

DEVIL'S COACH-HORSE

The Latin name for this beetle is *Staphylinus olens*.

This beetle can be found in all parts of Britain but most frequently in open country, including cultivated land. It is mainly nocturnal, spending nearly all day hiding under stones, loose bark and among the roots of plants. On fine days it may be seen running on paths.

This is a long, thin beetle with a body length of 2 to 3cm. It has a narrow, black, hairy body, with short wing-cases. When alarmed, the beetle opens its jaws wide and raises its tail over its back in a defensive attitude.