



DESCRIPTION

The wild boar is an ungulate, which means it is hoofed. It is difficult to see in the wild. Young wild boar are called humbugs, as they are striped brown and yellow.

WELFARE

Wild boar are not shy of humans, a characteristic that sets them apart from all other British mammals. Do not get between sows and their young.

TYPICAL HABITATS

Woodland, farmland.

RANGE

Present in Kent, East Sussex, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Gwent, possibly Devon and parts of Scotland. Sightings recorded in other geographical areas.

FIELD SIGNS

Footprints

Wild boar tracks are distinctive looking as they are hoofed, and only deer species have similar shaped footprints. Up to 7cm in width, can vary in size.

There can be some confusion between wild boar prints and sheep and goat, particularly in farmland habitats. Unlike the tracks of other even toed ungulates it is the dew claws, which in soft ground are impressed even when walking slowly, that serve to identify wild boar tracks.

Uprooting turf

A distinctive field sign left by wild boar is shown in the photograph. Wild boar like to uproot grass verges in search of worms and bugs to forage upon.

