

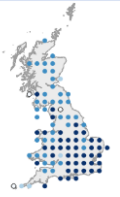
**Rhinoncus.** Thick rostrum. Front edge of pronotum almost straight, or only slightly notched. Front edge of pronotum **without** strong horns or a deep notch, unlike most *Pelenomus*, but compare *Pelenomus comari*. **Claws toothed.** Pale scales on most of wing-cases (not those forming a large spot at the front) narrower than in *Pelenomus*. Seven segments in the filament.

***Rhinoncus castor***

cástor= beaver

2.5-3.5 mm. On Sheep's-sorrel *Rumex acetosella*. Common across most of Britain but rare in the far north.

Clear **white spot** at front of wing-cases. Small warts near tip of elytra, shared with *bruchoides*, are hard to see, but they give the impression of a small rough patch at the rear. Usually more patterned with scales than *pericarpus*, wing-cases **widest near the front**, shoulders more prominent. Horn on pronotum sides small but sharp.



***Rhinoncus inconspicuous***

inconspectus = indiscreet

3.0-4.0 mm. On Amphibious Bistort *Persicaria amphibia*. Widespread in England, rare in Scotland and Wales.

The **largest Rhinoncus**, but small examples overlap with *pericarpus*. Usually larger than *castor* and *bruchoides*, has less prominent shoulders, wing-cases **widest around the middle**. More similar in shape to *pericarpus*, but wing-cases usually **mottled**, and with band of **pale scales along the suture**, not with an obvious pale spot at the front. Horn on pronotum sides small but sharp.



***Rhinoncus pericarpus***

pericárpus = of fruits or pods

2.5-3.5 mm. On docks and sorrels *Rumex*. Common throughout Britain.

Most similar to the previous two species, but wing-cases more strongly ribbed. Horn on pronotum sides **barely perceptible**, so pronotum has a smoother outline. Scales usually form a **white spot** at the front of the wing-cases. Shoulders less obvious, wing-cases **widest around the middle**, and hardly patterned.

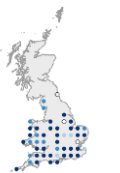


***Rhinoncus bruchoides***

bruchoides = like *Bruchus*, a seed beetle

2.5-3.0 mm. On *Persicaria*. Common in southern Britain, rare in Northern England.

Shape like *castor*, but more heavily scaled, with a **stronger mottled pattern** on the wing-cases (as the name suggests, it does look like some of the Bruchid beetles). Because of the strong mottling, this species does **not** have an obvious white spot at the front of the wing-cases. Pronotum usually **dark red** at the front edge (blackish in all other *Rhinoncus*). Wing-cases have red-brown bands on the surface (surface dark brown or blackish in other *Rhinoncus*), but they are often obscured by scales. Horn on pronotum sides small but sharp.

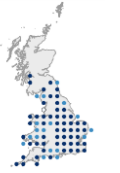


***Rhinoncus perpendicularis***

perpendicularis = upright

2.0-3.0 mm. On Amphibious Bistort *Persicaria amphibia* and other *Persicaria* spp. Common in England and Wales, rare in southern Scotland.

**Smaller** than the others, wing-cases proportionately longer. Looks smoother and less mottled, usually has bands of paler scales. Pale orange or yellow-brown tibiae **contrast with blackish femurs** (legs more uniform in other species, apart from *bruchoides*, which often has mottled dark and red brown legs). **No** horn on the side of the pronotum.



***Rhinoncus albicinctus*\*\*\***

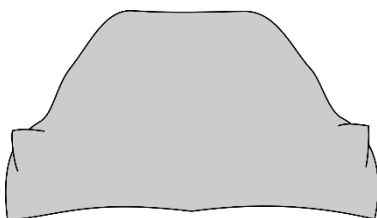
albicinctus = white-banded

3.0-3.5 mm. On Amphibious Bistort *Persicaria amphibia*. Very rare. Three places in southern England.

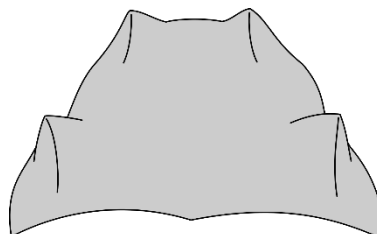
[Not seen it]



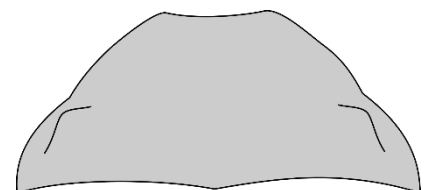
Pronotums viewed from behind



*Rhinoncus castor*. Sharp horn on sides, no horns on front.



*Pelenomus quadrituberculatus*. Sharp horns on front and sides.



*Pelenomus comari*. Blunt horn on sides, faint horns on front.



*Rhinoncus castor*



*Rhinoncus inconspicuous*



*Rhinoncus pericarpus*

Pronotum sides	Sharp horn	Sharp horn	<b>Blunt horn (hard to see)</b>
Pronotum front	No horns	No horns	No horns
Spot on back	Clear white spot	<b>No spot, or not clear</b>	Clear white spot
Claws	Toothed	Toothed	Toothed
Rear	Angled, rough from small warts	Smooth	Smooth



*Rhinoncus bruchoides*



*Rhinoncus perpendicularis*



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*Rhinoncus albicinctus*

Pronotum sides	Sharp horn	<b>No horn</b>	<b>No horn</b>
Pronotum front	No horns	No horns	No horns
Spot on back	<b>No spot, or not clear</b>	Clear white spot	??
Claws	Toothed	Toothed	Toothed
Rear	Angled, rough from small warts	Smooth	Smooth



*Rhinoncus castor*. Sharp horn on side of pronotum.



*Rhinoncus pericarpus*. Blunt horn, hardly apparent.

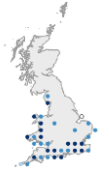
**Pelenomus.** Thick rostrum. Front edge of pronotum with **two horns** or at least a notch (least obvious in *comari*). All apart from the distinctive *quadricorniger* have **slender, untoothed claws**. Six segments in filament.

***Pelenomus waltoni*\***

waltoni = after John Walton, an English entomologist

2.5-3.0 mm. On Water-pepper *Persicaria hydropiper*. Uncommon in Wales and southern England. Rare in the Midlands and northern England.

**Rostrum longer and narrower** than other *Pelenomus* or *Rhinonchus*, **eyes beady** and more bulging. Clear **white spot** at front of wing-cases, unlike other *Pelenomus* (except *quadricorniger*).

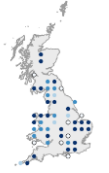


***Pelenomus comari*\***

cómarí = of *Comarum*, Marsh Cinquefoil

2.0-2.5 mm. On Marsh Cinquefoil *Comarum palustre* and Purple Loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria*. Widespread but local.

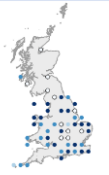
**Horns** on pronotum **shorter** than in other *Pelenomus*, those on front edge hardly visible except from behind, the **side horn blunt** and not obvious. **Scape shorter** and not so slender as in other *Pelenomus*. Wing-cases **smooth** at rear, without warts. Abdomen often proportionately shorter and more rounded than other *Pelenomus*, but there is some overlap. Could be confused with some *Rhinonchus*, but pale scales on sides of wing-cases rounder and wider, legs with contrasting dark femurs, and **pronotum proportionately shorter and wider**.



***Pelenomus canaliculatus*\***

2.0-3.0 mm. On water-milfoils *Myriophyllum*. Widespread but local as far north as central Scotland.

Patch of **velvet black** scales behind the scutellum distinguishes this from all other *Pelenomus*. Head not so caved in between eyes as in most other *Pelenomus*. Further differs from *quadrifidus/zumpti/olssoni* by femurs reddish at base (not all dark), proportionately shorter wing-cases with less apparent warts near the tip.

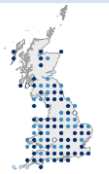


***Pelenomus quadrifidus***

quadrifidus = with four warts

2.0-3.0 mm. On *Persicaria* and docks *Rumex*. Common throughout Britain.

The **commonest** *Pelenomus*. This, *zumpti* and *olssoni* are recognised by the **sharp horns** on **front and side** of pronotum, short, **thick rostrum**, **untoothed** claws, and **faintly mottled** wing-cases with no clear white or black spot on the middle, and tiny **warts** towards at the rear. **Distinguishing between the three is difficult**. Foodplant is the best clue. Identifications should be confirmed from dissected males, but even the differences in the aedeagus are slight. Males have a small spine at the tip of the middle tibia, females do not. Other differences might be apparent if you have several specimens to compare, such as the darker, stockier legs and thicker rostrum of *olssoni*.



***Pelenomus zumpti*\***

zumpti = assumed to be after German entomologist Fritz Zumpt

2.5-3.0 mm. On **Sea Milkwort** *Glauca maritima*. Widespread but local along the east and west coasts of Britain, rare elsewhere.

A *Pelenomus* in saltmarsh or elsewhere among Sea Milkwort is likely to be this one. See *quadrifidus*.



***Pelenomus olssoni*\***

olssoni = after Olsson

2.0-3.0 mm. On **Water-purslane** *Lythrum portula*. Uncommon in Wales and southern England.

Rostrum (compare same sex) and legs **stouter** and thicker than in *zumpti* and *quadrifidus*. Legs **darker**. See *quadrifidus*.

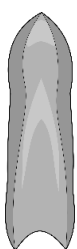
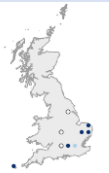


***Pelenomus quadricorniger*\*\*\***

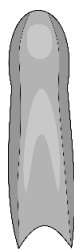
quadricorniger = bearing four horns

2.5-3.0 mm. On *Persicaria*. Rare in wetlands in southern England.

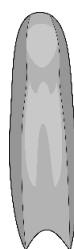
Clear **white spot** on front of wing-cases, but **no other pale scales** on wing-cases. All the other *Pelenomus* have some wide, pale scales scattered on the wing-cases. This is the only *Pelenomus* with toothed claws. Might be confused with *Rhinonchus pericarpus*, but that species lacks the sharp horns on the pronotum and its wing-cases are wider around the middle, not near the front.



*quadrifidus*



*zumpti*



*olssoni*

Male median lobes

*Pelenomus quadrifidus*: pointed tip, slightly bulbous.

*Pelenomus zumpti*: rounded tip, slightly bulbous.

*Pelenomus olssoni*: rounded tip, sides evenly tapered.





*Pelenomus waltoni*



*Pelenomus comari*



*Pelenomus canaliculatus*

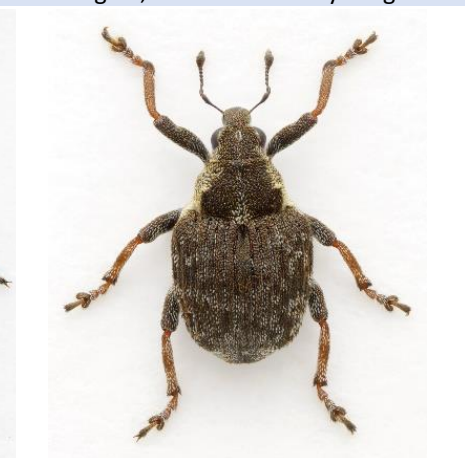
Pronotum sides	Sharp horn	<b>Blunt or less sharp horn</b>	Sharp horn
Pronotum front	Horns on front edge	<b>Weak or none</b>	Horns on front edge
Spot on back	<b>Small white spot (??always)</b>	No clear spot	<b>Velvet black spot</b>
Claws	Slender, not toothed	Slender, not toothed	Slender, not toothed
Rear	Angled but smooth	Smooth	Angled, smooth or faintly rough



*Pelenomus quadrituberculatus*



*Pelenomus zumpti*



*Pelenomus olssoni*

Pronotum sides	Sharp horn	Sharp horn	Sharp horn
Pronotum front	Horns on front edge	Horns on front edge	Horns on front edge
Spot on back	No clear spot	No clear spot	No clear spot
Claws	Slender, not toothed	Slender, not toothed	Slender, not toothed
Rear	Angled, <b>rough</b> from small warts	Angled, <b>rough</b> from small warts	Angled, <b>rough</b> from small warts



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*Pelenomus quadricorniger*

Pronotum sides	Sharp horn
Pronotum front	Horns on front edge
Spot on back	<b>Clear white spot</b>
Claws	<b>Toothed</b>
Rear	Smooth



*Pelenomus waltoni*. Longer rostrum than other species.



*Pelenomus olssoni*. Typical short rostrum



*Pelenomus comari*. Horns on pronotum smaller and less prominent than in other *Pelenomus*. Rear of wing-cases smooth.



*Pelenomus quadrituberculatus*. Sharp horns on front and sides of pronotum, typical of the genus. Rear of wing-cases look rough from small warts.





*Rhinoncus pericarpus* has sparsely scaled wing-cases with a contrasting long white spot at the front.



*Rhinoncus perpendicularis* usually has broad pale bands in the rear of the wing-cases, and contrasting dark femurs.



If you find a weevil on Sheep's-sorrel and it has a clear white spot on mottled wing-cases, it is probably *Rhinoncus castor*.



*Rhinoncus bruchoides* has beautifully patterned wing-cases, and mottled legs.



The velvet black spot near the front of the wing-cases of *Pelenomus canaliculatus* is easier to see in life than in a preserved specimen.



The three rough-bottomed, strong-horned *Pelenomus* are difficult to tell apart. The best clue in the field comes from their foodplants. *Pelenomus zumpti* eats Sea Milkwort.

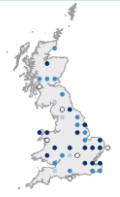
**Eubrychius and Phytobius.** Thick rostrum. Two aquatic species, covered in round, flat scales. **Long, slender tarsi**, the segment that is heart-shape and wide in most weevils is barely wider than the other segments. Both species can be found by sweeping a net around water-milfoils or by examining the plants over a tray.

**Eubrychius velutus\***

velutus = velvety

2.5-3.0 mm. On water-milfoils *Myriophyllum*. Widespread but uncommon, most frequent in the east.

**Sandy brown**, with variable amounts of **black**. Often has a large black patch on each wing-case and on each side of the pronotum, but can appear all dark, especially when wet. **Long, slender tarsi**, the segment that is heart-shape in most weevils is narrow and **not heart-shape**. **Scape short**, first segment of antennal club much longer than the other two, the whole **club looks weak and shiny**.

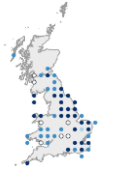


**Phytobius leucogaster\***

leucogaster = white belly

2.5-3.0 mm. On water-milfoils *Myriophyllum*. Widespread but not common. Rare in the far north.

**White underside**. **Long, slender tarsi**, the heart-shape segment **not much wider than the others**, and only slightly lobed.



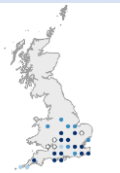
**Neophytobius.** Thick rostrum. Two rare species. **Warts on front part of the wing-cases**, at least on fifth interstice. Generally less scaled and not mottled, unlike most *Pelenomus* and *Rhinoncus*. Sharp horns on pronotum will distinguish *Neophytobius* from *Rhinoncus pericarpus* and *perpendicularis*. The similar *Pelenomus quadricorniger* has smooth wing-cases, without warts.

**Neophytobius quadrinodosus\***

quadrinodōsus = four knots

2.0-2.5 mm. Perhaps on *Persicaria*. In wet and dry places. Scattered and scarce in southern Britain.

Pits on pronotum **larger and more widely spaced** than in other Phytobiini. **Claws toothed**. Wing-cases proportionately **longer and widest just in front of the middle**.



**Neophytobius muricatus\*\***

muricātus = prickly

2.0-2.5 mm. Perhaps on Amphibious Bistort *Persicaria amphibia*. In wet places. Scattered and rare in southern Britain.

**Claws untoothed**. Wing-cases proportionately **shorter, widest near the front**. Horns on front edge of pronotum stronger than in *quadrinodosus*.



*Eubrychius velutus* can look sandy brown or dark depending on scales and how water-logged it is. It has long, slender tarsi.





*Eubrychius velutus*



*Phytobius leucogaster*



*Neophytobius quadrinodosus*

Pronotum sides	Sharp horn	Sharp horn	Sharp horn
Pronotum front	Horns on front edge	<b>Tiny horns or notch</b>	Horns on front edge
Spot on back	None	White spot or no clear spot	Clear white spot
Claws	Slender, not toothed	Slender, not toothed	Slender, not toothed
Rear	Smooth	Smooth	Rough from small warts



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*Neophytobius muricatus*

Pronotum sides	Sharp horn
Pronotum front	Horns on front edge
Spot on back	Clear white spot
Claws	<b>Toothed</b>
Rear	Rough from small warts



The white belly of *Phytobius leucogaster* may not be apparent when it is wet, but it is obvious on a dry weevil.

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