

**Coeliodes and Coeliodinus.** Red-brown or orange weevils. On **trees**. [Compare](#) *Trichosirocalus* have a wider pronotum, large erect scales on the wing-cases, and more angular rears. *Ceutorhynchus pyrrhorhynchus* has a thinner rostrum, no bands across the wing-cases, and a more swollen pronotum. *Ceutorhynchus pumilo* is smaller, and has a thinner rostrum, a more swollen pronotum, and no bands across the wing-cases. *Micrelus ericae* has warts all over the wing-cases.

Coeliōdes = having a prominent belly; Coeliodinus = little Coeliodes.

	<i>Coeliodes rana</i>	<i>Coeliodes ruber</i>	<i>Coeliodes transversealbofasciatus</i>	<i>Coeliodinus rubicundus</i>	<i>Coeliodinus nigratarsis</i>
Rostrum	<b>Blackish</b>	Red-brown, at least at tip	Red-brown	Dark red or blackish	Dark red or blackish
Mid femur	No tooth	With a <b>tiny tooth</b>	No tooth	No tooth	No tooth
Pronotum sides	Smoothly rounded	Smoothly rounded	With a <b>bump</b>	Smoothly rounded	Smoothly rounded
Pale bands on wing-cases	Broad, <b>interrupted</b> by dark suture	Narrow, faint, continuous or not	Narrow, clear, continuous.	None, white scales in rear half	None, white scales in rear half

Three species with **bands** of pale scales across the wing-cases. Rear end of each wing-case with a rough patch of low warts. They feed on **oaks**. They can usually be separated by the patterns of scales and the colour of the rostrum, but to be sure, always check for the tooth on the middle femur (*ruber*) and the bump on the side of the pronotum (*transversealbofasciatus*).

#### ***Coeliodes rana***

rāna = frog

2.0-3.0 mm. Common throughout Britain.

Has **three, wide** bands, sometimes coalescing on the sides. The bands are usually **interrupted** by darker scales along the suture. The all-**blackish** rostrum further distinguishes it from the other two. Pronotum with **stripes** of pale scales.



#### ***Coeliodes transversealbofasciatus***

transversealbofasciatus = with white bands across it

2.5-3.5 mm. Widespread in southern England and Wales, rare in northern England and southern Scotland.

Bands **narrow** but **distinct**. The scales on the pronotum do **not** form stripes (as they do in the other two). Easily distinguished from *rana* and *ruber* by the blunt horn or **angled bump** on each side of the pronotum.



#### ***Coeliodes ruber***

rúber = red

2.5-3.5 mm. Less common than *rana*. England, Wales, and southern Scotland.

Bands **faint**, less clear against the more general **scatter** of pale scales. Often only one or two bands, in the rear half. The bands are usually continuous, reaching across the suture. The rostrum is **red-brown**, at least beyond the antenna sockets (it may be blackish at the base). Pronotum with **stripes** of pale scales. On average, larger than *rana*, but the smallest individuals are no larger than a big *rana*. Always check the identification by looking for the tiny **tooth** on the middle and rear femurs.



Two **reddish** species with white scales in the rear half, sometimes making patches, and often a white spot around the scutellum. Rear of wing-cases smooth, without a rough patch of warts. They feed on **birches**.

#### ***Coeliodinus rubicundus***

rubicúndus = ruddy

2.0-2.7 mm. **Common** throughout Britain.

This would be an easy species to identify were it not for *nigratarsis*. The two are very similar, but *rubicundus* is by far the commoner, so you are likely to find it first and you can then compare it with *nigratarsis* if you are lucky enough to come across it.



#### ***Coeliodinus nigratarsis***

nigritársis = black-footed

2.7-3.0 mm. Scattered. Very **rare** in England, **scarce** in Scotland. Not yet found in Wales.

**Larger** than *rubicundus*. Tends to have darker tarsi contrasting more with red-brown legs. Leaning white scales usually wider, more prominent, in rows of **two or three** on interstices 3, 5, and 7 (rather than in rows of one or two). Size is probably the best clue that you might have this species: any larger *Coeliodinus* with more prominent white scales should be checked. Some have obviously broader scales and blackish tarsi, but others have barely darker tarsi and barely wider scales. The number of scales on the interstices seems to be a more consistent difference. If your weevil has all the characters mentioned here (large; wider scales; dark tarsi; scales in twos or threes) you can safely call it *nigratarsis*, but if it has only some, you will need to compare it closely with specimens of *rubicundus*. Some keys mention differences in the underside, but I have not been able to see these in museum specimens mounted on card.



*Coeliodes rana*



*Coeliodes rana*



*Coeliodes transversealbofasciatus*



*Coeliodes ruber*  
Scale ×6



*Coeliodes ruber*



*Coeliodinus rubidcundus*



*Coeliodes rana*. The broad bands are interrupted by dark scales along the suture.





*Coeliodes ruber*. This species and *rana* have smoothly rounded pronotum sides.



*Coeliodes transversealbofasciatus* has an angled bump on each side of the pronotum.



*Coeliodes ruber*. The tiny tooth on the underside of the middle and hind femurs separates *ruber* from the other *Coeliodes*. The bands across the wing-cases are usually obscured by the general scatter of pale scales, and there is usually no band in the front half of the wing-cases.



*Coeliodes transversealbofasciatus*. The most clearly marked of the banded species. Note that there is no tooth on the underside of the femurs. You can see the angled bump on the far side of the pronotum.



*Coelioidinus rubicundus*. The two *Coelioidinus* are easily recognised by their deep-red wing-cases. The scales are scattered over the rear half; they do not form bands.



*Coeliodes rana*. The all-black rostrum and clear broad bands should separate *rana* from the other two *Coeliodes*.

If you have used this guide, please let me know how you got on: [mgwildlife@gmail.com](mailto:mgwildlife@gmail.com) or Twitter @MarkGurn.



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