

# UK Beetles

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## Key to the British Dasytidae

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|----|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Entirely bright metallic green or blue, pronotum strongly and densely punctured, large species; 5-7mm. | <b>Psilothrix viridicoeruleus</b> |
|    | Black, with or without a metallic lustre, pronotum finely punctured.                                   | -2-                               |
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| 2. | Form very elongate, elytral apices pointed, body dull grey to green. Pronotum without outstanding pubescence. 4.5-5.5mm. | <b>Dolichosoma lineare</b> |
|    | Form much less elongate, elytral apices continuously rounded. Pronotum with outstanding pubescence.                      | -3-                        |
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| 3. | Strongly and evenly convex, head much narrower than pronotum. Dorsal surface without recumbent pubescence below the outstanding setae. Terminal tarsomere with 2 long narrow lobes at the base of the claws. | -4- |
|    | Much less convex, head narrower than pronotum. Dorsal surface with two layers of pubescence. Terminal tarsomere simple. 3.5-6.0mm.   | -5- |
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| 4. | Lateral elytral margins finely denticulate, especially towards the apices. Dorsal surface shiny dark brown with a weak bronze lustre. 4.0-5.0mm. | <b>Aplocnemus impressus</b>   |
|    | Lateral elytral margins without teeth, may be finely sinuate but not denticulate. Dorsal surface metallic bronze, green or blue. 4.0-4.8mm.      | <b>Aplocnemus nigricornis</b> |
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| 5. | Entirely black. Pronotum transverse, densely and coarsely punctured, and impressed laterally towards the base. Antennomeres 5-10 transverse in both sexes.  | <b>Dasytes niger</b> |
|    | Black with a greenish or bluish reflection (sometimes weak). Pronotum quadrate or very nearly so, smoothly convex; without a lateral impression towards the base. Antennomeres 5-10 elongate in male, quadrate in female. (Females have smaller eyes, shorter antennae and broader elytra.) | -6-                  |
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|----|---|------------------------|
| 6. | Dorsal surface metallic blue or, rarely, greenish. Elytral pubescence of 2 types; longer erect setae and shorter semi-erect setae that are, in places, difficult to separate. 5.0-6.0mm (Male antennae longer; more than half the body length.) | <b>Dasytes cyaneus</b> |
|    | Dorsal surface black with a (sometimes faint) green or blue metallic sheen. Elytral pubescence of 2 clearly separate types; pale recumbent hairs and longer dark setae. 3.5-5.0mm.  | -7-                    |
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| 7. | Pronotal disc densely punctured, in the male with a smooth and shiny median longitudinal line. Basal antennomere black. (Body black with a lead-grey lustre, legs entirely black or with pale tibiae, second antennomere pale. Eyes smaller in the male.) | <b>Dasytes virens</b> |
|    | Pronotal disc with scattered punctures in both sexes. (Eyes larger in the male.)  | -8-                   |
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8. Pronotum about as broad as the base of the elytra. Recumbent pubescence on elytra pale silvery grey. Legs entirely black or with tibiae dark brown. 4.0-5.2mm. (Male with eyes much larger than in the female and with antennal segments more elongate.)

**Dasytes aeratus**

Pronotum much narrower at base than base of elytra. Recumbent pubescence on elytra weakly golden-metallic. Tibiae, tarsi and usually pro-femora at least partly pale. 3.5-4.6mm. (Male with eyes not so much larger compared with the female.)

**Dasytes plumbeus**

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