

BEETLES

Just a few of the beetles present on the farm:

Species of GROUND BEETLE:

Nebria brevicollis

A group of them found under a log alongside paddocks and vegetable beds in May.

This is a particularly common species of ground beetle, though there are many similar-looking black medium-sized beetles, such as the one below.



STRAWBERRY SEED BEETLE:

Pseudoophonus rufipes

(Previously *Harpalus rufipes*)

Found under log at end of March.

This is another ground beetle very similar to the above, and they are often seen together, both coming out at night. This one gets its common name from its liking of strawberries, amongst other plant and animal matter!



Species of FALSE BLISTER / POLLEN-FEEDING BEETLE:

Either *Oedemera lurida* or *Oedemera virescens*

Found in early June, on buttercup – in the second photo it can be seen eating pollen, which is what these types of beetles feed on. Its wing cases are a dull sage green, unlike the better known Thick-legged Flower Beetle which is bright green.



VARIED CARPET BEETLE

Anthrenus verbasci

Found on table in farm office in June.

The adults eat pollen and nectar, but the larvae, known as 'woolly bears', eat dried material in birds' nests and buildings, including woollen carpets.



Species of WEEVIL:

Apion pomonae or similar species

This mating pair found on Hollyhocks in Dye Garden in mid-May.

A tiny black weevil; most weevils are considered plant pests.



APPLE FRUIT WEEVIL

Rhynchites aequatus

Found in one of the Midland Hawthorn cultivar trees near the muck pile in June.

A tiny weevil distinguishable by its red-brown slightly hairy wing cases, and long snout. On the female the snout is longer than the head and thorax together, so this specimen is probably a male.



Hawthorn is its normal host, but it is a particular pest to apple and other rosaceous fruit trees, drilling holes into buds and developing fruit to feed and lay its eggs.