

## Key to Apionidae

This key should be used with *An identification guide to the weevils of Britain and Ireland Part 2. Weevils with straight antennae: Apionidae*. See <https://tinyurl.com/weevilguides>.

Antennae at  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ , or  $\frac{1}{2}$ , etc means antennae inserted  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ , or  $\frac{1}{2}$  way etc. along the rostrum from the base. Where a description says 'all shown here', all the species that key out under that description are illustrated so you can see whether your weevil looks like a match for it.

There is variation in many of the characters used in this key, and some characters are part of a continuum. These work better if you have a series of specimens to compare, or with experience. You may find trying to identify a rather featureless Apionid a frustrating experience at first, but once you are familiar with some of the species, it gets a lot easier.

This key will take you to species or a group of species. If you reach a species, check your identification against the species account in the identification guide. If you reach a group, use the identification guide to take your identification further.

### Quick access to key sections

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Patterned	4
Front femurs yellow-brown, wing-cases plain	5

<i>Oxystoma</i>	7
Wing-cases and head and pronotum colourful	10
Wing-cases colourful, head and pronotum black	16
All-black, or black with metallic lead wing-cases	32

**1a** Yellow-legged species: **front femurs yellow, red, or pale brown**. Mid and hind femurs usually yellow, red, or pale brown too (*Exapion ulicis*, with dark mid and hind femurs, is the exception). 2

**1b** Black-legged species: **all femurs black or metallic**. 7

**2a** **Whole weevil plain red, yellow, or orange**, apart from black eyes and claws. On docks and sorrels. *Apion*  
1.9-4.4 mm

All red



**2b** Wing-cases patterned or blackish or greyish. 3

**3a** Wing-cases patterned. (All shown here) 4



**3b** Wing-cases plain black, grey, or metallic. 5




**4a** Wing-cases **patterned**, with bands or dark marks, **surface orange or brown** (all shown here). Antennae not on a tooth. On **mallows, nettles, or mistletoe**. *Ixapion variegatum*  
*Malvapion malvae*  
*Taeniapion urticarium*  
1.8-2.6 mm



**4b** Wing-cases with **stripes** of scales, **surface black** (all shown here). Antennae inserted on a tooth **near the base** of the rostrum. On **Broom or Petty Whin**. Patterned *Exapion*  
2.2-3.0 mm



**5a** **Very rare. Striae narrow and weak**, fading out in the middle of the wing-cases. Head squashed in between eyes. Rostrum long but unusually wide. Antennae at  $\frac{1}{4}$  or  $\frac{1}{5}$ , very thick, **club narrow**, not much wider than filament. Pronotum smooth and glossy, punctures very shallow. Wing-cases appearing hairless. Legs dark brown or black. On **cudweeds**. *Acentrotypus brunnipes*  
1.6-2.3 mm



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**5b** **Striae reaching to the rear of the wing-cases**. Head flat between eyes. Antennae may be inserted further forward, club may be much wider than filament. Pronotum punctures may be deep and coarse. **6**

**6a** **Front femurs pale yellow-brown or orange-brown**. On various plants. Apionids with yellow-legs and plain wing-cases:  
*Plain Exapion*  
*Kalcapion*  
*Eutrichapion viciae*  
*Pseudapion* and  
*Rhopalapion*  
Yellow-legged *Protapion*  
1.6-3.5 mm  
See page 12 of the guide



**6b** **Front femurs dark brown to blackish**, rear femurs blackish. Hairs thick. Legs darker than the true yellow-legged species above. (All shown here) *Squamapion cineraceum*  
and *flavimanum*



Oxystoma	<p><b>7a</b> Rostrum fat at base, abruptly narrowed after antenna bases, eyes bulging. On vetches. <span style="float: right;"><i>Oxystoma</i> 2.2-3.6 mm</span></p> 	<b>8</b>
	<p><b>7b</b> Rostrum not so dramatically and abruptly narrowed after antenna bases. Eyes bulging or not.</p> 	<b>9</b>
	<p><b>8a</b> Wing-cases <b>colourful</b>: metallic blue, green, or purple.</p> 	<b>32</b>
	<p><b>8b</b> Wing-cases <b>black</b> or metallic lead coloured. <i>Doubtful cases, where wing-cases are blackish with a faint sheen, are keyed both ways.</i></p> 	<b>10</b>
<p><b>9a</b> Head and pronotum <b>colourful</b> and metallic. May be less bright than the wing-cases, but still coloured rather than black.</p>	<b>16</b>	
<p><b>9b</b> Head and pronotum <b>black</b>, usually dull.</p>		
Head, pronotum, and wing-	<p><b>10a</b> Purple, red, or coppery red. Rostrum short and thick. On sea-lavenders. <span style="float: right;"><i>Pseudaplemonus limonii</i> 2.8-4.0 mm</span></p> 	<b>11</b>
	<p><b>10b</b> Blue or green, very rarely purple, in which case, rostrum longer and thinner.</p>	

**11a** Very rare. Pronotum longer than wide. Body very **narrow**, shoulders hardly apparent. **Rostrum short and thick**. Tiny. On rock-roses. Great Orme only. *Helianthemapion aciulare* 1.2-2.2 mm



**11b** Pronotum square or **wider** than long. Wing-cases much wider than pronotum. Rostrum longer. Usually larger. **12**

**12a** Very rare. Pronotum swollen and rounded. **Rostrum thick but very long**, as long as or longer than wing-cases. Antennae at  $\frac{1}{3}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$ , rather thick. Wing-cases bright blue or green, hairs fine and short. Pronotum with deep, long groove in middle of rear. On mayweeds. *Omphalapion laevigatum* female 2.3-3.0 mm



**12b** Rostrum not so ridiculously long, **shorter than wing-cases**. Pronotum sides less rounded. **13**

**13a** Pronotum wider than long, narrowed in front third, **punctures shallow**, without a clear groove in the rear half, but may have a faint shallow channel. Hairs fine and short, not overlapping, wing-cases and pronotum appear **almost hairless** at  $\times 10$ . Rostrum rather thick, blackish, antenna at about  $\frac{1}{2}$ . On vetches. *Eutrichapion punctiger* 2.2-2.3 mm



**13b** Pronotum may be more or less square or wider than long, **punctures larger, deeper, and closer together**, may have a groove down the rear half. Wing-cases may be hairless or obviously hairy. **14**



**14a** Hairs fine, appears **hardly hairy** at ×10. **Bright blue-green**. Rostrum medium to long. **Pronotum abruptly narrowed in front third**, much wider at rear, with a **long groove** down the rear half. On **Wild Liquorice**. *Pseudoprotapion astragali*  
2.0-2.5 mm




**14b** **Obviously hairy**. Not so brightly coloured. Rostrum may be short to medium. **Pronotum sides straighter**, only slightly narrowed in front third, **groove shorter**. **15**



**15a** Rostrum short to medium. Eyes not so bulging. Hairs thicker. Pronotum punctures deeper and closer together. Often a dull glaucous blue. Hairs lying across front edge of pronotum. On Horseshoe Vetch. *Hemitrichapion waltoni*  
1.9-2.3 mm



**15b** Rostrum medium to long. Eyes more bulging. Hairs finer. Pronotum punctures further apart, not so deep. Blue or greenish. Hairs lying along front edge of pronotum. On clovers. *Ischnoptera pions virens*  
1.8-2.6 mm



**16a** **Deep groove on forehead**, wing-cases very **shiny and smooth**. On **mallows**. *Aspidapion aeneum*  
2.9-3.6 mm



**16b** Forehead without a deep, sharp groove. Wing-cases not this shiny and smooth. **17**

**17a** Antennae inserted on a **tooth**, at about  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Claws without a tooth. On **thistles**. (All shown here)

*Ceratapion gibbirostre* and  
*carduorum*  
2.0-3.2 mm



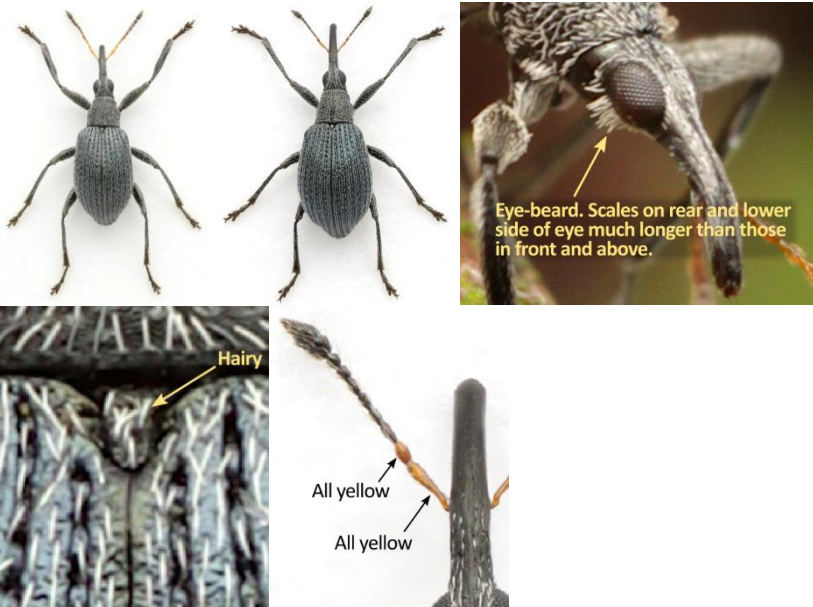
**17b** Antennae not on a tooth. May be inserted further forward. Rostrum may be slightly widened at antenna bases, but not making a distinct tooth. Claws may have a tooth.

**18**



**18a** **Eye-beard.** At least **first two antenna segments clear yellow**. Thick white scales on underside. **Scutellum hairy**. On vetches.

*Eutrichapion vorax*  
2.3-2.9 mm



**18b** **No eye-beard.** Hair-scales around lower side of eye not longer than those on upper side, although there may be two rows of them. **First two segments of antennae usually dark**, although the first segment may be half yellow. Scales on underside not much thicker than those on wing-cases. **Scutellum hairless** (or with one or two hair-scales).

**19**



**19a** Very rare. Striae narrow and weak, fading out in the middle of the wing-cases. Rostrum long but unusually wide. Antennae at  $\frac{1}{4}$  or  $\frac{1}{5}$ , very thick, club not much wider than filament. Head squashed in between eyes. Pronotum smooth and glossy, punctures very shallow. Wing-cases appearing hairless. Legs dark brown or black. On cudweeds.

*Acentrotypus brunnipes*  
1.6-2.3 mm



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**19b** Striae deeper and wider, reaching the whole length of the wing-cases. Any of these will rule out *Acentrotypus*: Rostrum shorter or not so unusually wide. Antennae inserted further forward. Head not caved in between eyes. Pronotum with deeper and larger punctures. Wing-cases obviously hairy.

**20**

**20a** Scutellum long, raised at tip, two bosses at base. Antennae at  $\frac{1}{5}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$ . On mallows.

*Aspidapion radiolus*  
and *soros*  
2.5-3.3 mm



**20b** Scutellum without bosses at rear, tip not raised. Antennae may be inserted further forward.

**21**



**21a** Antennae thick, at  $\frac{1}{4}$ , rostrum widened at antenna bases, pronotum narrow, longer than wide, punctures large and dense. On thistles.

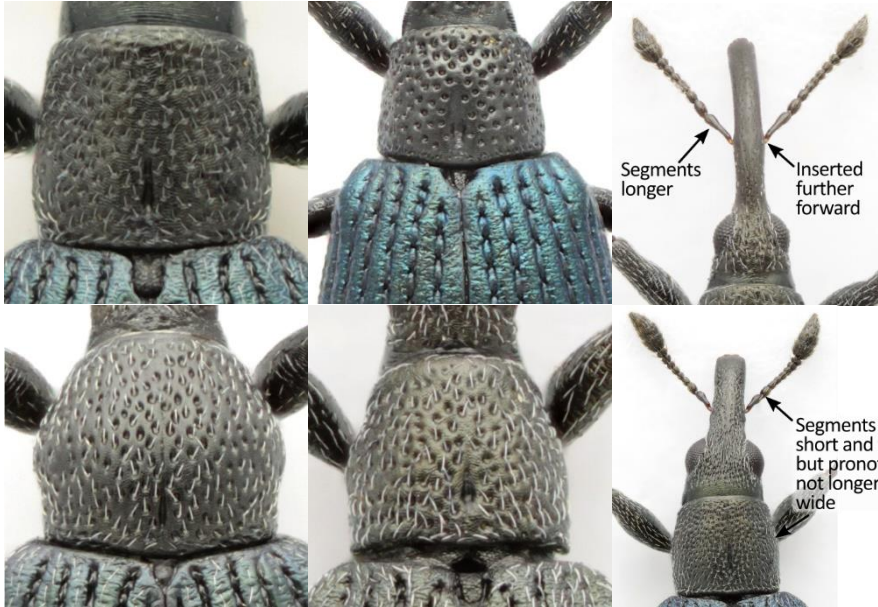
*Ceratapion onopordi*  
2.4-2.9 mm

See also *Perapion violaceum* (pronotum punctures finer, scutellum much longer than wide).



21b Antennae not so thick, or inserted further forward, or pronotum not so long and narrow.

22



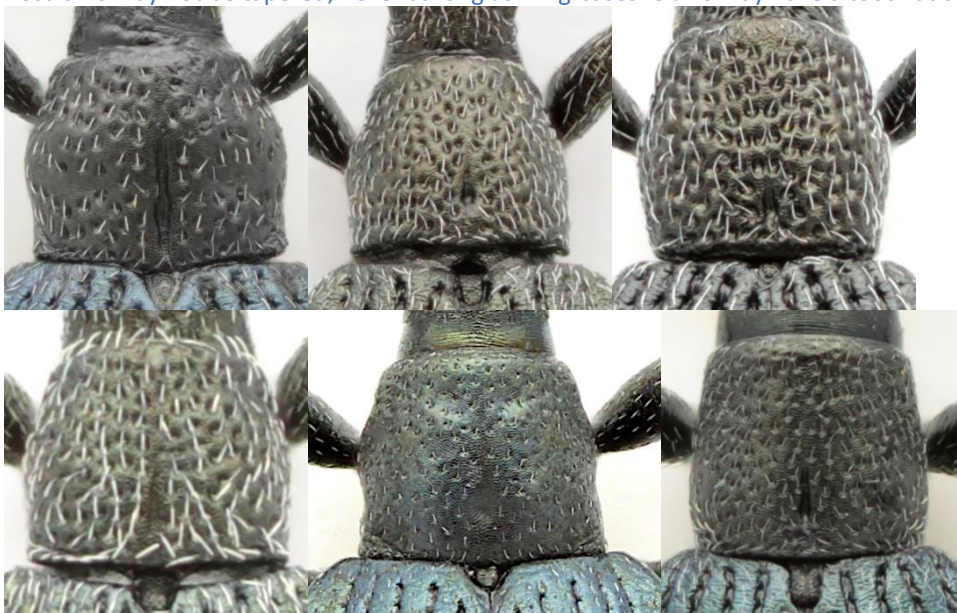
22a **Pronotum** swollen and **rounded**. Antennae at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$ , rather **thick**. Rostrum with a slight waist between eyes and antenna bases, either slightly **tapered** after antenna bases, or rarely longer than wing-cases. Claws without a tooth. On **mayweeds**. (All shown here) *The pronotum of other colourful Apionids could be called rounded if you are not familiar with Omphalapion. The species in couplets 23-31 have longer rostrums, or thicker and less tapered rostrums, or longer wing-cases, or antennae at  $\frac{1}{2}$  or beyond.*

*Omphalapion* females  
1.7-3.0 mm



22b **Pronotum sides and top not so rounded**. Antennae may be inserted further forward, may be more slender. Rostrums may not be tapered, never as long as wing-cases. Claws may have a tooth at the base.

23





**23a** Rostrum thick, often short. Antennae thick, at about  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Eyes rather small (about as long as base of rostrum is wide). Hairs fine, but readily visible at  $\times 10$ . Claws without a tooth. On docks and sorrels. (All shown here) On docks and sorrels.

Colourful *Perapion*  
1.6-3.5 mm



**23b** Rostrum may be longer, not so thick, antennae more slender, may be inserted further forward. Eyes may be larger. Claws with a tooth or lobe at the base.

24

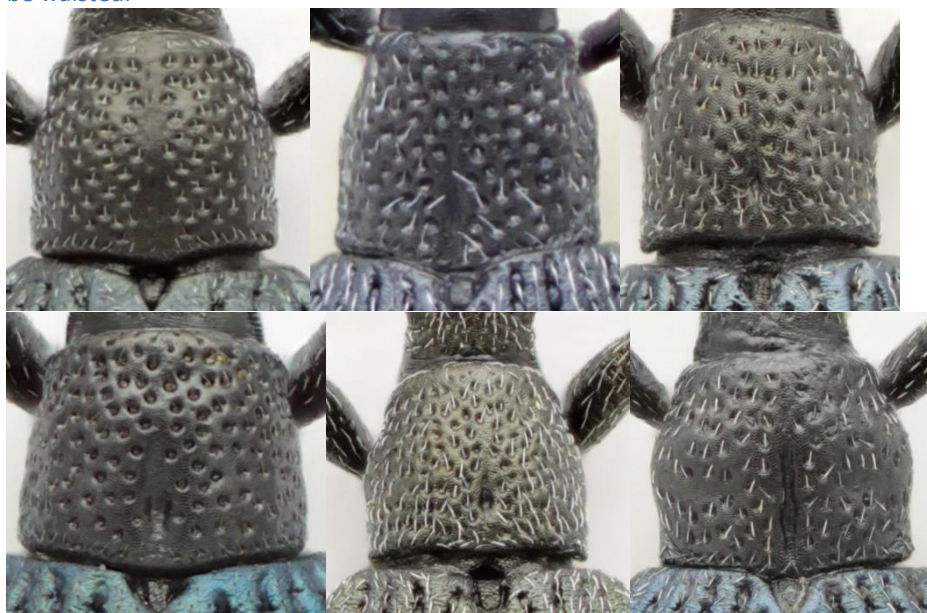


**24a** Pronotum finely and sparsely punctured, appearing rather smooth, no pit or groove down rear half, with at least a metallic sheen. Hairs very fine, only visible at more than  $\times 10$ , not overlapping. Rostrum long but rather thick, slightly waisted before and after antenna bases. On vetches.

*Eutrichapion punctiger*  
2.2-2.3 mm



- 24b** Pronotum punctures deeper, wider, and closer together, may have a pit or groove down the rear half of pronotum, usually black. Hairs may be obvious and overlapping. Rostrum may not be waisted.



- 25a** Head caved in between eyes. Pronotum very **wide**. Obviously hairy. On vetches.

*Cyanapion spencei*  
1.9-2.5 mm



- 25b** Head flat between eyes. Pronotum may be more or less square, or longer than wide. May appear hairless.



- 26a** Hairs very fine and short, dark, so **hardly visible**, even at  $\times 20$ . **Eyes very rounded**. **Pronotum wider than long**. **Rear end blunt and rounded**. Head and pronotum with wide, strong punctures. On medicks and lucerne.

*Holotrichapion pisi*  
2.2-2.9 mm



- 26b** Hairs **pale**, usually obvious at  $\times 10$  (but *Stenopterapion meliloti* may appear hairless). Eyes longer, not so rounded. Pronotum may be square or longer than wide. Rear end may be narrower and more pointed. Head may be furrowed rather than punctured, pronotum punctures may be smaller and denser.



**27a** Wing-cases long and narrow, sides rather straight, shining blue. Pronotum square or longer than wide. Head narrow and long, distance behind eyes longer than length of eyes. On melilots.

*Stenopterapion meliloti*  
2.2-3.3 mm

See also *Stenopterapion scutellare* (dull blue; scutellum more than twice as long as wide; obviously hairy; on gorse).



**27b** Wing-cases proportionately wider, sides not so straight, often duller blue. Pronotum may be wider than long. Distance behind eyes may be shorter than length of eyes. (If wing-cases are long and narrow but dull blue, see *Stenopterapion scutellare*.) (All shown here)

**28**



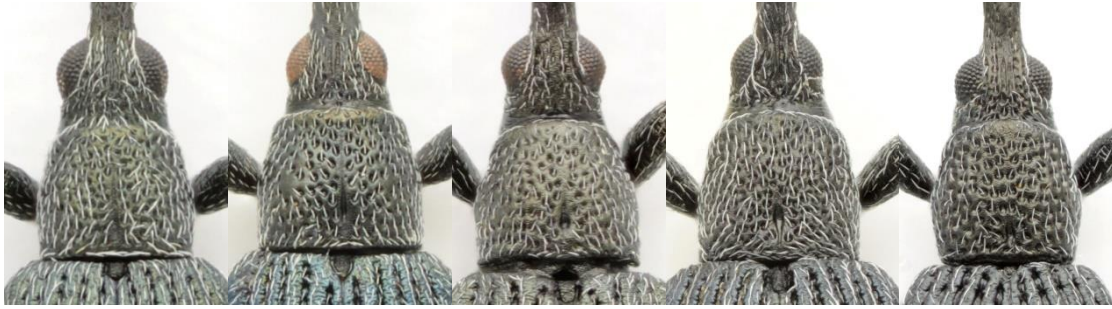
28a Eyes long and rather flat. Rostrum wide. Head narrow, head between eyes is narrower than the rostrum. Rostrum long. (All shown here)

29



28b Eyes not so long, may be more bulging. Rostrum not so wide. Head between eyes is not narrower than rostrum.

30



29a Eyes very long and rather flat. Wing-cases only faintly blue. Rostrum long and unusually wide and rather flattened. Obviously hairy. First segment of antenna longer. On vetches.

*Cyanapion gyllenhali*  
2.3-2.9 mm



29b Eyes long but not as flat. Wing-cases blue or blackish-blue. Rostrum long, wider than usual, but not as broad as *Cyanapion gyllenhali*. Hairs short and fine, only faintly visible at  $\times 10$ . First segment of antenna shorter. On vetches.

*Holotrichapion aethiops*  
1.9-2.7 mm



30a Wing-cases blue or green. First antenna segment dark apart from extreme base. Wing-cases less than 1.5x as long as wide. Shoulders prominent. (All shown here)

31



**30b** Wing-cases blackish with a faint blue hue. First antenna segment may be half yellow. Wing-cases may be more than 1.6× as long as wide. Shoulders may be hardly apparent. (All shown here)

50



**31a** Rostrum short to medium. Pronotum with shallow groove down rear half. Hairs lying across front edge of pronotum. Wing-cases often a distinctive glaucous blue, but may be brighter blue. Pronotum usually with faint blue or green sheen. On Horseshoe Vetch.

*Hemitrichapion waltoni*  
1.9-2.3 mm



**31b** Rostrum longer (compare same sex). Pronotum with deep groove down rear half. Hairs usually lying along front edge of pronotum. Wing-cases deep blue. Pronotum black. On Sainfoin. Rare.

*Hemitrichapion reflexum*  
2.1-2.8 mm

See also *Ischnopteraion loti* and *modestum*, which will key out here if they look blue



**32a** Eye-beard. Underside usually with thicker white hair-scales, especially above middle and front legs.

33



**32b** No eye-beard. Hair-scales around underside of eye not longer than those on upperside, although there may be two rows of them. Underside may have hair scales no thicker than on upperside. Some species with no eye beard do have thicker patches of scales on the underside. Some weevils have more than one row of scales around the underside of the eye, and these doubled rows could be passed over as one row of long scales. If in doubt, check couplet 33: there are only eye-beard species, and you may be able to eliminate them using other characters.

34

Body all black



No eye-beard. Scales on rear and lower side of eye same as those in front and above.

**33a** Eyes longer. At least first two antenna segments **clear yellow**. Rostrum thinner, **needle-like**.  
**Legs longer**. Feed on vetches, but may be found on trees. (All shown here.)

*Eutrichapion ervi* and  
*vorax*  
 2.0-2.9mm



**33b** Eyes shorter. First two antenna segments **dark brown or black** at tip (first segment may be yellow at base only, second segment usually all dark brown or black). Rostrum thicker. **Legs shorter**. On **birches**.

*Betulapion simile*  
 1.8-2.4 mm



**34a** Deep **v or u shape groove** on forehead, antennae inserted near **base** of rostrum, thick. Rarely the arms of the V are not joined, so there are two parallel grooves. Antennae rather thick, at  $\frac{1}{4}$ . (All shown here.)

*Diplapion*  
 1.8-2.5 mm



**34b** No groove on forehead, or just one groove, or forehead has several wrinkles. Antennae may be inserted further forward.

35



35a Pronotum swollen, rounded at sides and on top. Antennae rather thick, at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$ . On mayweeds or stonecrops. (All shown here.)

36



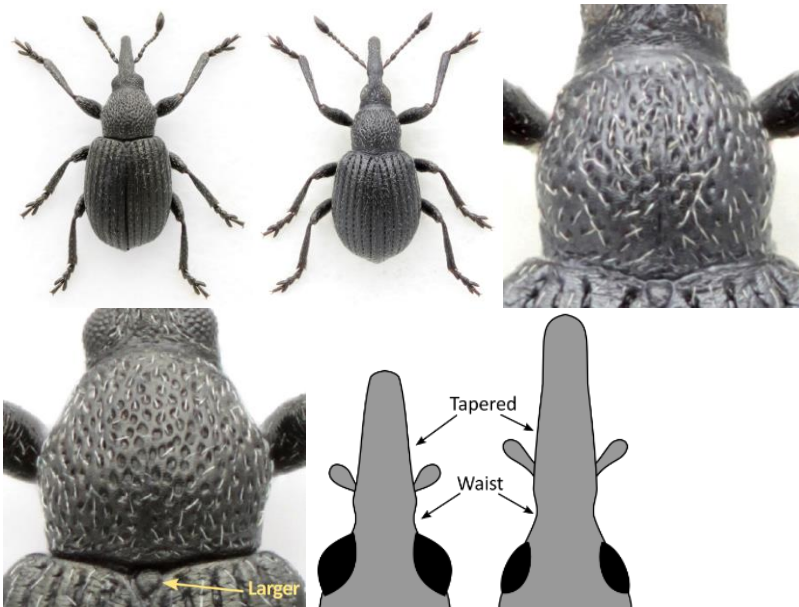
35b Pronotum sides straighter, slightly wavy, or bell-shape. Claws may have a tooth at the base.

37



36a Wing-cases broad. Pronotum more rounded. **Rostrum** not so wide, tapered after antenna bases, and with slight waist between eyes and antenna bases, antennae at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{3}$ . **Obviously hairy**. Scutellum larger, wider than a stria. On mayweeds. *The pronotum of other black Apionids could be called rounded if you are not familiar with Omphalapion. The species in 16a-16t have longer rostrums, or less tapered rostrums, or longer wing-cases, or antennae at  $\frac{1}{2}$  or beyond, or claws with a tooth at the base.*

*Omphalapion* males  
1.5-2.6 mm



**36b** Wing-cases narrower. Pronotum not so swollen. **Rostrum wider, not narrowed** after antenna bases, antennae at  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Hairs on wing-cases very short, wing-cases appear **almost hairless** at  $\times 10$ . **Scutellum tiny**, barely as wide as a stria. Often a deep pit in middle of rear half of pronotum. On **stonecrops**.

*Aizobius sedi*  
1.7-2.4 mm



**37a** **Very rare. Striae narrow and weak**, fading out in the middle of the wing-cases. Head squashed in between eyes. Rostrum long but unusually wide. Antennae at  $\frac{1}{4}$  or  $\frac{1}{5}$ , very thick, **club narrow**, not much wider than filament. Pronotum smooth and glossy, punctures very shallow. Wing-cases appearing hairless. Legs dark brown or black. On cudweeds.



*Acentrotypus brunnipes*  
1.6-2.3 mm

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**37b** **Striae deeper, running to the rear of the wing-cases.** Head flat between eyes (except in *Catapion pubescens*). Rostrum may not be unusually wide. Antennae may be further forward, **club much wider** than filament. Pronotum with deeper punctures. Wing-cases may be obviously hairy. Legs black.

**38**

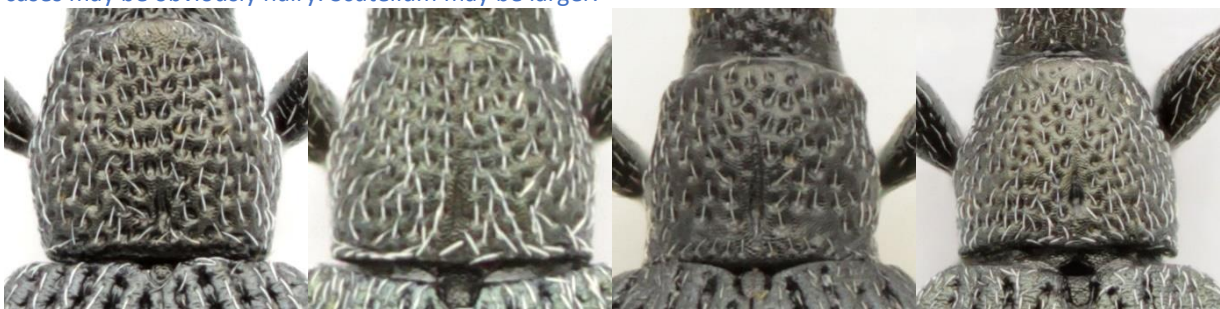
**38a** **Pronotum rounded** at sides and on top. Antennae at  $\frac{1}{2}$ . **Rostrum thick.** Often a deep pit in middle of rear half of pronotum. Hairs on wing-cases very short, wing-cases appear **almost hairless** at  $\times 10$ . **Scutellum tiny.** On **stonecrops**.

*Aizobius sedi*  
1.7-2.4 mm



**38b** Pronotum sides not so rounded. Antennae may be further forward. Rostrum may be narrower and longer. Wing-cases may be obviously hairy. Scutellum may be larger.

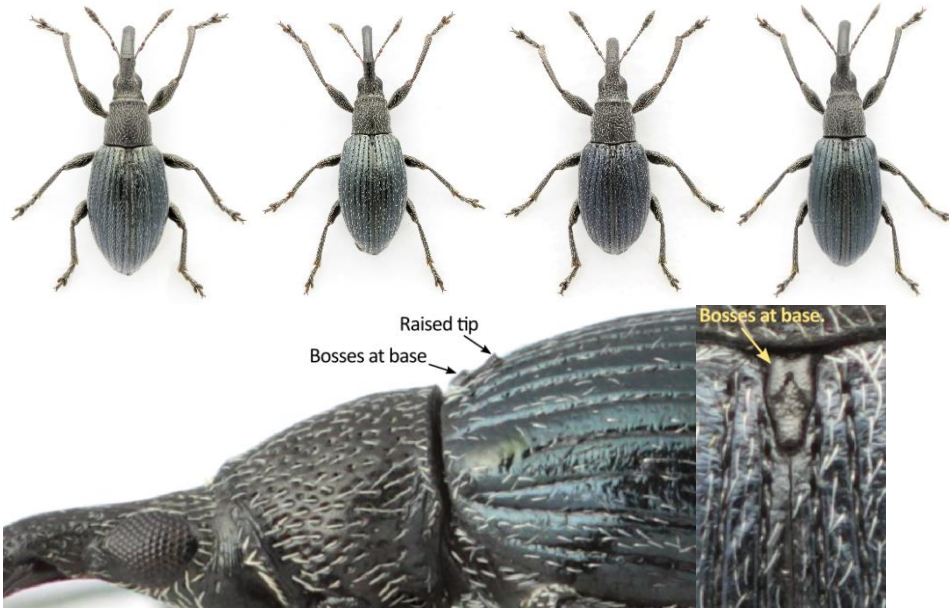
**39**





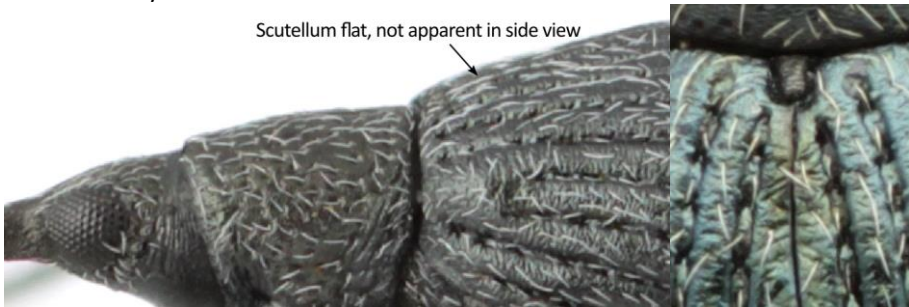
**39a** Scutellum raised at tip, two bosses at base. Rostrum long, strongly arched, antennae at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pronotum bell-shape. Wing-cases with blue or green sheen. **On mallows.** (All shown here).

*Aspidapion radiolus* and  
*soror*  
2.5-3.3 mm



**39b** Scutellum not raised at tip, no bosses at base. Rostrum may be shorter and thicker, may be less arched, antennae may be inserted further forward.

**40**

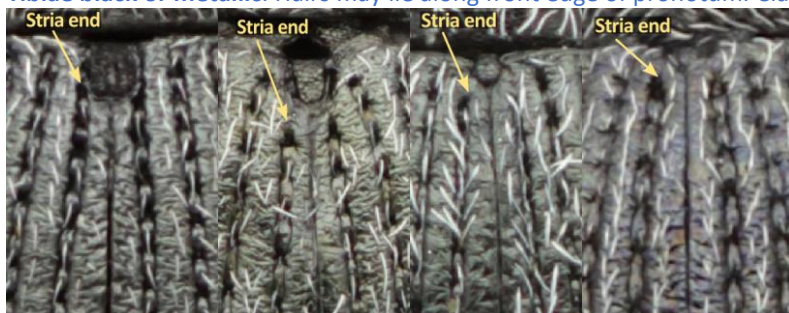


**40a** Antennae at about  $\frac{1}{4}$ . First stria continues up along side of scutellum. Front tibiae often brownish. Hairs lying across front edge of pronotum. Eyes rather bulging. Claws with a tooth at the base. On mint, thyme or other **Lamiaceae**. (All shown here) *The extended first stria is often difficult to see, and striae of other Apoinids may continue along the side of the scutellum, or at least appear to. The antenna position is characteristic once you are familiar with the species. If in doubt about antenna position, see Pseudoperapion brevirostre (rostrum and antennae thicker; eyes less bulging; first antenna segment short; claws without a tooth), Helianthemapion aciculare (very rare; rostrum shorter, thicker, and straighter; body narrower), and Catapion (eyes less bulging; antennae inserted further forward).*

**41**



**40b** Antennae at  $\frac{1}{2}$  or beyond (except *Pseudoperapion brevirostre*). First stria often stops at tip of scutellum. Tibiae black or metallic. Hairs may lie along front edge of pronotum. Claws may have a tooth or not.



**41a** Pronotum slightly wider than long. Wing-cases not much wider than base of pronotum, shoulders not very prominent, so body **narrow oval**. Wing-cases **obviously hairy**, not much wider than rear of pronotum, so body appears rather **oval**. On labiates. (All shown here.)

*Squamapion cineraceum*  
and *flavimanum*  
1.6-2.3 mm



**41b** Pronotum much wider than long. Wing-cases wider, shoulders more prominent. Obviously hairy or not. On thyme or mint. (All shown here.)

*Squamapion atomarium*  
and *vicinum*  
1.1-2.2 mm



**42a** Very rare. Body narrow, shoulders hardly apparent. Pronotum longer than wide. Rostrum short and thick. Obviously hairy. On rock-roses. Great Orme only.

*Helianthemapion aciculare*  
1.2-2.2 mm



**42b** Body wider. Shoulders may be prominent. Pronotum may be square or wider than long. Rostrum may be longer and thinner. May appear hairless.



**43a** Rostrum short and thick, tip about as wide as base, antennae thick, at about 1/2. Obviously hairy. Pronotum square or longer than wide. Claws without tooth. On docks and sorrels.

*Perapion curtirostre*  
1.7-2.6 mm

See also *Pseudoperapion brevirostre* and *Melanapion minimum*.



**43b** Rostrum longer and narrower (except *Pseudoperapion brevirostre* and *Melanapion minimum*), narrower at tip than at base, antennae may be more slender, antennae may be inserted further forward. Claws with a lobe or tooth at base (except in very rare *Pseudoperapion brevirostre*).



**44a** Very rare. Rostrum short and thick, but narrowed after antenna bases, antennae thick, at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Very obviously hairy, hairs thick. Pronotum wider than long. Claws with a small bulge at base, but this is difficult to see, and the claws usually appear to have no lobe or tooth. On *St John's-worts*. London only.

*Pseudoperapion brevirostre*  
1.8-2.3 mm



**44b** Rostrum longer and narrower (except *Melanapion minimum*), antennae more slender. Pronotum may be square or longer than wide. Claws with a lobe or tooth at base.



**45a** Pronotum long, rear half narrow, tight like a corset, punctures fine. Scutellum almost invisible, tiny. Whole weevil appears hairless and shiny black. Antennae at about  $\frac{1}{2}$ . On bird's-foot-trefoils.

*Synapion ebeninum*  
2.2-2.8 mm



**45b** Pronotum not so straight and tight in rear half, may be square or wider than long, punctures may be deeper and larger. Scutellum larger. May be obviously hairy.

**46**



**46a** Rostrum rather thick. Antennae at about  $\frac{1}{3}$ . Striae deep, almost as wide as intervals. Shoulders not very prominent. On willows.

*Melanapion minimum*  
1.7-2.2 mm



46b Rostrum may be longer. Antennae may be inserted further forward. Striae may be not so wide and deep, usually narrower than the intervals. Shoulders may be square and prominent.



47a Wing-cases widest at front or at middle, rather narrow at rear. Shoulders rather square. Obviously hairy. Pronotum square or wider than long. Rostrum short to long. Antennae at about 1/3 or 1/2. Segments of antenna club appear as one, without obvious joints (difficult to see). On clovers. (All shown here.)

*Catapion*  
1.5-2.3 mm



**47b** **Wing-cases widest behind the middle.** Shoulders less square. May appear hairless. Pronotum may be longer than wide. Rostrum may be long. Antennae may be inserted further forward. Antenna club with distinct segments (difficult to see). (All shown here)



**48a** **Rostrum bristly**, hairs raised, especially at sides beyond antenna sockets. **Eyes rather long.** Pronotum with **groove down almost the whole length.** **Long bare wrinkles** or ridges down forehead between eyes. **On rest-harrows.**

*Holotrichapion ononis*  
1.7-2.4 mm



**48b** **Rostrum hairs flat** or recurved or only a few raised at tip. Eyes may be shorter. **Pronotum groove shorter** (except *Protopirapion atratum*). Forehead may have punctures or only short wrinkles.

**49a** Hairs very fine, appears **hairless** at ×10. Wing-cases strongly rounded on top, highest in the middle in side view (same shape as yellow-legged *Protapion*). Rostrum long and narrow. On medicks and lucerne.

*Protapion filirostre*  
1.5-2.0 mm



**49b** **Obviously hairy.** Wing-cases may not be so rounded on top, or may be highest at rear in side view. Rostrum may be wider.

**50a** Wing-cases swollen like a hot air balloon: widest behind the middle, at shoulders, hardly wider than pronotum, rear end blunt and rounded. Rostrums long and thin. Obviously hairy. Antennae at about  $\frac{1}{3}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Striae deep and wide. On gorse or broom. (All shown here).

*Pirapion immune* and  
*Protopirapion atratum*  
2.0-3.1 mm



**50b** Wing-cases not so swollen, rear end not so blunt or rounded, shoulders more prominent, wider than pronotum. Rostrums may be wider. (All shown here)

51



**51a** Wing-cases long and narrow, widest slightly behind the middle. Head long and narrow, cheeks longer than eyes. Pronotum slightly longer than wide, tight. Obviously hairy. On medicks or sainfoin.

*Stenopteropion tenue* and  
*intermedium*  
1.6-2.7 mm

See also *Stenopteropion scutellare*.



**51b** Wing-cases proportionately longer and wider. Head may be shorter and wider. Pronotum may be square or wider than long. (All shown here)

52





**52a** Rostrum long and strangely broad. Eyes long, rather flat. Head long and narrow, head between eyes hardly wider than rostrum. Pronotum wider than long. First antenna segment half yellow. Obviously hairy. On vetches.

*Cyanapion gyllenhalii*  
2.3-2.9 mm  
See also male *Cyanapion afer*.



**52b** Rostrum not so broad. Eyes may be shorter or more rounded. Head wider, head between eyes clearly wider than rostrum. Pronotum may be square or longer than wide. First antenna segment may be mostly dark. (All shown here)

**53**



**53a** Rostrum medium, about as long as head and pronotum. Hairs lying across front edge of pronotum. Pronotum with faint blue or green sheen. On Horseshoe Vetch.

*Hemitrichapion waltoni*  
1.9-2.3 mm



**53b** Rostrum longer. Hairs lying along front edge of pronotum. Pronotum black.

**54**



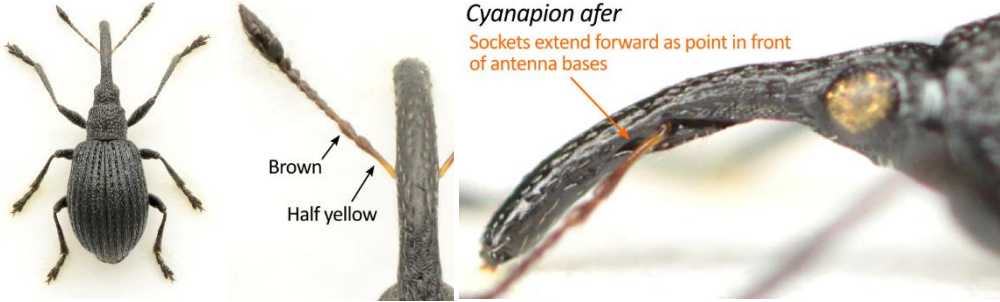
**54a** Large. Wing-cases proportionately longer and narrower. Scutellum at least twice as long as wide, with a groove down the centre (this may be hard to see). Eyes long. On gorse.

*Stenoptera scutellare*  
2.5-3.3 mm





**55a** First antenna segment longer, half yellow. Rostrum wider, especially in male, duller, punctures coarser. *Cyanapion afer*  
 Hairy at  $\times 10$ , but hairs rather fine. Antenna sockets continue in front of antenna bases in side view. On 2.0-2.5 mm  
 Meadow Vetchling. (If first three or four segments of antennae are yellow and rostrum is thin, see  
*Eutrichapion ervi* and *vorax*).



**55b** First antenna segment shorter, dark brown except for yellow-brown at extreme base. *Ischnopterapion loti* and  
 Rostrum narrower, less arched, more shining, smoother. Obviously hairy at  $\times 10$ . Antenna *modestum*  
 sockets stop at front of antenna bases in side view. (All shown here) The commonest species 2.0-2.5 mm  
 with black legs and a long rostrum. On bird's-foot-trefoils.



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