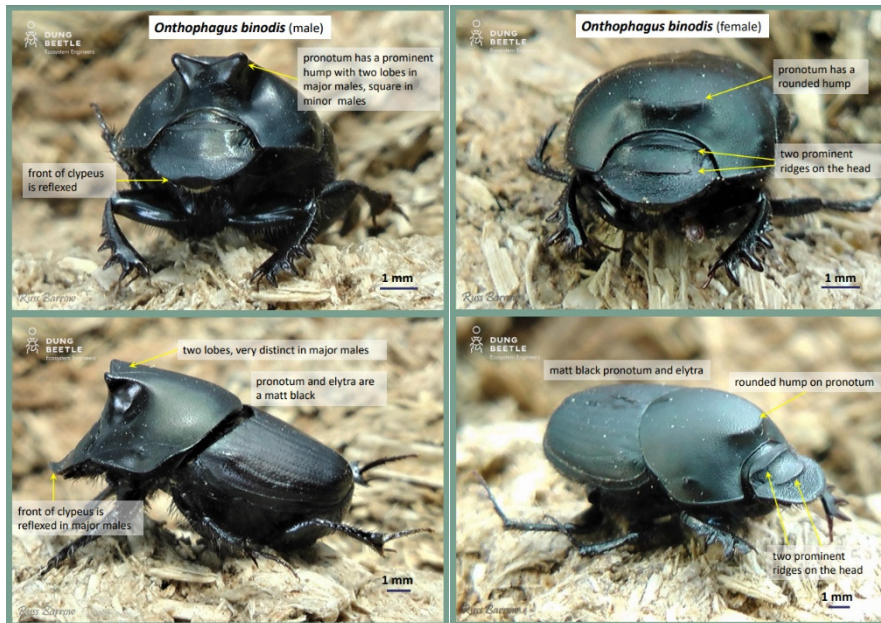


Onthophagus binodis (introduced)



Size: 11–13 mm

Colour: Matt black

Characteristics Males have a large hump between its shoulders. This is slightly smaller in females.

Flight time: During the day

Active seasons: Late spring to autumn

Distribution in Australia: Vic, SA, NSW, TAS, southeast QLD

Origin: South Africa

Similar species: Female *O. taurus* are similar to female *O. binodis*, but *O. taurus* females are shinier and the front of the pronotum is rounded.

South West Prime Lamb Group (SWPLG) demonstrations: *O. binodis* has been trapped on SWPLG properties at Narrawong, Cashmore, Heywood and Hamilton, mostly in summer.

Lifecycle: *O. binodis* has two generations a year. They build nests around 20 cm beneath dung pads with several dung masses, each with one egg. Development from an egg to adult takes 4-6 weeks. Within a week of emergence in spring, dung is buried and beetles begin breeding. Young beetles emerge December to March and then commence feeding with extensive dung shredding. Dung burial and egg laying of the next generation occurs in February to March. Adults will overwinter in soil and can emerge and start breeding as temperatures rise.

Dung burial: Dung is buried to around 20 cm prior to breeding and is also shredded as adults feed.

Establishment of *O. binodis*: Beetles can be introduced as starter colonies. A link to suppliers can be found below.

Acknowledgments & references:

Photos by Russ Barrow- Dung Beetle Ecosystem Engineer (DBEE) Project www.dungbeetles.com.au

Dung Beetle Ecosystems Engineers (DBEE) project www.dungbeetles.com.au/species/onthophagus-binodis

Dung Beetles in the South West of Western Australia <https://www.dungbeetlessouthwest.org.au/onthophagus-binodis>

Dung beetle suppliers: www.dungbeetles.com.au/livestock-producers/buying-dung-beetles



CMA regions where *O. binodis* is known to be present- Source DBEE project