**Common Bush-crickets**

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**Grasshopper or Bush-cricket?**

- **Short antennae** (shorter than body)
- **Long antennae** (longer than body)

→ see reverse of this sheet

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**Roesel’s bush-cricket** *Metrioptera roeselii*

- Cream-coloured crescent on shoulder
- Brown colour
- Song: a loud, continuous, high buzz like overhead power cables; heard well through a bat detector set to c. 20kHz

**Dark bush-cricket** *Pholidoptera griseoaptera*

- Dark brown and black
- Very short or no wings
- Song: short chirps at intervals; set bat detector to c. 22kHz:

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**Long-winged conehead** *Conocephalus discolor*

- Green body
- Long brown wings
- Song: a faint continuous “chuffing”, best heard with a bat detector set to about 30kHz:

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**Speckled bush-cricket** *Leptophyes punctatissima*

- Very short wings
- Green with fine black speckles
- Upcurved ovipositor
- Song: very faint ticks every 3-5 seconds; with a bat detector set to 40kHz these are heard as very loud clicks

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**Oak bush-cricket** *Meconema thalassinum*

- Long wings
- Pale green colour
- Nocturnal and attracted to light, sometimes found indoors
- The related Southern Oak bush-cricket has short wings

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**Great Green bush-cricket** *Tettigonia viridissima*

- Green with brown stripe on top
- Very large: 4-6 cm
- Wings longer than body
- Song continuous, harsh, loud; late afternoon & into night:
Common Grasshoppers & Groundhoppers

Meadow Grasshopper *Chorthippus parallelus*
- female usually short-winged
- lines on shoulders almost straight
- song: scratchy bursts of chirps; set bat detector to c. 10kHz

Field Grasshopper *Chorthippus brunneus*
- lines on shoulders strongly indented
- 1.5-2.5cm
- rear end of shoulder shield has got pale patches
- song: a series of short soft buzzes; set detector to c. 10kHz

Lesser Marsh Grasshopper *Chorthippus albomarginatus*
- usually white line on wing
- 1.5-2.5cm
- straight lines on shoulders
- song: a series of longer, soft chirps, about 3s apart; c. 10kHz

Common Green Grasshopper *Omocestus viridulus*
- damp grass
- increasingly in drier areas
- 1.5-2.5cm
- long wings
- song: a fast ticking of increasing volume, 10+s long; 10kHz

Mottled Grasshopper *Myrmeleotettix maculatus*
- clubbed antennae, not white-tipped
- 1-2cm
- rounded head
- shoulder shield as long as body
- keel on shoulder shield very prominent

Common Groundhopper *Tetrix undulata*
- bare ground, dry, open grass
- heathlands, dunes, quarries
- 1-2cm
- shoulder shield as long as body
- does not sing

Slender Groundhopper *Tetrix subulata*
- damp, bare ground with mud or very short vegetation
- 1cm
- shoulder shield much longer than body
- keel on shoulder shield low, not prominent

Further reading:
- www.orthoptera.org.uk
- www.brc.ac.uk/irecord

Record your observations online at:

Attach a photo to receive verification

www.wildguideuk.com