

British Nature Guide

Let's look for Shieldbugs (Sheet two)

Shieldbugs feed on plants by sucking sap from leaves through a tube called a rostrum.



Hawthorn Shieldbug
(body up to 15mm long)



Hawthorn Bush

Hawthorn Shieldbug

These are quite common and are usually found on Hawthorn bushes. They are one of our biggest Shieldbugs. They are green with reddish-brown markings.

Hawthorn bushes have small leaves. They have white flowers in spring and red berries in winter. These bushes have sharp thorns, so be careful not to get scratched.

Look for adult Hawthorn Shieldbugs in spring and autumn.



Sloe Bug
(body about 12mm long)

Sloe Bug

The Sloe Bug has antennae which have black and white stripes. They also have black and white markings on the outer edges of their shield. They are quite common.

Sloe Bugs live on lots of different plants including Wild Roses.

Wild Roses can often be found in hedges along the sides of fields. They flower all through the summer and have very sharp prickles. Wild Roses grow red seed pods called Rose hips in the autumn.

Sloe Bugs can be found all through the year, but they are most common from April to October.



Wild Rose Bush