



# What's Eating Your Collection?

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## Cockchafer *Melolontha melolontha*

Adult beetle often found in May and June

There are many species of Cockchafers, with a range of sizes.

Size: 5-25mm

Colour: most are brown with pale hairs, some have a metallic thorax. The large common cockchafer female has a blunt spike at the rear end, this is not a sting, but is used for laying eggs in the ground.

Larvae live in the ground, some are pests of plant roots. Adults emerge in May or June and sometimes fly in large numbers.

These are not museum pests.

