* (Sahlberg, C.R., 1838)
- tanaceti* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Genus *Lochmaea* Weise, 1883

- caprea* (Linnaeus, 1758)
- crataegi* (Forster, 1771)
- suturalis* (Thomson, C.G., 1866)

Genus *Luperus* Geoffroy, 1762

- flavipes* (Linnaeus, 1767)
- longicornis* (Fabricius, 1781)

Image Credits

The illustrations in this key are reproduced from the *Iconographia Coleopterorum Poloniae*, with permission kindly granted by Lech Borowiec.



Genus *Galerucella*

- 1 Pronotum without a leathery texture, with more of a shine than the head. At least the extreme tip of the femora black.2
- Pronotum with a fine leathery texture making it dull, like the head. Legs often entirely yellow, except often the last segment of the tarsi.3



- 2 Pronotum yellow, much lighter in colour than the elytra which are reddish yellow to almost black with the sides reddish-yellow. Pronotum with the depressions on each side entirely black and usually with a black mark in the middle; less angled in the middle of the sides. Elytra with two distinct longitudinal raised ridges. Length 6-8 mm.
 ***Galerucella nymphaeae***
 Mostly associated with water lilies



Pronotum varying in colour from yellow to black but always the same colour as the elytra. Pronotum more angled in the middle of the side. Elytra without raised ridges or they are very indistinct.

..... ***Galerucella sagittariae***

Associated with a number of species with records from *Lysimachia*, *Hypericum*, *Rubus*, *Rumex*, *Cirsium*, *Alchemilla*, *Potentilla*, *Polygonum*, *Sagittaria* and *Fragaria*



- 3 Elytra shorter in proportion to the pronotum, slightly broadening towards the tip in males and strongly so in females. Segments 1-2 of the antennae yellow. Length 3-4 mm.

..... ***Galerucella tenella***

Common and widespread. Found on a number of plants including *Potentilla*, *Filipendula*, *Salix*, *Geum*, and *Alnus*.



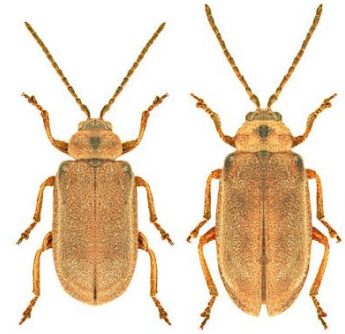
Elytra longer in proportion to the pronotum, parallel-sided in males and slightly broadening towards the tip in females.4



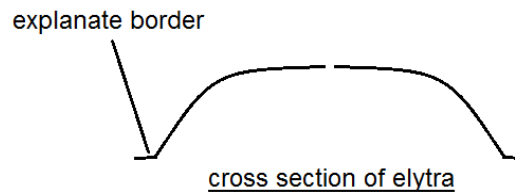
- 4 Explanate border of the elytra narrow, nearly the same breadth throughout. Antennae with segments 1-2 black above. Elytra with denser, more shining hair, conspicuous when light is pointing from the front.

..... ***Galerucella lineola***

Associated with a number of willow species as well as alder, birch, hazel and poplar



Explanate border of the elytra broader, becoming wider towards the tip. Segments 1-2 of the antennae yellow or dirty brown above. Elytra with shorter, less conspicuous hair. ...[5](#)



- 5 Elytra more finely punctured and the explanate border more broadened at the tip. Last two segments of the abdomen completely red-brown. Length 3.5-4.5 mm. Entirely yellow with a black mark sometimes on the shoulders of the elytra.

..... ***Galerucella pusilla***

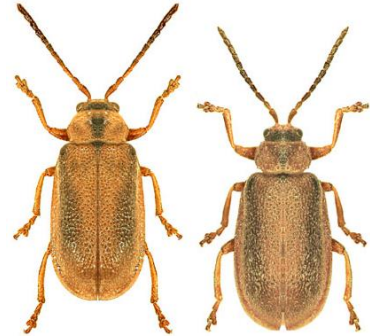
Rare species. Associated with *Lythrum salicaria*.



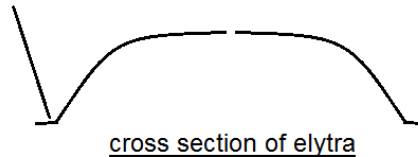
Elytra more strongly punctured and the explanate border less broadened at the tip. Only the last segment of the abdomen red-brown. Length 4-5 mm. Pronotum with a black mark in the middle and each elytron usually with an elongate black mark at the middle.

..... ***Galerucella calmariensis***

Local. Associated with *Lythrum salicaria*.



explanate border



cross section of elytra



Genus *Galeruca*

Translated from A Lompe, original at <http://www.coleo-net.de/coleo/texte/galeruca.htm>

- 1 Pronotum deeply indented at the front angles, so that the side margin broadens more distinctly towards the base. Elytra with a broader and deeper side furrow. Background colour of the pronotum and elytra black, weakly shining.

..... *Galeruca tanacetii*

Front angles of the pronotum rounded. Length 6-10 mm. In Holland a pest of cabbages, beans and dahlias.



Pronotum with a narrower lateral furrow at the front angles. Elytra with a narrower and less distinct side furrow. Pronotum and elytra yellowish-brown to orange-brown.

..... *Galeruca laticollis*



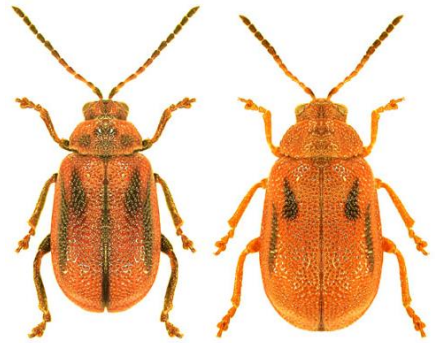
Genus *Lochmaea*

Key from Joy (1932)

- 1 Main coloration reddish. Elytra less elongate. Antennae shorter, the segments less elongate. Each elytron often with two longitudinal black marks. Length 4-5 mm.

..... ***Lochmaea crataegi***

Local on *Crataegus*, *Sorbus aucuparia* and *Prunus spinosa*

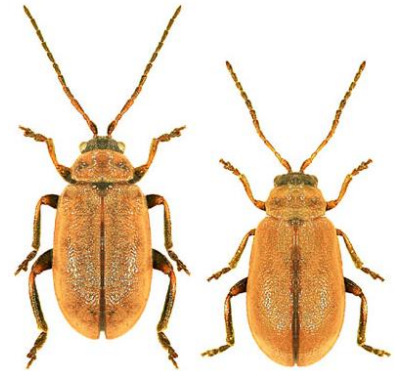


Main coloration black or yellow. Elytra more elongate. Antennae longer, the segments more elongate. Length 4.5-6.0 mm.2

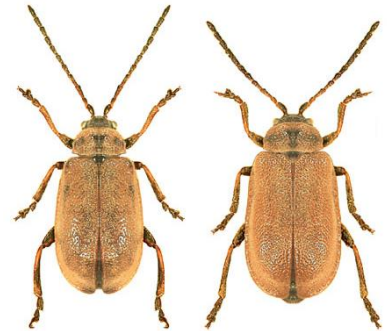


I'm not happy with the match of this couplet with the illustrations. In many cases habitat should be sufficient to differentiate the species with *suturalis* being a heathland species and *caprea* more general.

- 2 Pronotum very shining. Main coloration darker (completely black in one variety). Viewed from below the first three segments of the abdomen in the male have long hair and granules in the middle.
 ***Lochmaea suturalis***
 Common on heathers (*Calluna* and *Erica*). Joy states main coloration black.



- Pronotum rather dull. Main coloration paler brown. Underside of the male abdomen not as above.
 ***Lochmaea caprea***
 Local on willows but also recorded from poplars, alder, blackthorn, birch and hornbeam..

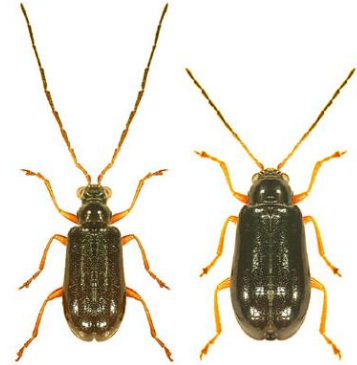


Genus *Luperus*

Translated from A Lompe, original at <http://www.coleo-net.de/coleo/texte/luperus.htm>

- 1 Pronotum and elytra black to oily-brown. Tibiae completely yellowish-brown.
 ***Luperus longicornis***

Associated with a number of plants including hazel, alder, birch, apple, pear, elm, cherry, poplar, willow, oak, hawthorn and hornbeam.



- Pronotum orange-brown. Tibiae darkened towards the tip.
 ***Luperus flavipes***

Associated with a number of plants including birch, alder, beech, oak, hawthorn, elm, hazel, willow and hornbeam

