

















Larvae of UK Ladybirds

A juvenile ladybird is called a larva. It has four instars, i.e. it sheds its skin four times as it grows. Early instar larvae are very small and difficult to identify, but third and fourth instar larvae, particularly of the larger ladybird species, may be identified in the field. Late instar larvae of most of the common UK ladybird species are shown below. Ideally this guide should be used in conjunction with a key to ladybird larvae – e.g. in 'Ladybirds' by Majerus & Kearns, 1989, Richmond Publishing.

<p>7-spot ladybird <i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i></p>  <p>© Robert Frost Habitat: Generalist Notes: 4 pairs of coloured markings on abdomen</p>	<p>Harlequin ladybird <i>Harmonia axyridis</i></p>  <p>© Mike Majerus Habitat: Generalist Notes: Orange L-shape on each side plus 4 orange spines towards rear</p>	<p>14-spot ladybird <i>Propylea 14-punctata</i></p>  <p>© Gilles San Martin Habitat: Generalist Notes: Quite smooth (hairs but no spines)</p>	<p>2-spot ladybird <i>Adalia 2-punctata</i></p>  <p>© Gilles San Martin Habitat: Generalist Notes: Similar to 10-spot ladybird</p>
<p>10-spot ladybird <i>Adalia 10-punctata</i></p>  <p>© Remy Poland Habitat: Deciduous trees Notes: Similar to 2-spot ladybird</p>	<p>Cream-spot ladybird <i>Calvia 14-guttata</i></p>  <p>© Gilles San Martin Habitat: Deciduous trees Notes: Branched spines with hairs on abdomen</p>	<p>Kidney-spot ladybird <i>Chilocorus renipustulatus</i></p>  <p>© Gilles San Martin Habitat: Deciduous trees Notes: Long, branched bristles</p>	<p>Orange ladybird <i>Halyzia 16-guttata</i></p>  <p>© Stephen Plant Habitat: Deciduous trees Notes: Yellow with pale head (cf. 22-spot ladybird)</p>
<p>Pine ladybird <i>Exochomus 4-pustulatus</i></p>  <p>© Richard Comont Habitat: Trees Notes: Short bristles</p>	<p>Eyed ladybird <i>Anatis ocellata</i></p>  <p>© Gilles San Martin Habitat: Conifers Notes: Very spiny</p>	<p>Striped ladybird <i>Myzia oblongoguttata</i></p>  <p>© Remy Poland Habitat: Conifers Notes: Quite smooth</p>	<p>Cream-streaked ladybird <i>Harmonia 4-punctata</i></p>  <p>© Gilles San Martin Habitat: Conifers Notes: Very similar to harlequin but only 2 orange spines towards rear</p>
<p>24-spot ladybird <i>Subcoccinella 24-punctata</i></p>  <p>© Robert Frost Habitat: Grass Notes: Greenish-grey with branched spines</p>	<p>16-spot ladybird <i>Tytthaspis 16-punctata</i></p>  <p>© Gilles San Martin Habitat: Grass Notes: Pale brown-grey with conspicuous black hairs</p>	<p>22-spot ladybird <i>Psyllobora 22-punctata</i></p>  <p>© Robert Frost Habitat: Grass Notes: Yellow with dark head (cf. Orange ladybird)</p>	<p>Heather ladybird <i>Chilocorus 2-pustulatus</i></p>  <p>© Gilles San Martin Habitat: Heather heathland Notes: Pale stripe across abdomen</p>