

STAG BEETLE

The Latin name for the Stag beetle is *Lucanus cervus*.

This species is only found in the southern half of England.

This is a very large beetle, with the male reaching up to 6-7cm in length, the female being slightly smaller. They both have black bodies with reddish-brown wing-cases. The male has large distinctive antlers, which are used for grappling with other males.

The big larvae live for several years in the roots of rotting stumps.

The adults emerge in May or June and can be seen until July. They fly from dusk onwards on humid nights and may be attracted to artificial light.