

## Provisional list for Cantharidae (Soldier Beetles) of Herefordshire

This is a draft list of the Cantharidae beetle fauna for VC36, Herefordshire produced by Tim Kaye, January 2025 with contributions from Ian Draycott. The entire list for the group is given below from Hackston 2023 with the current species found in bold. To date Herefordshire has 35 of the 42 species listed. There are also three variants which could also be considered. None of the species are particularly rare, *Rhagonycha elongata* is found mainly in Scotland but others are uncommon. 7 are notified as Nationally Scarce B. The last known date and location is given for these where possible. Rarity is taken from the review by Alexander 2015 with *Silis ruficollis* for instance being downgraded due to increased records.



*Cantharis rustica*, like many Soldier Beetles they are readily seen on flowers mating



*Rhagonycha fulva*, unlike a lot of species this one appears in numbers later in the year



*Malthinus flaveolus*, a rather soft bodied insect that can be easily swept from hedgerows. Common.



*Rhagonycha nigriventris*, another common species. Use of this guide may help ID: [Soldier beetles v1.pdf](#)

## Categories for Scarce or Rare Species

RDB 1 Endangered. These species are in danger of extinction and found in only 1 to 5 10km grid squares.

RDB 2 Vulnerable. These species are likely to become endangered and found in 1 to 10 10km squares.

RDB 3 Rare. These species have small populations and found in no more than 15 squares.

Nationally Scarce A. Uncommon and found in more than 30 squares

Nationally Scarce B. Uncommon and found in 31 to 100 squares.

Scientific	Common	Status	Last known sighting
<i>Silis ruficollis</i>			
<i>Podabrus alpinus</i>			
<i>Ancistronycha abdominalis</i>	Blue Soldier	NSb	Bringsty Common 2016
<i>Cantharis lateralis</i>	Beetle		
<i>Cantharis nigricans</i>			
<i>Cantharis paludosa</i>			
<i>Cantharis fusca</i>			
<i>Cantharis obscura</i>		NSb	Lucton 1984
<i>Cantharis livida var rufipes</i>			
<i>Cantharis rufa var darwiniana</i>			
<i>Cantharis flavilabris</i>			
<i>Cantharis nigra</i>			
<i>Cantharis fusca</i>		NSb	
<i>Cantharis rustica</i>			
<i>Cantharis pellucida</i>			
<i>Cantharis decipiens</i>			
<i>Cantharis figurata var scotica</i>			
<i>Cantharis livida</i>			
<i>Cantharis rufa</i>			
<i>Cantharis cryptica</i>			
<i>Cantharis pallida</i>			
<i>Cantharis figurata</i>			
<i>Rhagonycha lutea</i>		NSb	
<i>Rhagonycha fulva</i>	Blood Sucker		
<i>Rhagonycha translucida</i>		NSb	
<i>Rhagonycha testacea</i>			
<i>Rhagonycha limbata</i>			
<i>Rhagonycha lignosa</i>			
<i>Rhagonycha elongata</i>		Nsa	
<i>Malthinus frontalis</i>		NSb	Croft Castle 2014
<i>Malthinus flaveolus</i>			
<i>Malthinus seriepunctatus</i>			
<i>Malthinus balteatus</i>			
<i>Malthodes flavoguttatus</i>			
<i>Malthodes dispar</i>			
<i>Malthodes fibulatus</i>		NSb	Moccas 1934
<i>Malthodes maurus</i>		NSb	Moccas 1975
<i>Malthodes mysticus</i>			
<i>Malthodes guttifer</i>			
<i>Malthodes fuscus</i>		NSb	Ashperton 2024

*Malthodes minimus*

*Malthodes marginatus*

*Malthodes crassicornis*

RDB3

*Malthodes lobatus*

*Malthodes pumilus*

NSb

Moccas 1975