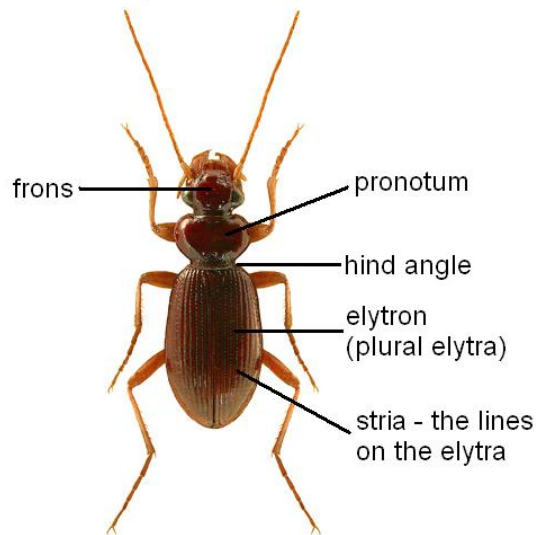


Tribe Nebriini

Reference

Lindroth, C.H. (1974) Coleoptera, Carabidae. Handbooks for the identification of British insects, volume 4, part 2. London: Royal Entomological Society.



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 *Eurynebria* Ganglbauer, 1891

complanata (Linnaeus 1767)

Genus *Leistus* Frölich, 1799

Genus *Nebria* Latreille, 1802

brevicollis (Fabricius, 1792)

complanata (Linnaeus, 1767)

livida (Linnaeus, 1758)

nivalis (Paykull, 1790)

rufescens (Strøm, 1768)

salina Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1854

Genus *Pelophila* Dejean, 1821

borealis (Paykull, 1790)

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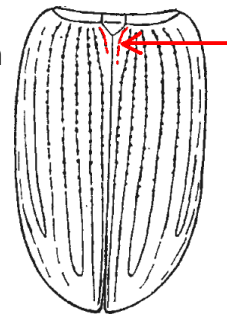


CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 © Mike Hackston (2020), adapted from Lindroth (1974)

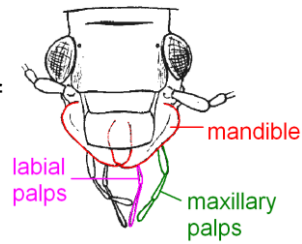
- 1 Elytra each with 10 striae (scutellar stria not shortened).
Fourth and sixth interstices with depressions.
..... ***Pelophila borealis***
Photograph by U.Schmidt.



Elytra with 9 striae (or fewer) and often with an additional
shortened scutellar stria; at most third interstice sometimes with
depressions.2



- 2 Mandibles broadly flattened at the sides, viewed from above clearly interrupting the outline of the head from the eyes to the tips of the mandibles. Labial and maxillary palps long and slender.
 Genus *Leistus*



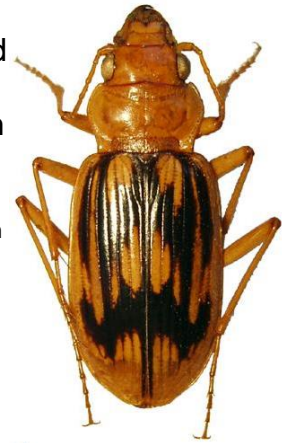
Mandibles not dilated in this way so the outline of the front of the head is even between the eyes and the end of the mandibles. Labial and maxillary palps not *both* long.3



- 3 Body very pale orange-brown. Elytra with long black spots which join together to form irregular transverse bands. Third interstice of the elytra without a dorsal puncture. Second to last segment of the labial palps with several bristles. Length 17-24 mm.

..... ***Eurynebria complanata***

In or near the tidal zone, on bare sand or sandy clay; highly communal. Local in S. W. England, south Wales and Ireland.



Body mainly dark in colour. Head sometimes with two small reddish spots on top. Elytra uniform in colour or with a broad pale margin. Third line of punctures on the elytra with at least three deeper punctures. Second to last segment of labial palps with 2 or 3 bristles.

..... Genus *Nebria*



Genus *Leistus*

Genus *Leistus* Frölich, 1799

ferrugineus (Linnaeus, 1758)

fulvibarbis Dejean, 1826

montanus Stephens, 1827

rufomarginatus (Duftschmid, 1812)

spinibarbis (Fabricius, 1775)

terminatus (Hellwig in Panzer, 1793)

1 Upper surface (at least elytra) with blue or green metallic shine. Elytra entirely dark.2

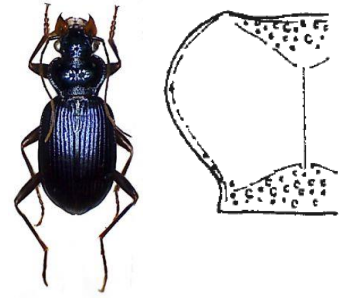
Body entirely non-metallic (or with faintest metallic tinge). EITHER pale (yellow or brown), sometimes with the elytra dark apically, OR dark with narrow pale margins.4



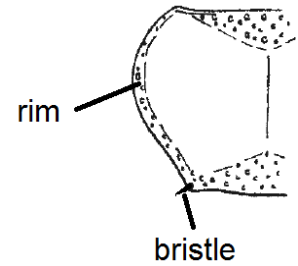
2¹ Pronotum with the base suddenly narrowing; flattened rim round the side narrow; no bristle at the hind-angle. Metallic reflection faint, particularly on head and pronotum. Frons with faint punctures in slightly raised rows to the side.

..... ***Leistus fulvibarbis***

Usually under trees in moist habitats. Widespread and local.



Pronotum moderately narrowing; hind angles obtuse or forming a tooth; flattened rim round the side broad; bristle present at the hind angle. At least the elytra with a strong metallic reflection.3



32 Side of head with a surface sculpture of tiny ridges – from the top look for lines running longitudinally across the area besides the eyes and the base of the antennae and weak lines transversely across the top of the head; from the side look for lines on the side of the head round the back of the eyes. Hind-angles of pronotum with a tiny tooth; only extreme side-margin pale. Legs usually dark with paler tarsi but specimens do occur with reddish legs. Length 8.0-10.5 mm.

..... ***Leistus spinibarbis***

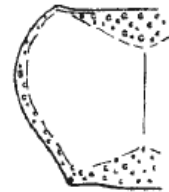
Usually under trees but not as moisture demanding as *fulvibarbis*. Widespread.



Side of head with dense irregular punctures. Hind-angles of pronotum obtuse; flattened rim round the side almost entirely reddish. Legs reddish or with femora darkened towards the tip. Length 7.0-9.5 mm.

..... ***Leistus montanus***

A rare mountain species. In somewhat drier habitats than the above, for example in scree. Lake District, Snowdonia, Scottish Highlands.



4¹ Upper surface dark brown with paler margins on pronotum and elytra. Pronotum with a bristle at the hind-angle and with the flattened rim along the sides wider. Shoulders of the elytra with a small tooth. Legs dark reddish-brown. Length 8.0-9.5 mm.

..... ***Leistus rufomarginatus***

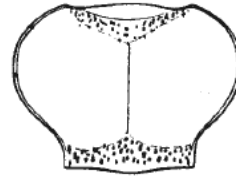
Among leaves and mosses, usually at the base of deciduous trees, also in dark forests. South and eastern England, westwards to Dorset and Monmouth and northwards to Norfolk. A comparatively recent arrival, possibly still extending its range.



Upper surface either entirely pale (rarely brown) or with at most the head, tips of elytra and suture darker. Pronotum without a bristle at the hind angle. Shoulders of elytra without a tooth.5



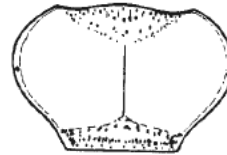
5⁴ Uniformly brownish yellow. Pronotum with the hind margin forming a right angle with the sides which are parallel to one another for a short way in front of the hind angles. Body somewhat narrower. Length 6.5-8.0 mm.



..... ***Leistus ferrugineus***

Occurring in more open country and in drier places than other members of the genus, often in moss and grass tufts. Widely distributed in England, rare in Wales. Also Scotland and Ireland.

Yellowish brown species with the head and the underside of the abdomen black; usually the tip and suture of the elytra are also darkened. Sides of pronotum diverging from the obtuse hind-angles. Eyes flatter.



Punctures of the striae on the elytra sparser. Length 6.0-8.0 mm.

..... ***Leistus rufescens***

The most moisture-demanding species in the genus. In moist, shady places among wet leaves, often under alders. Widespread and local.



Genus *Nebria*

Outer furrow of the mandibles with a bristle. Pronotum distinctly heart-shaped. The terminal spur of the front tibiae projects beyond the tibia. The species appear quite slender and more or less flattened with long antennae. They have long legs adapted for running. The aedeagus has a large basal opening and lacks an arrow-shaped appendage towards the base. Some species lack wings. The genus includes about 400 species distributed around the Holarctic; five species occur in the British Isles with 18 in Central Europe.

Genus *Nebria* Latreille, 1802

brevicollis (Fabricius, 1792)

livida (Linnaeus, 1758)

nivalis (Paykull, 1790)

rufescens (Strøm, 1768)

salina Fairmaire & Laboulbène, 1854

- 1 Pronotum pale except for front and rear margin. Elytra black with sides and tip broadly brownish. Length 12-16 mm.

..... ***Nebria livida***

On bare banks and shores consisting of sand, often mixed with clay, usually near fresh water. Nocturnal, hiding during daytime in cracks in the clay and under refuse or pieces of wood. Most frequent on the east coast from Yorkshire southwards to Suffolk. Rarely inland.



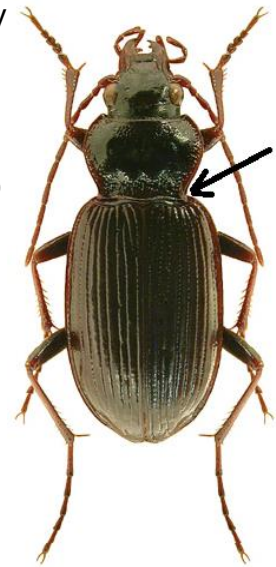
Pronotum and elytra uniformly dark, or elytra more or less reddish.2



2¹ Shoulder-angle of elytra acute. Antennae and palps entirely pale (exceptionally basal segments of the antennae dark OR second to last segment of maxillary palps dark).

Femora darker than tibiae.3

The shoulder-angle refers to the angle formed between the furrow that runs parallel to the front margin of the elytra (from which the rows of punctures arise) and the furrow that dips under the rear angles of the pronotum. It is best seen with the beetle orientated head up and slightly oblique.



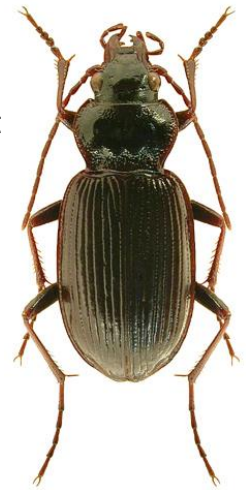
Shoulder-angle obtuse or rounded. Antennae and palps black or darkened, basal segments of antennae often slightly paler (a form of *rufescens*, usually with pale antennae, has *entirely* reddish legs).4
Mostly upland species.



- 3 Middle and hind tarsi with the basal segments with some short fine bristles above. Microscopic sculpture of the elytra consisting of transverse meshes, at least twice as broad as long (at 80x magnification the transverse lines can be seen but the lines closing the mesh are difficult to make out). Dark brown; extreme sides of pronotum and elytra somewhat translucent. Legs dark reddish but femora (in exceptional cases also base of antennae) darker. Raised marginal bead of pronotum thick. Elytral striae distinctly punctured with the intervals in between more or less convex. Length 10-14 mm. .

..... ***Nebria brevicollis***

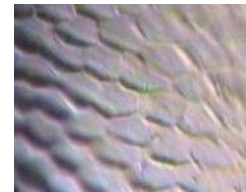
Not fussy, found in deciduous forests, parks and in open country. Often under moss and bark of tree-stumps. The larva burrows in the soil. Generally distributed and usually abundant, possibly the most common member of the family in Britain. Transverse = at right angles to the axis of the beetle.



All tarsi bare above, apart from the apical bristles on each segment. Microscopic sculpture of the elytra coarser with the elements not much broader than long. Body slightly flatter and elytra more parallel-sided; lateral bead of pronotum narrower, its base a little more constricted; elytral striae usually finer with finer punctures. Second to last segment of maxillary palps somewhat darkened. Length 10-13.5 mm.

..... ***Nebria salina***

Usually inhabits drier and more open country than *brevicollis*; the two species may, however overlap, for instance at forest edges. Widely distributed but usually more local and less abundant than *brevicollis*.



- 4 No ridge inside the front bristle of the pronotum. Femora dark, tibiae brown to dark brown-black, or legs entirely reddish brown. Only the third elytral interval has dorsal punctures. More slender and usually darker than the two preceding species. Black, often with reddish elytra. Legs, palps, tibiae, tarsi and often base of antennae usually dark brown to black. (One variety has the legs all reddish brown, usually along with the antennae and mouth-parts). Shoulder angle obtuse but not quite rounded. Microscopic sculpture of last abdominal segment viewed from below consisting of transversely arranged meshes. Length 9-12 mm.

..... ***Nebria rufescens***

Mainly on the banks of small cold-water streams. In hilly and mountainous districts. England southwards to Derbyshire with scattered records further south. Northern and central Wales. Scotland. Abundant where it occurs.



Front marginal bristle of pronotum with a minute ridge alongside. Femora reddish with dark apex (or pale at base only), tibiae black or almost so. Elytra often with dorsal punctures also on fifth interval. Narrower, particularly the pronotum. Shoulders more rounded. Dorsal punctures more marked. Last abdominal segment viewed from below with a microscopic sculpture of irregular meshes. Length 9-11 mm.

..... ***Nebria nivalis***

Restricted to high altitudes in the Highlands of Scotland, the Lake District and Snowdonia. In Scandinavia almost confined to the margins of snowfields.

