

**Provisional atlas of the
Camphor Beetles
(Staphylinidae: Steninae)
of
Britain and Ireland**



Dr.Jonty Denton

2013

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For D.A.L.

Cover photo *Stenus kiesenwetteri*

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INTRODUCTION

The Stenus recording scheme has been running since 2001, and since my update report (Denton, 2004), records have been steadily accumulating with over 25,000 records imported. The publication of the superb Handbook for the identification of British Insects Vol.12 part 7 & 8 (Lott & Anderson, 2011), is a testimony to the hard work of the late great Derek Lott and the continued major contribution of Roy Anderson who has provided the bulk of the Irish records which means the coverage in Ireland is amongst the best yet published for any beetle group. I hope that this publication alongside the new handbook will give fresh impetus to wouldbe recorders, so that the gaps can be filled and coverage improved for the future Atlas.

I continue to welcome specimens for identification, and of course keep sending those records in!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am greatly indebted to the following individuals for providing material and records:-

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Checklist of Subfamily STENINAE MacLeay, 1825

(Courtesy of Andrew Duff)

DIANOUS Leach, 1819

coerulescens (Gyllenhal, 1810)

STENUS Latreille, 1796

Subgenus HEMISTENUS Motschulsky, 1860

PARASTENUS Heyden, 1905

aceris Stephens, 1833

fuscicornis Erichson, 1840

geniculatus Gravenhorst, 1806

glacialis Heer, 1839

impressus Germar, 1824

ludyi Fauvel, 1855

coarcticollis sensu auctt. non Eppelsheim, 1890

ochropus Kiesenwetter, 1858

erichsoni Rye, 1864

ossium Stephens, 1833

pallipes Gravenhorst, 1802

palustris Erichson, 1839

subaeneus Erichson, 1840

Subgenus HYPOSTENUS Rey, 1884

cicindeloides (Schaller, 1783)

fornicatus Stephens, 1833

fulvicornis Stephens, 1833

kiesenwetteri Rosenhauer, 1856

latifrons Erichson, 1839

oscillator Rye, 1870

similis (Herbst, 1784)

solutus Erichson, 1840

tarsalis Ljungh, 1810

Subgenus METATESNUS Ádám, 2001

METASTENUS Ádám, 1987 non Walker, 1834

HEMISTENUS sensu auctt. non Motschulsky, 1860

bifoveolatus Gyllenhal, 1827

binotatus Ljungh, 1804

brevipennis Thomson, C.G., 1851
foveicollis Kraatz, 1857
picipes sensu auctt. partim ?non Stephens, 1833
butrintensis Smetana, 1959
pallitarsis sensu auctt. partim non Stephens, 1833
canescens Rosenhauer, 1856
flavipes Stephens, 1833
nitidiusculus Stephens, 1833
niveus Fauvel, 1865
pallitarsis Stephens, 1833
picipennis Erichson, 1840
picipes Stephens, 1833
pubescens Stephens, 1833
umbratilis Casey, 1884
pseudopubescens Strand, A., 1940
pubescens sensu auctt. Brit. partim non Stephens, 1833

Subgenus STENUS Latreille, 1796

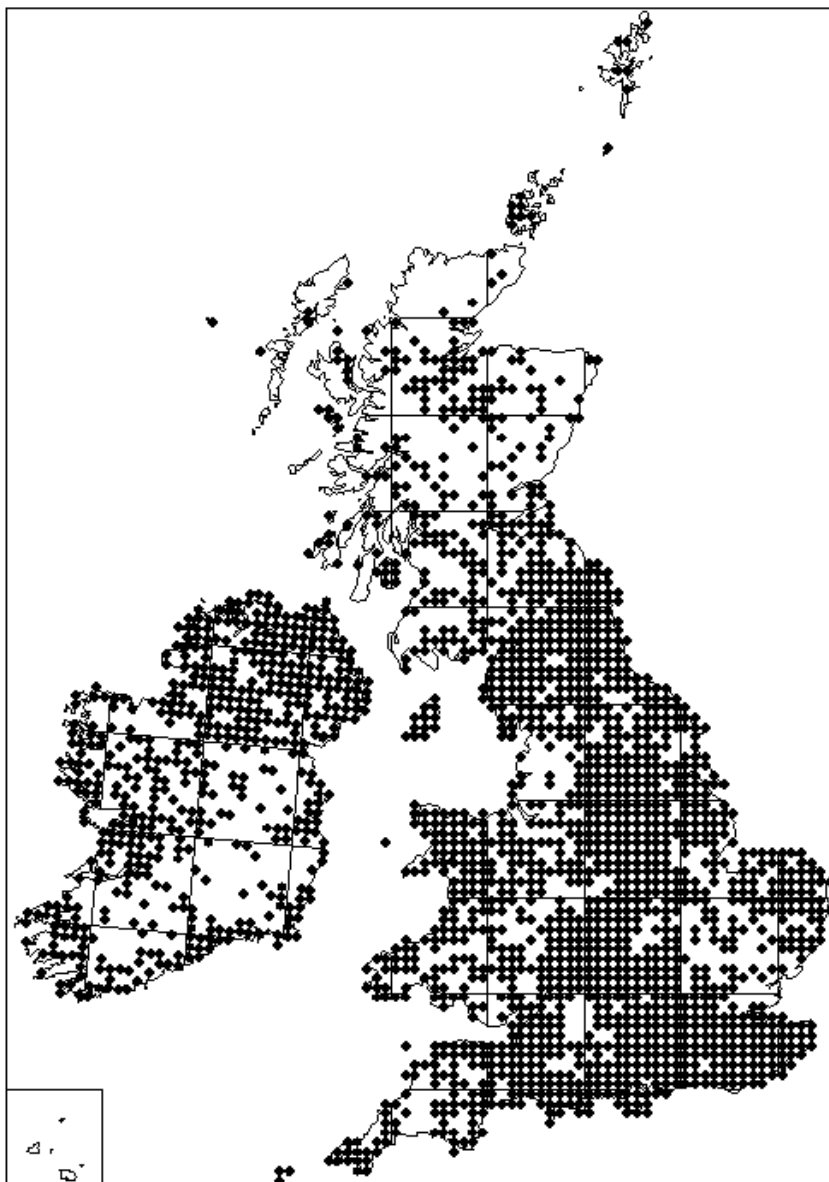
NESTUS Rey, 1884

argus Gravenhorst, 1806
asphaltinus Erichson, 1840
assequens Rey, 1844
simillimus Benick, 1949
ater Mannerheim, 1830
atratus Erichson, 1839
biguttatus (Linnaeus, 1758)
bimaculatus Gyllenhal, 1810
boops Ljungh, 1810
buphthalmus sensu Gravenhorst, 1802 non (Schrank, 1776)
calcaratus Scriba, 1864
canaliculatus Gyllenhal, 1827
carbonarius Gyllenhal, 1827
circularis Gravenhorst, 1802
clavicornis (Scopoli, 1763)
comma LeConte, 1863
bipunctatus Erichson, 1839 non Ljungh, 1804
contumax Assing, 1994

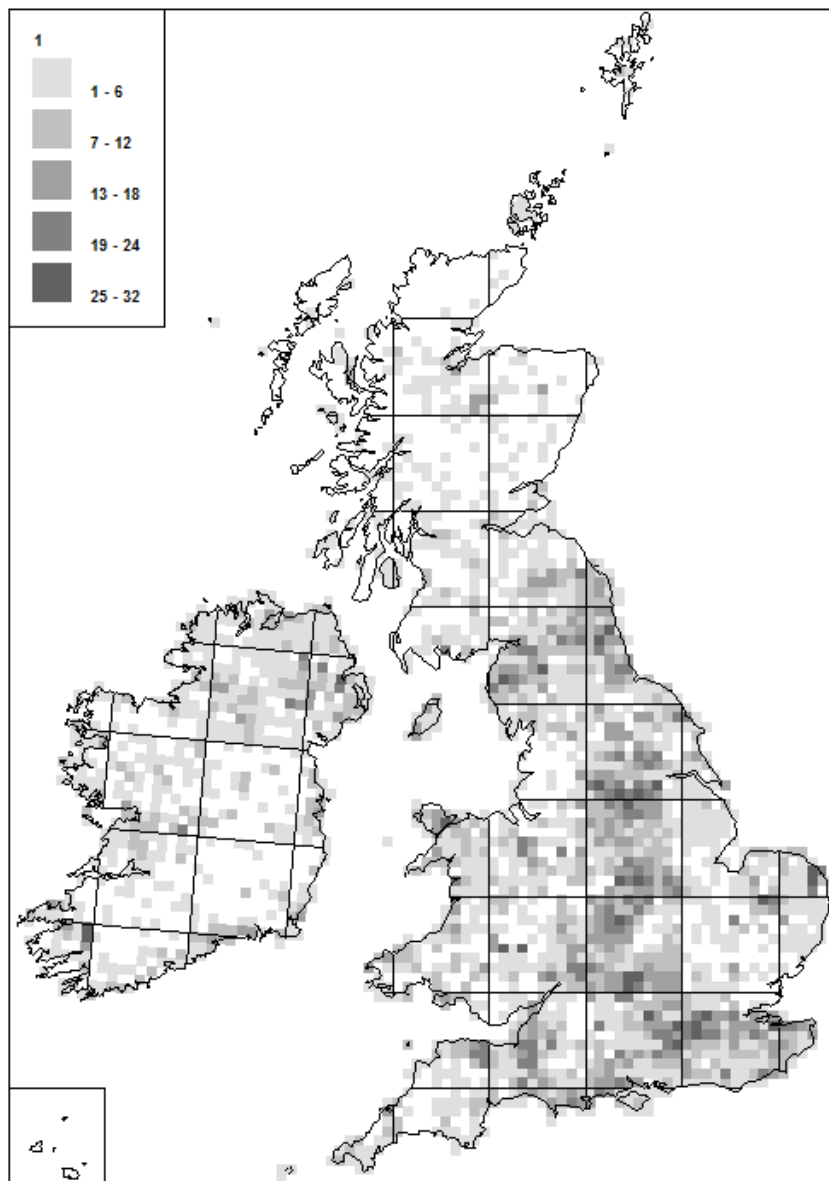
europaeus Puthz, 1966

cautus sensu auctt. non Erichson, 1839
vafellus sensu auctt. Brit. non Erichson, 1839
fossulatus Erichson, 1840
fuscipes Gravenhorst, 1802
glabellus Thomson, C.G., 1870
guttula Müller, P.W.J., 1821
gynemeri Jacquelin du Val, 1850
incanus Erichson, 1839
incrassatus Erichson, 1839
juno (Paykull, 1789)
longitarsis Thomson, C.G., 1851
lustrator Erichson, 1839
melanarius Stephens, 1833
melanopus (Marsham, 1802)
morio Gravenhorst, 1806
nanus Stephens, 1833
declaratus Erichson, 1839
nitens Stephens, 1833
palposus Zetterstedt, 1838
proditor Erichson, 1839
providus Erichson, 1839
rogeri Kraatz, 1857
pusillus Stephens, 1833
exiguus Erichson, 1840
subdepressus Mulsant & Rey, 1861
Subgenus TESNUS Rey, 1884
brunnipes Stephens, 1833
crassus Stephens, 1833
formicetorum Mannerheim, 1843
nigritulus Gyllenhal, 1827
opticus Gravenhorst, 1806

Map 1. Coverage map. Showing each 10km square from which at least one record has been received.



Map 2. Species richness map.



The following species have not been mapped;-

Stenus calcaratus Scriba, 1864 RDB1

Rare, currently only known from the River Medway in Kent, where it is locally abundant amongst tidal refuse under reed *Phragmites*.

Stenus glabellus Thomson, C.G., 1870

Very rare, currently only known from three sites in Central Ireland, in mesotrophic bogs: Scragh Bog, and Ballynafid Lough in Westmeath, and recently from Black Lough Fen in Cavan (Denton & Foster, 2011).

Stenus ludyi Fauvel, 1855

A mysterious species with the only confirmed authentic record comes from Hawthornden in Midlothian in 1920, records without vouchers should be discounted.

Stenus palposus Zetterstedt, 1838

Extinct? Formerly found on the shores of Lough Neagh. Last captures were made on a small sandy beach, and despite considerable effort to refind it, no further individuals have been taken since 1983. A glacial relict species, with little prospect of recolonisation.

The distribution map symbols

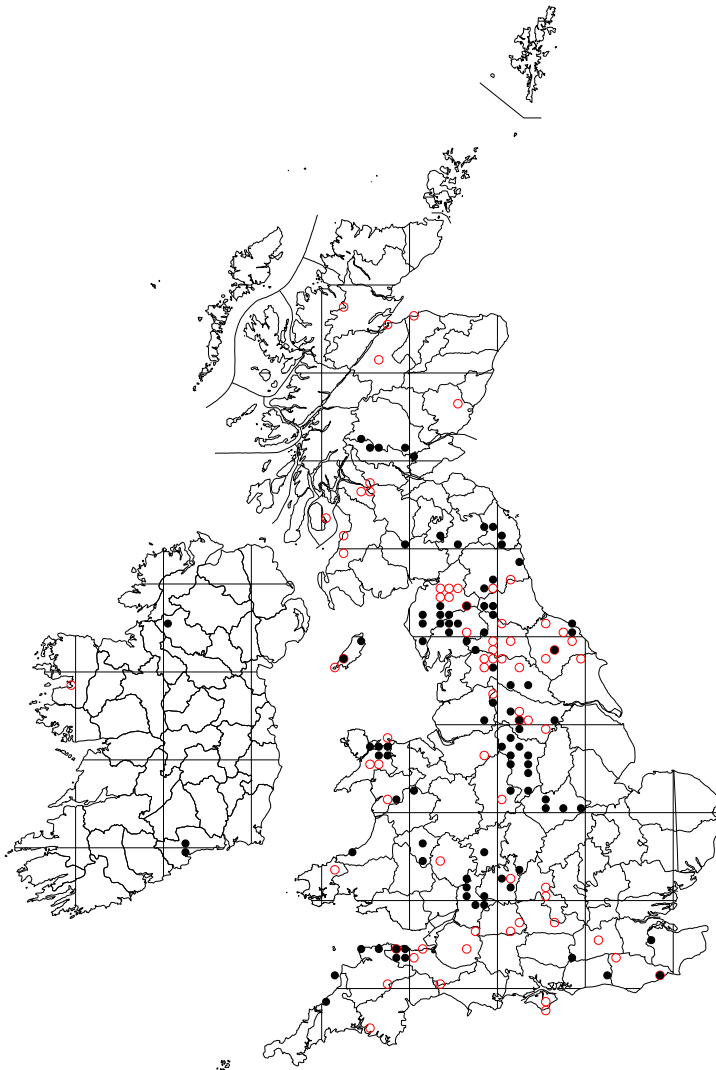
Open red circles = pre 1980 records.

Black dots = post 1980 records.

Red edged black dots = 10km square with pre and post 1980 records.

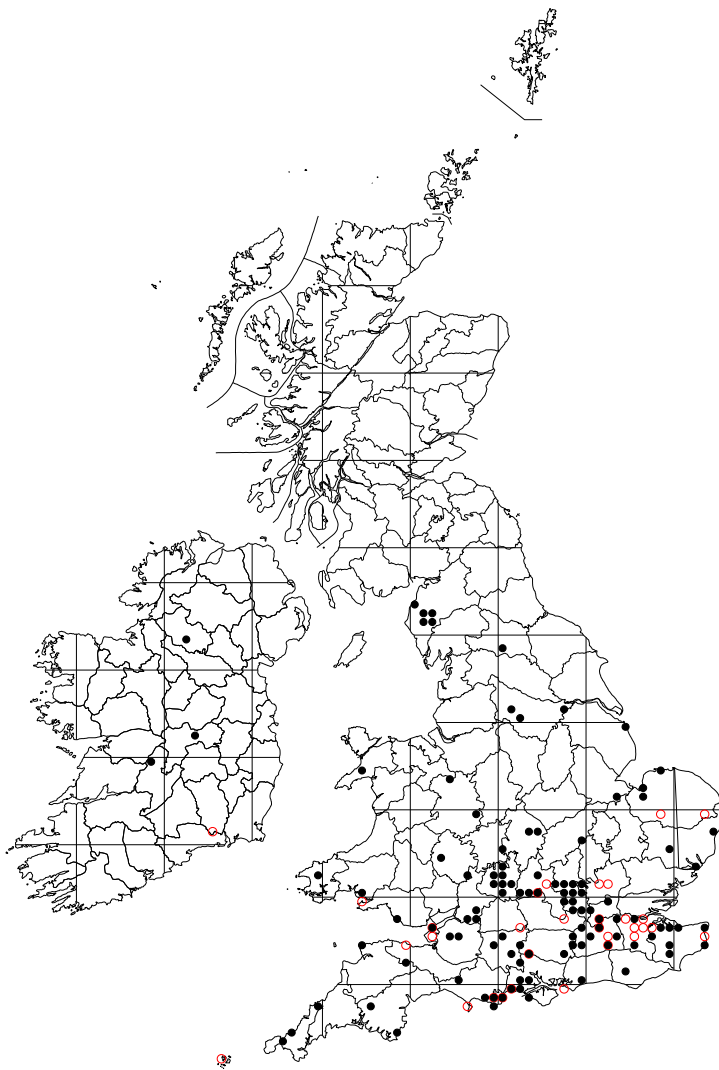
***Dianous coerulescens* (Gyllenhal, 1810)**

Associated with the splash zone around waterfalls, and in moss at the margins of swift flowing streams. The paucity of Scottish records is surprising.



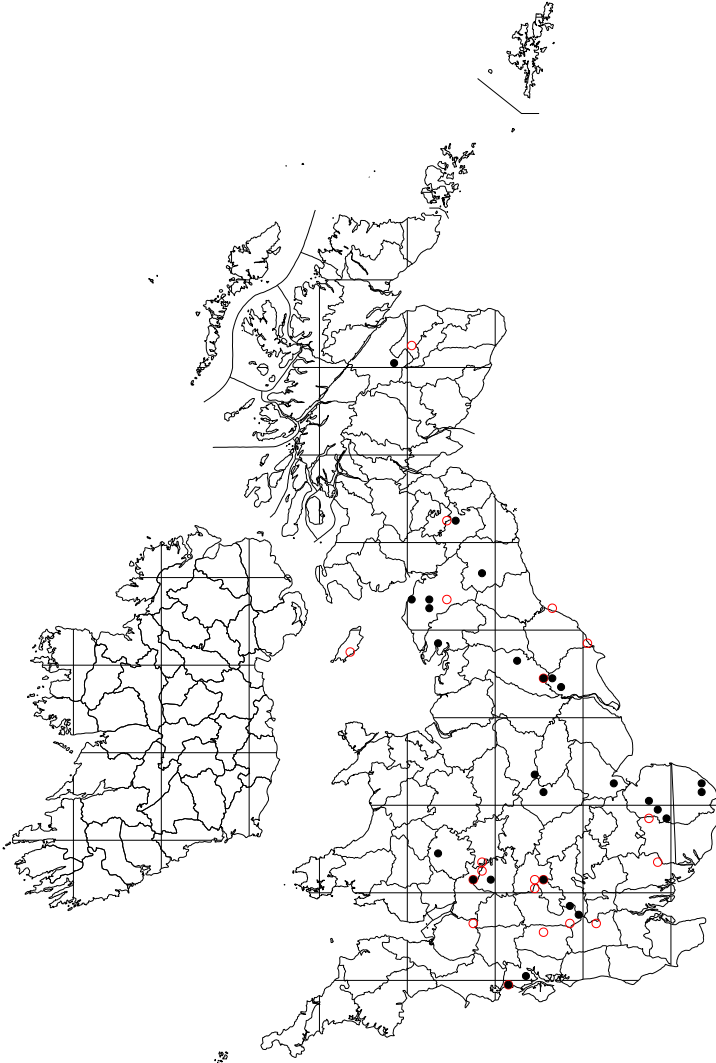
***Stenus aceris* Stephens, 1833**

Widespread in lowlands in tussocky grassland and in woodlands. Very rare in Ireland.



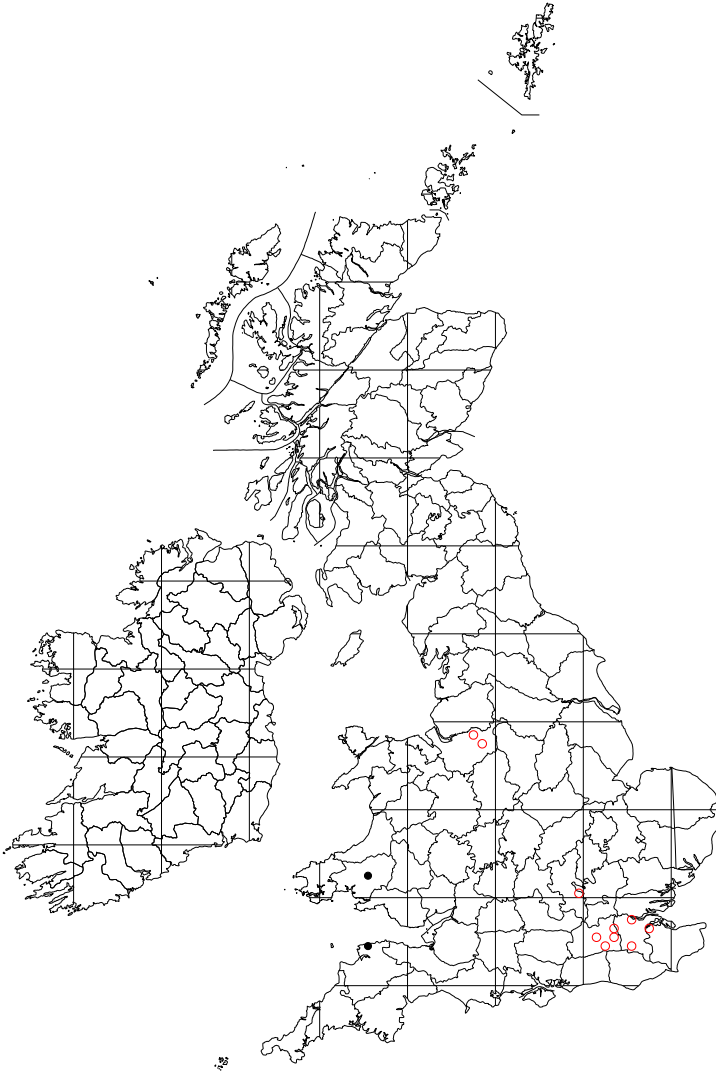
***Stenus argus* Gravenhorst, 1806**

Rare in wet floodplain marsh and carr. Occasionally on lake shores.



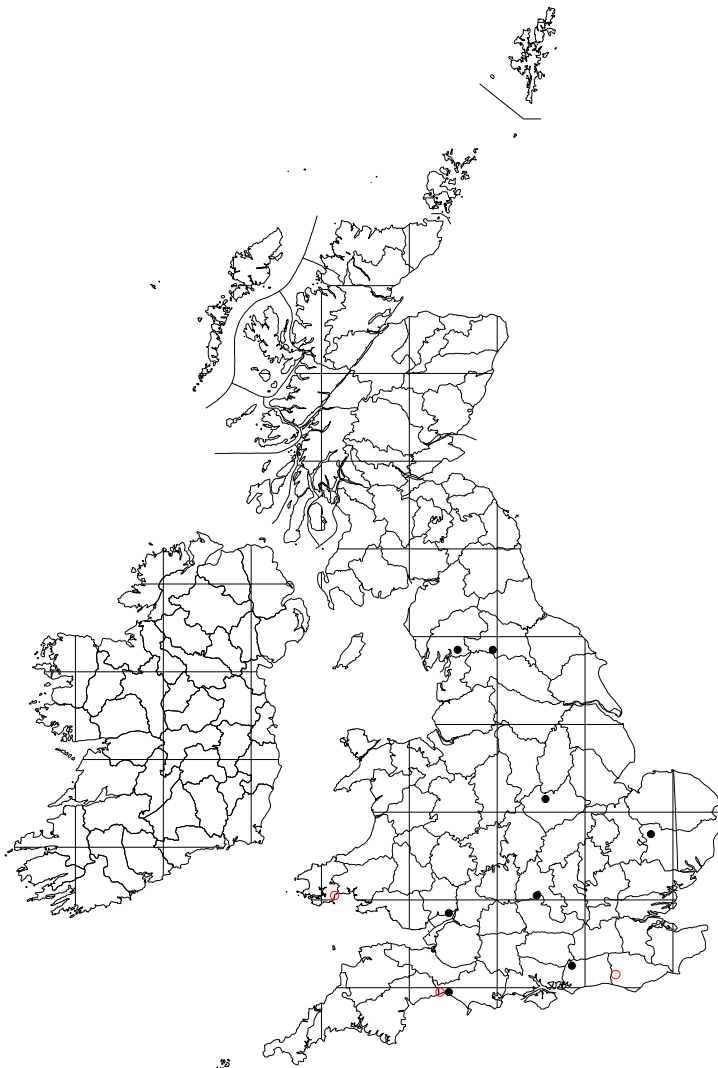
***Stenus asphaltinus* Erichson, 1840**

A rare and declining dry land species, with only one modern record. It has always been very local and scarce on heaths and chalky grassland.



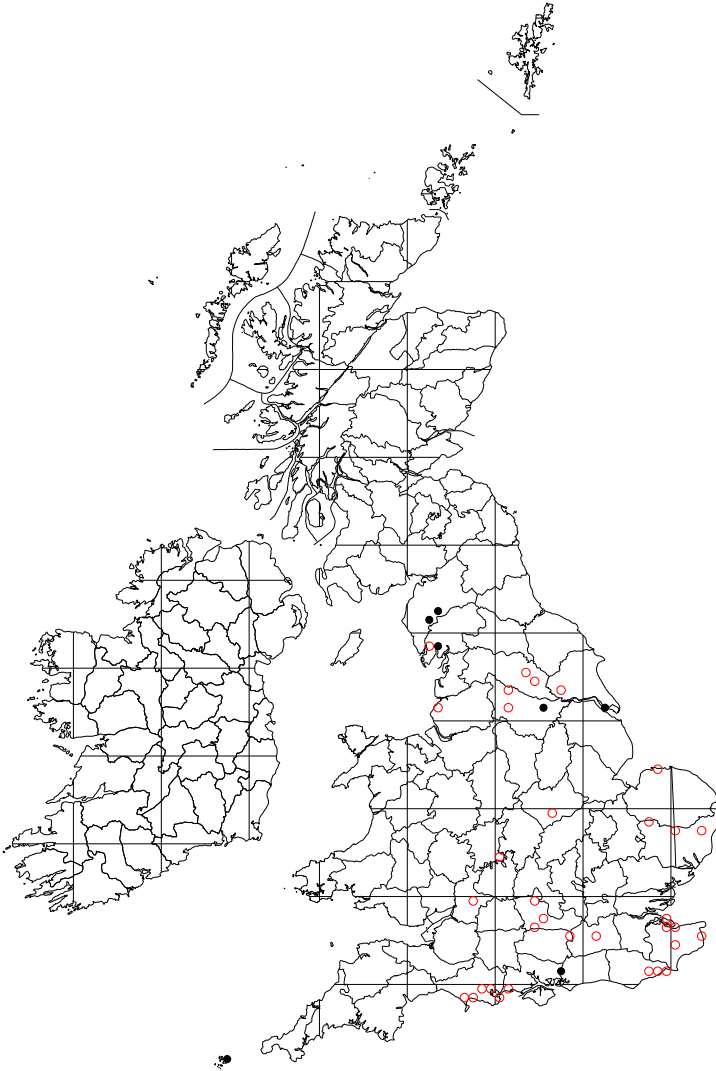
***Stenus assequens* Rey, 1884**

Local, poorly known species found in both dry and wet habitats.



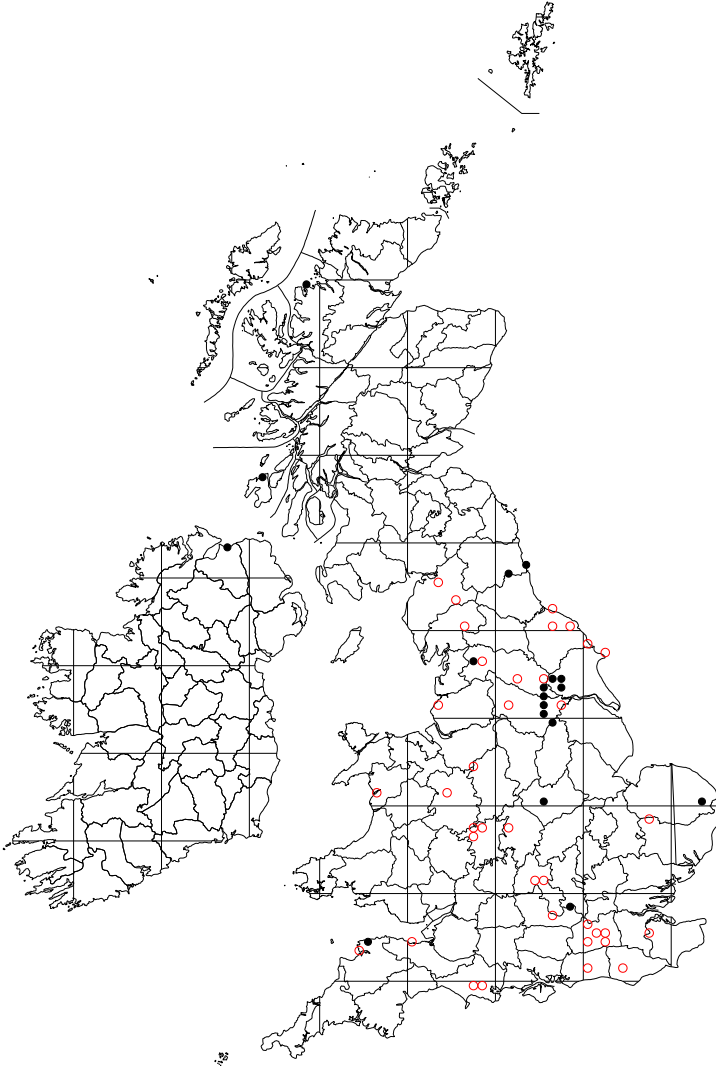
***Stenus ater* Mannerheim, 1830**

Rare in dry habitats, including chalk grassland, several records are from hay and strawstacks.



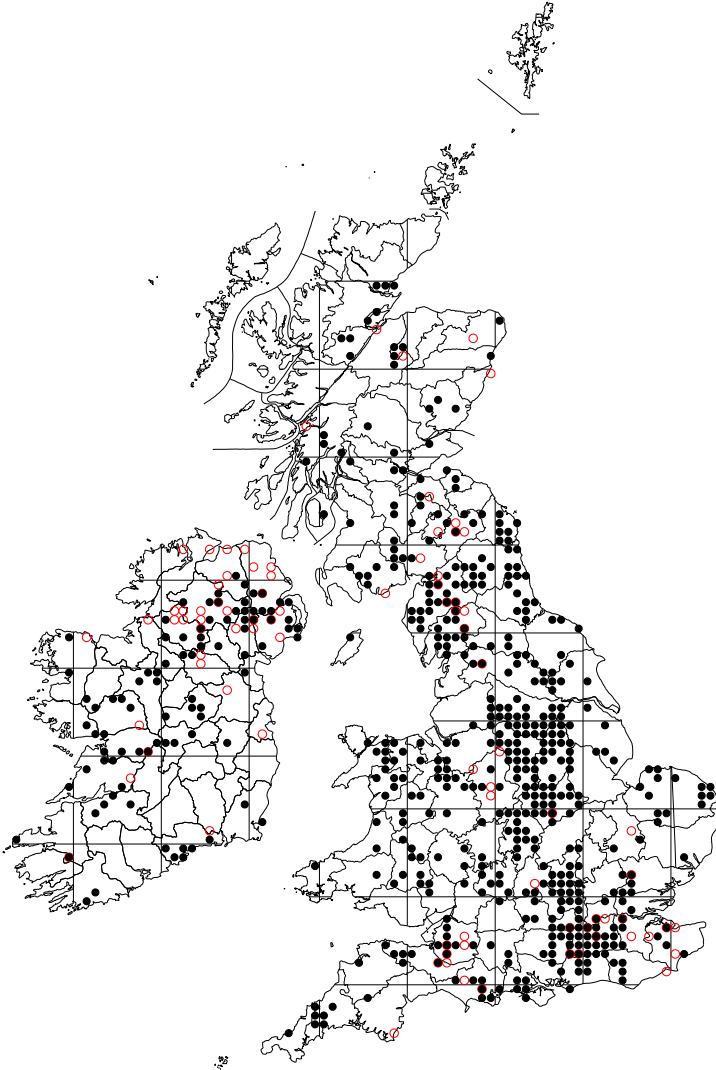
Stenus atratulus Erichson, 1839

Local in dry places including heaths and sand pits. Also found at margins of sandy ponds and lagoons.



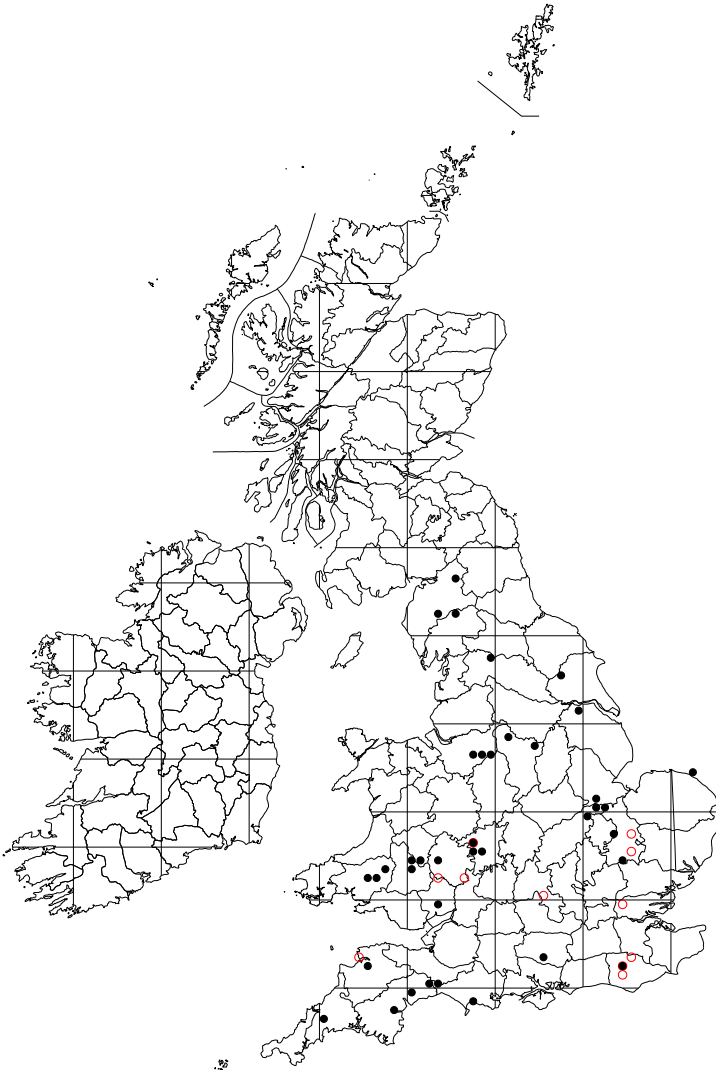
Stenus bifoveolatus Gyllenhal, 1827

Widespread and frequent in wetlands especially in mires, both on the ground and climbing amongst low vegetation.



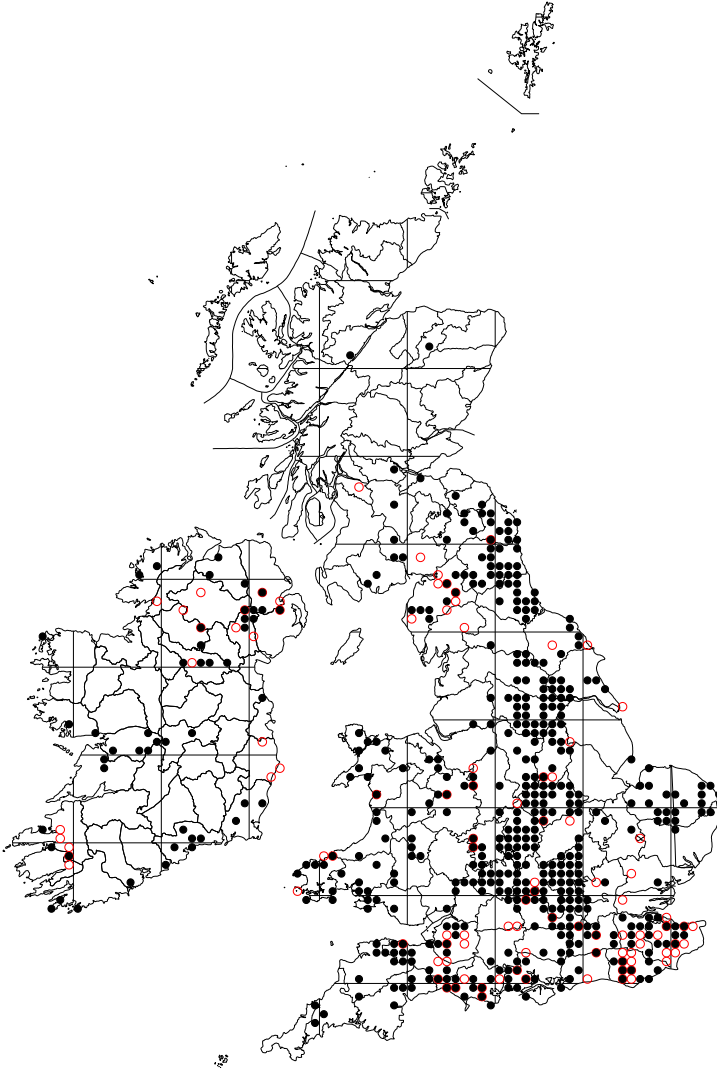
Stenus biguttatus (Linnaeus, 1758)

Rare on exposed sediments on banks of rivers, streams, and occasionally ponds. Many old records have been confused with *S. comma*.



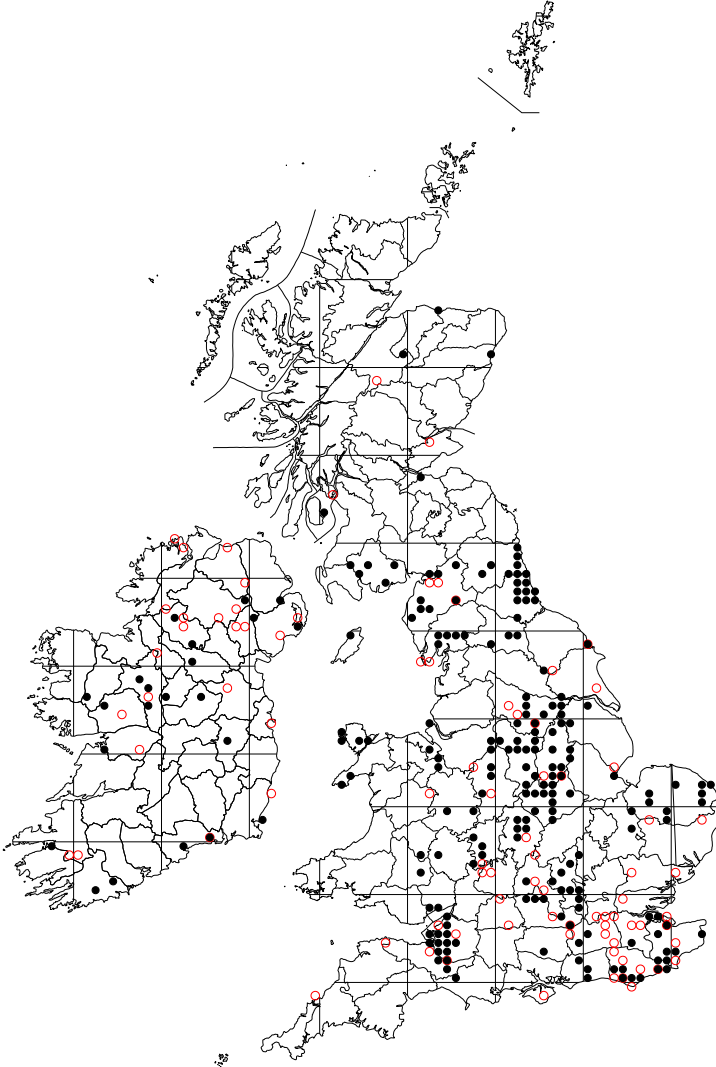
Stenus bimaculatus Gyllenhal, 1810

Widespread at margins of mesotrophic and eutrophic wetlands, often in partly shaded sites including carr areas. Often overwinters under bark.



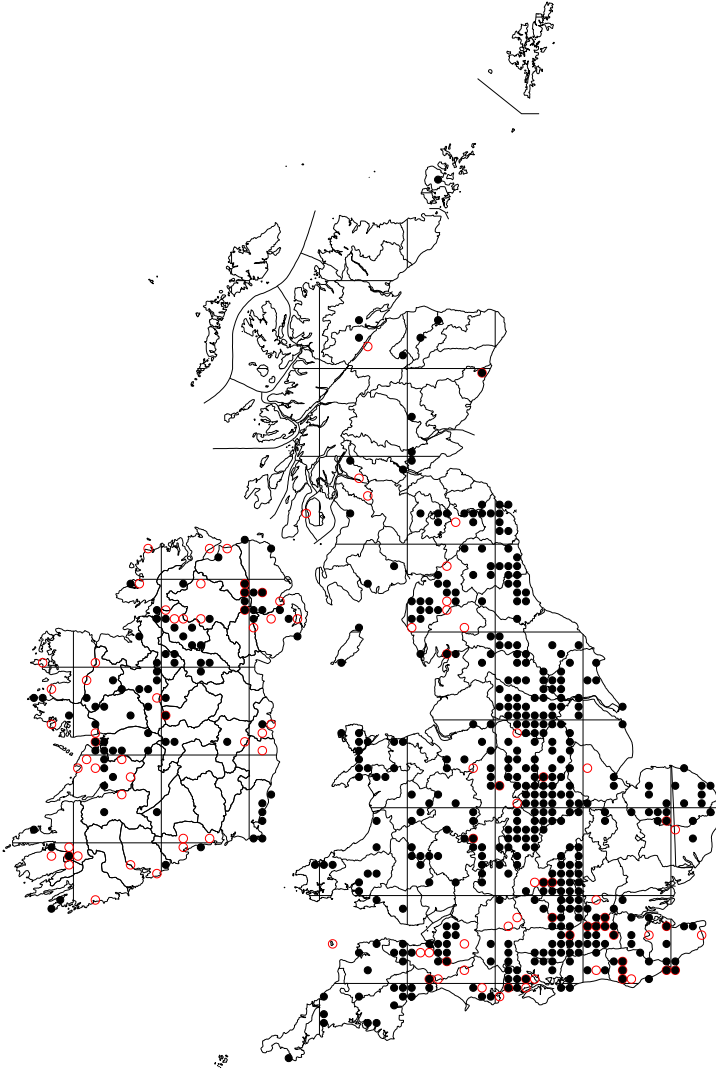
Stenus binotatus Ljungh, 1804

Widespread at margins of ponds and lakes, where it climbs amongst tall emergent vegetation. Occasionally in more open habitats



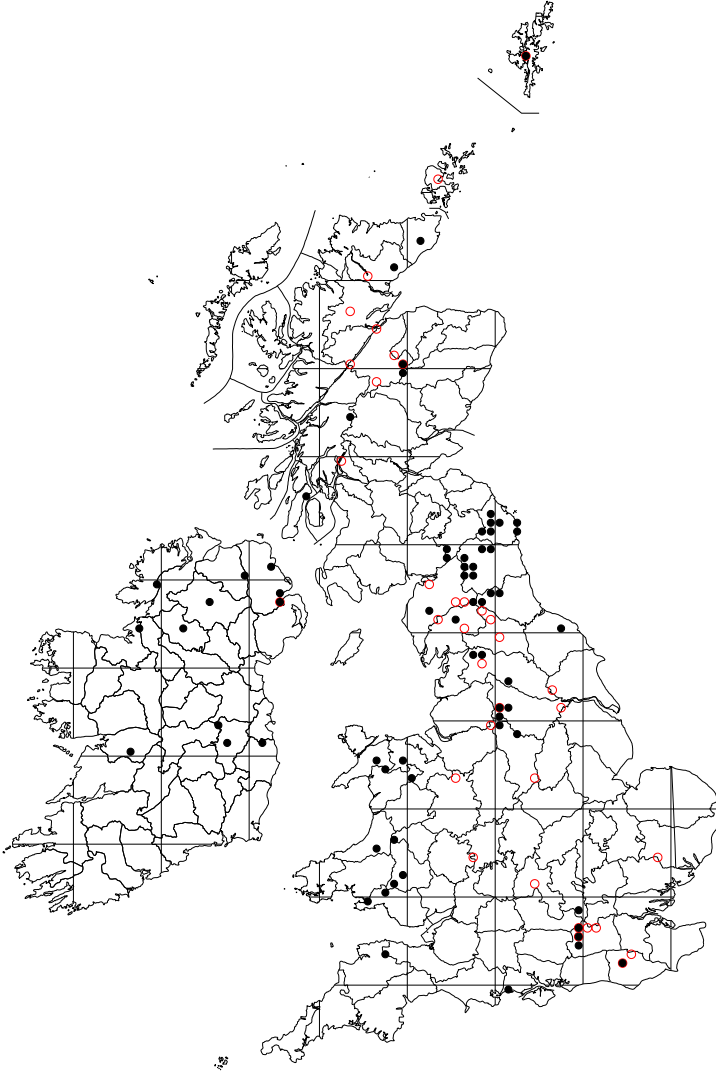
Stenus boops Ljungh, 1810

Widespread and frequent on ground amongst low vegetation in wetlands. Often found on margins of flowing water on open exposed sediments with *S. guttula* and *S. canaliculatus*.



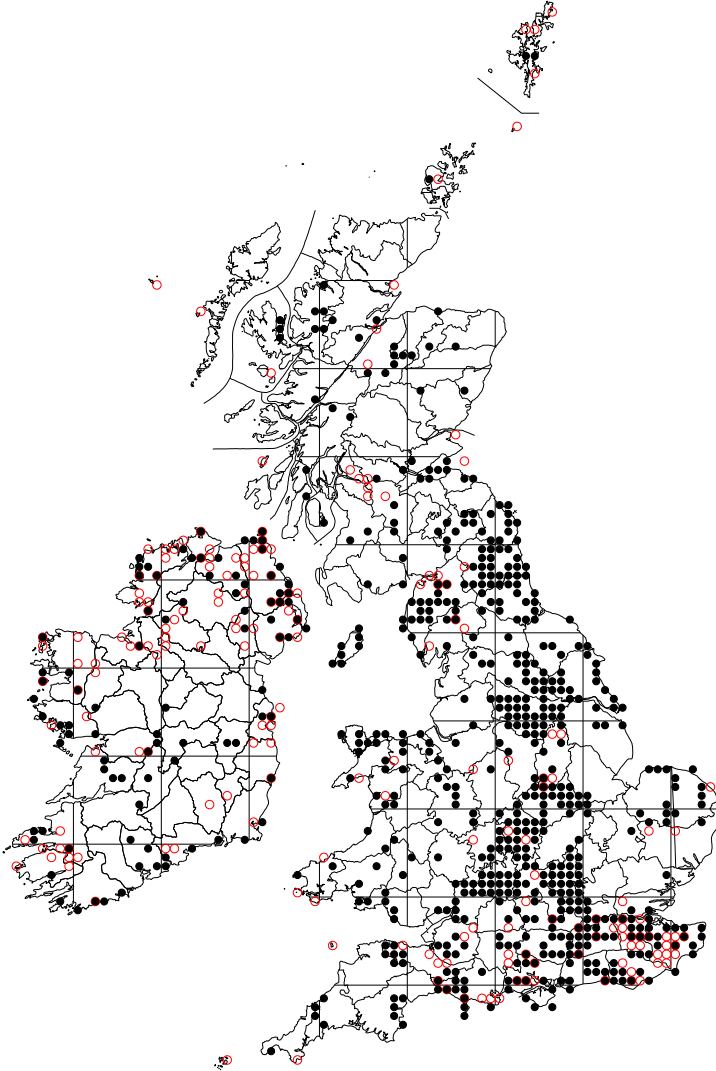
Stenus brevipennis Thomson, 1851

Rare in peaty habitats including mires, blanket bogs, and wet heath habitats. Also known from mountain summit ridges.



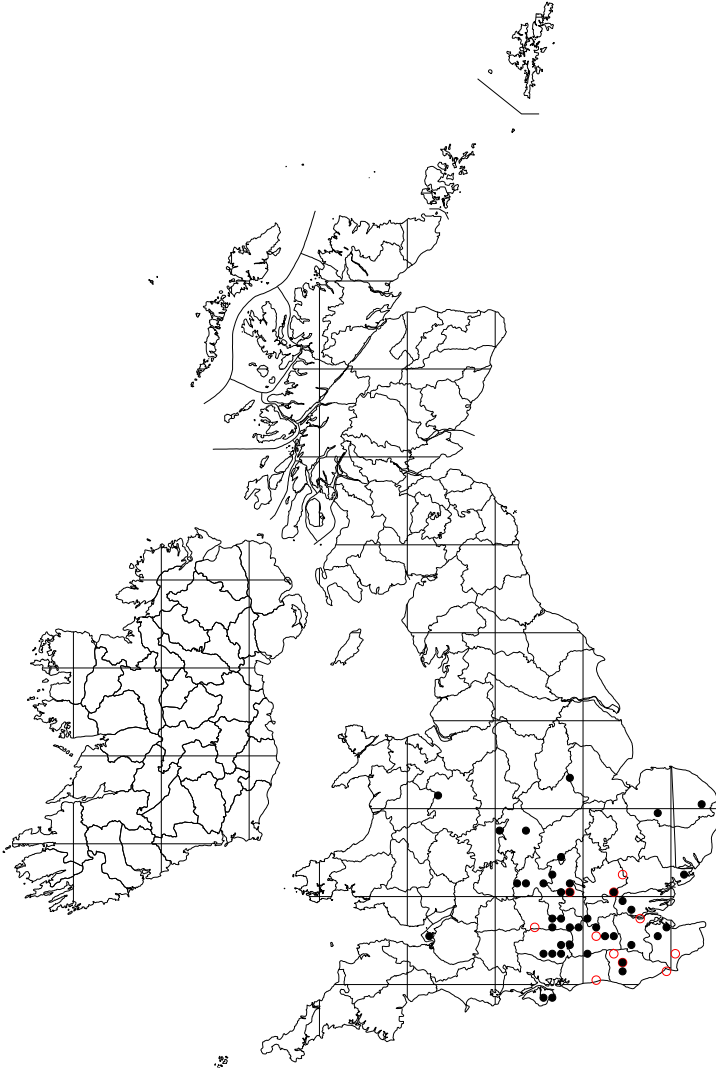
Stenus brunnipes Stephens, 1833

Common in grassland throughout Britain, especially in rough pasture land, and ruderal sites.



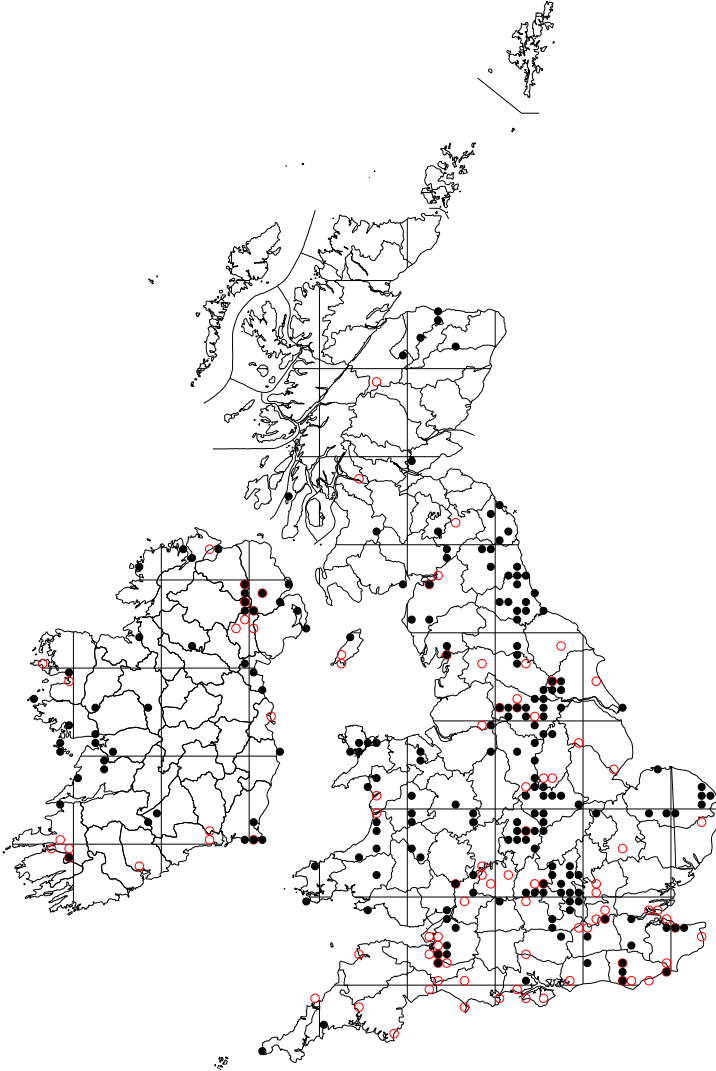
***Stenus butrintensis* Smetana, 1959**

Locally frequent in Southern England. Occurs amongst tall marginal vegetation (*Typha*, *Glyceria* etc.) at margins of lakes, ponds and occasionally beside flowing water.



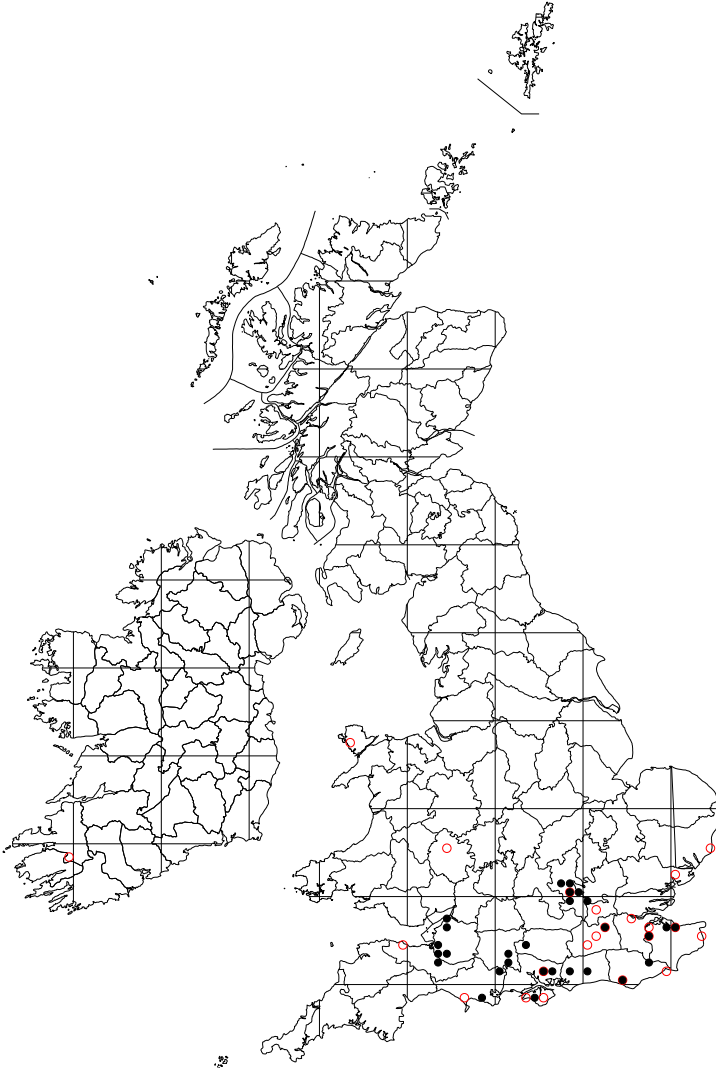
Stenus canaliculatus Gyllenhal, 1827

Local on open sparsely vegetated ground, beside rivers, lakes and ponds.



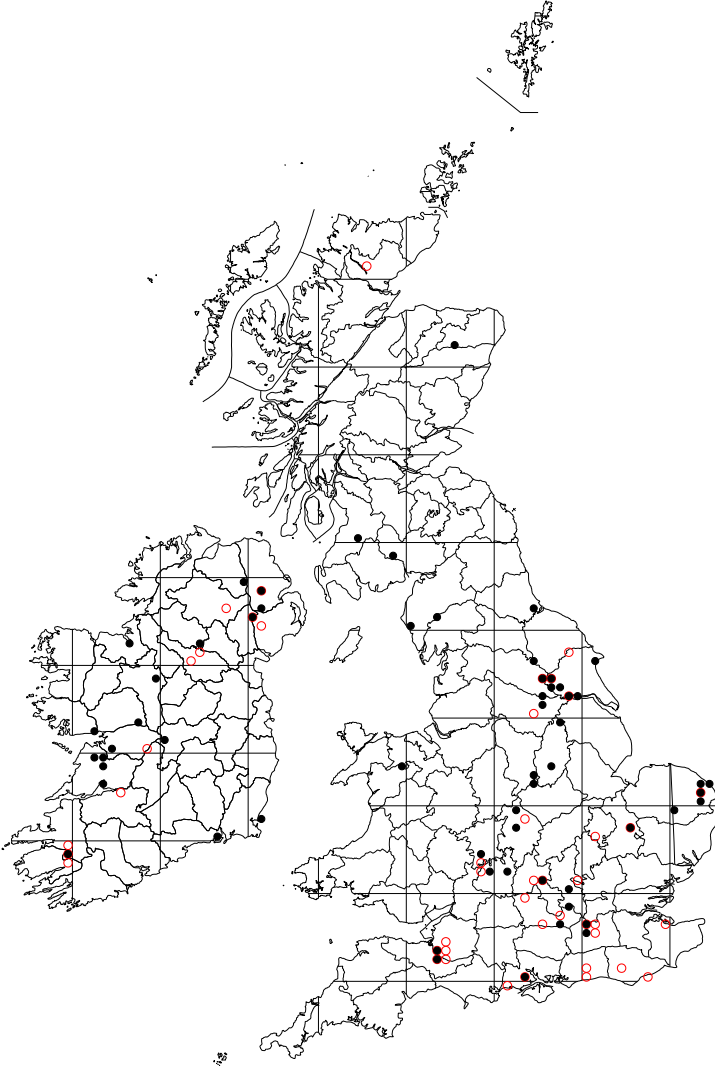
Stenus canescens Rosenhauer, 1856

Very local in rich wetland vegetation beside ponds, ditches and streams, especially near carr woodland. Often on, and under tangles of prostrate waterside vegetation.



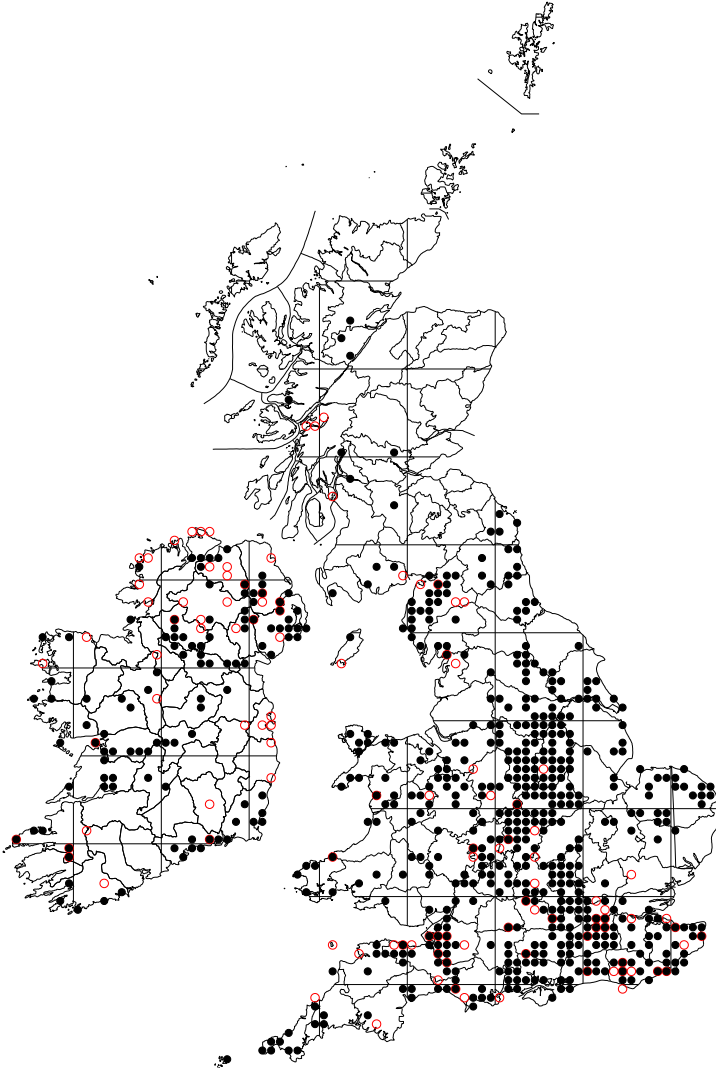
Stenus carbonarius Gyllenhal, 1827

Local in mesotrophic wetlands, including fens, and vegetated lake shores. Can be found hibernating under bark.



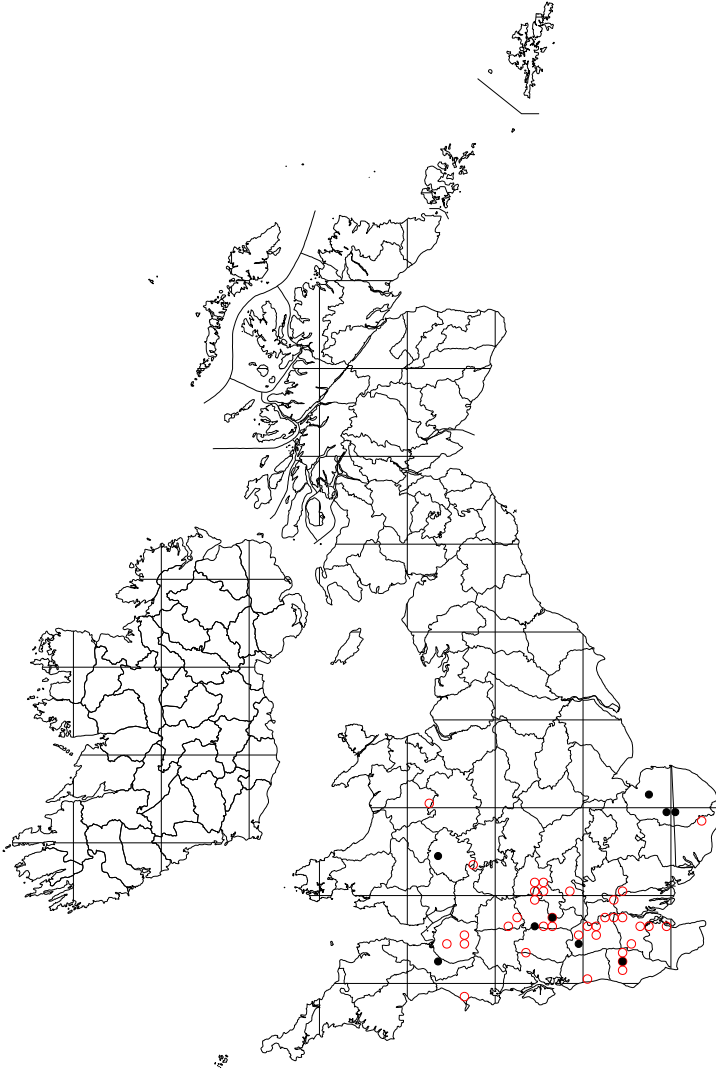
Stenus cicindeloides (Schaller, 1783)

Widespread in wetlands amongst tall emergent vegetation, also in more seasonally wet habitats amongst rushes. One of the few species regularly taken in flight.



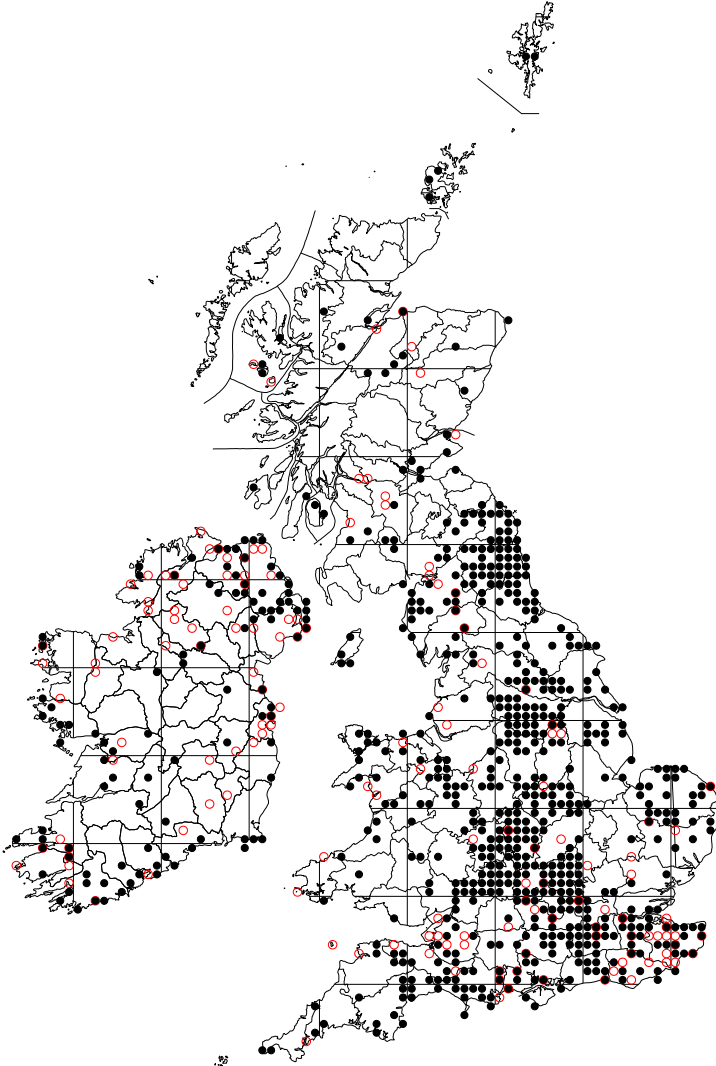
Stenus circularis Gravenhorst, 1802

Rare in litter amongst seasonally flooded wetlands especially on floodplains. An easily overlooked species possibly best located by sieving fen litter, also found in flood refuse.



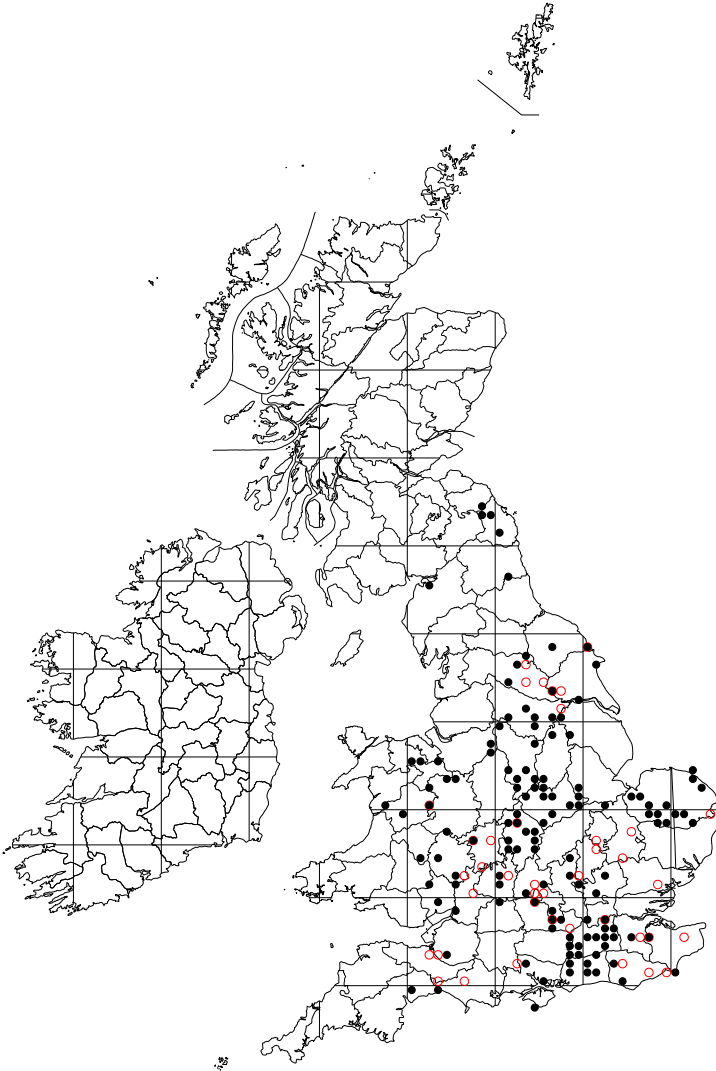
Stenus clavicornis (Scopoli, 1763)

Widespread and common in grasslands in dry grassland, damp meadows, dunes, and upland pastures. Avoiding very wet areas. Often found wintering under stones. Perhaps the most frequently encountered species in flight.



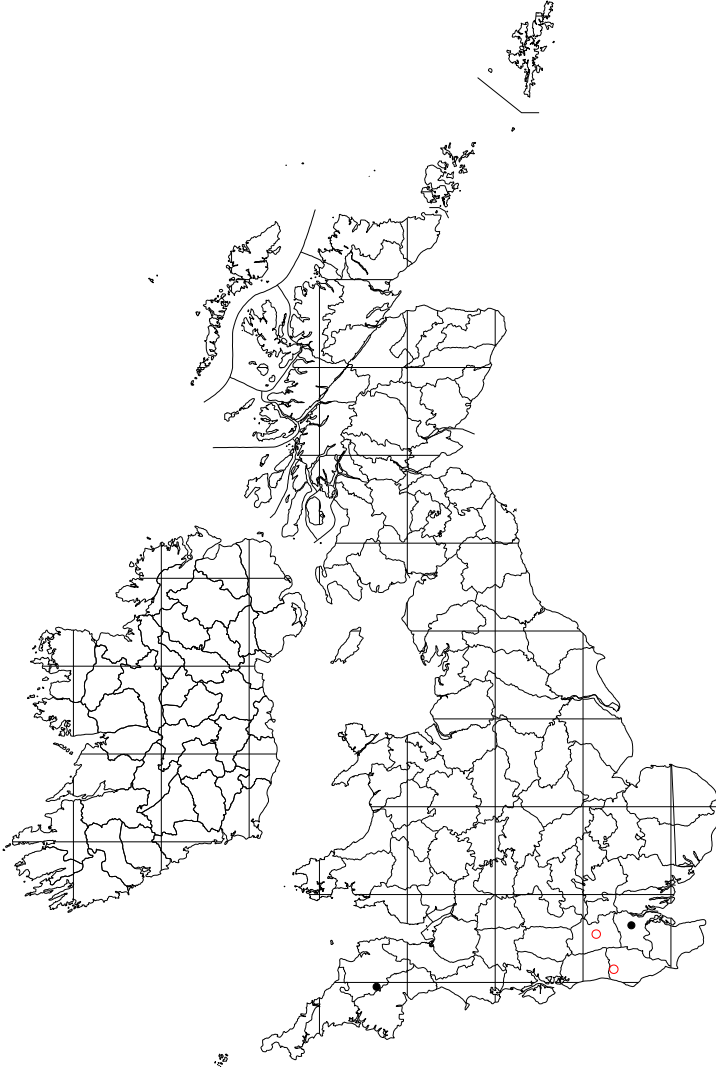
Stenus comma LeConte, 1863

Widespread on open ground at margins of ponds, lakes and rivers. A rapid coloniser of new sites such as sand and clay pits.



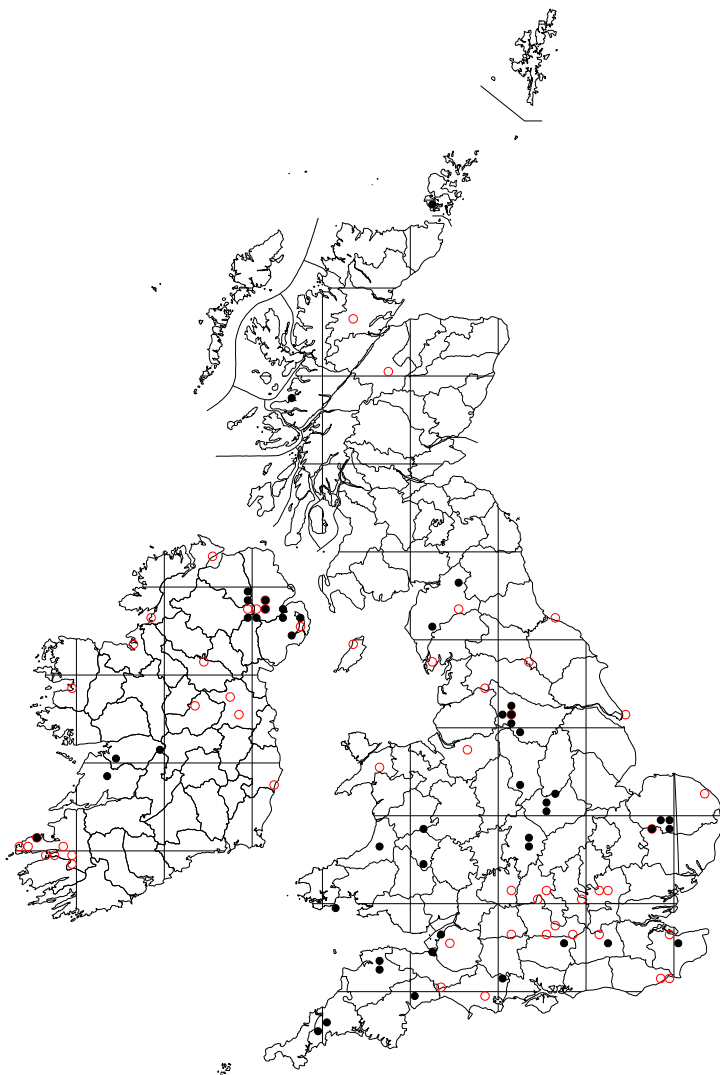
Stenus contumax Assing, 1994

Recently recognised species in Britain, previously mixed with *S. assequens*. Records to date are from dry situations.



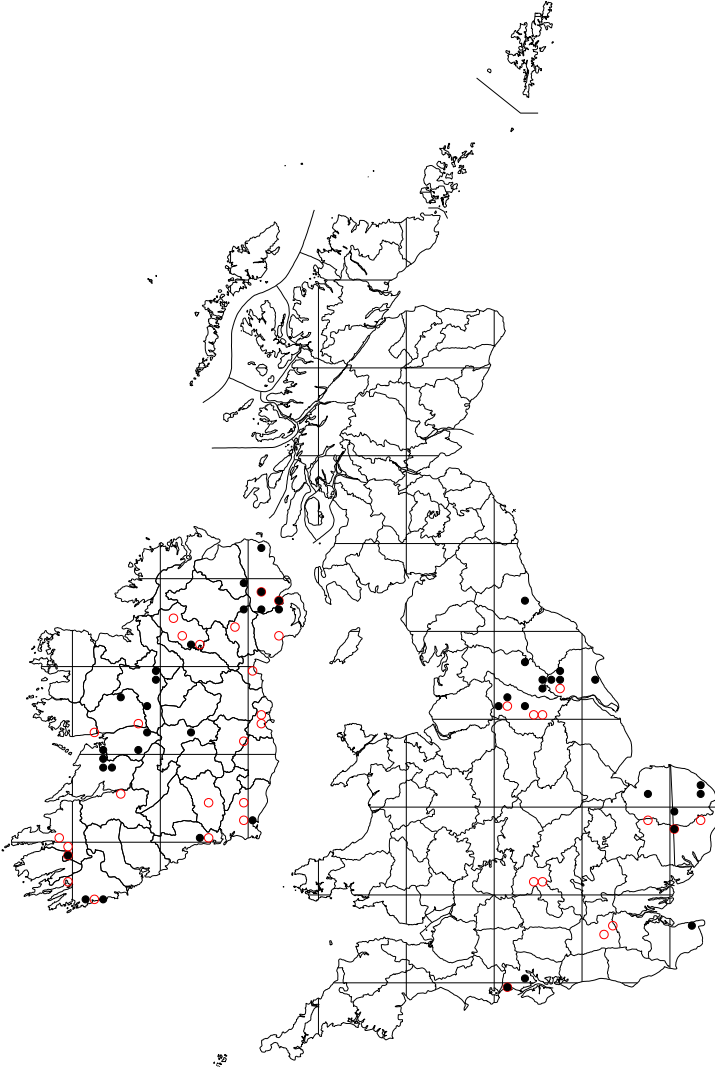
Stenus crassus Stephens, 1833

Local in open habitats, including dry areas, but also found beside rivers and on shoreline habitats.



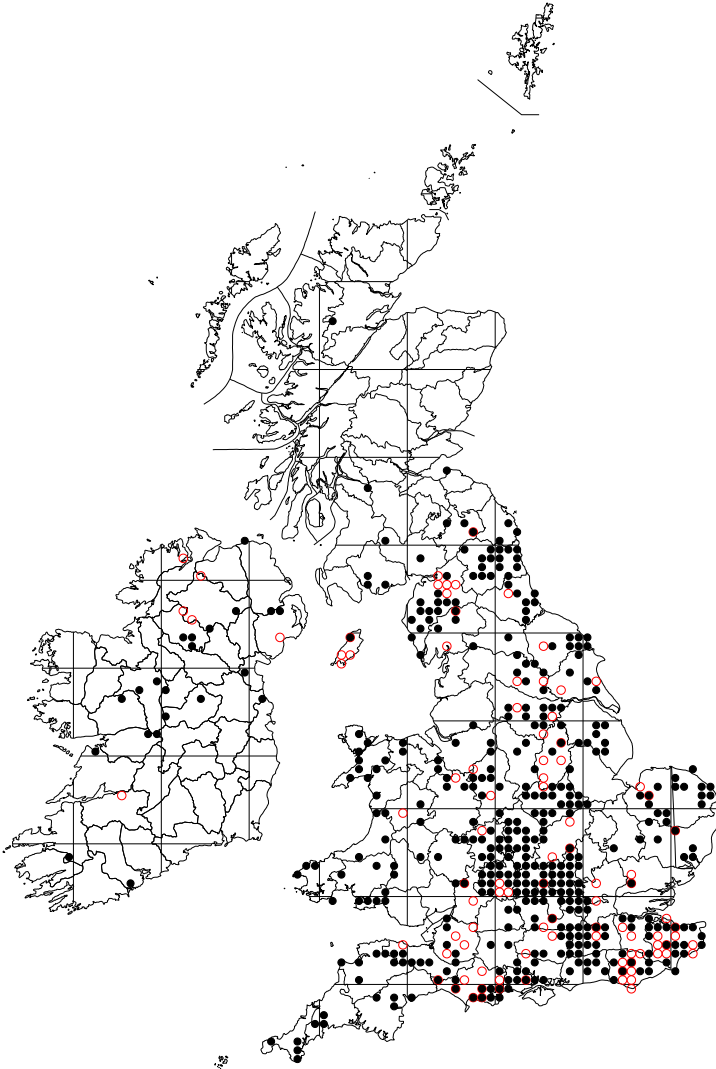
Stenus europaeus Puthz, 1966

Very local in high quality fens and richer mires.



Stenus flavipes Stephens, 1833

Widespread in litter in wet woodland and carr, also climbs amongst emergent vegetation in open wetlands such as mires and mosses.



Stenus formicetorum Mannerheim, 1843

Rare in wet fens, including pingo sites. Also occasionally reported from compost heaps.

