

Quick facts

Order Cetartiodactyla

Conservation statusGB *N/A - non-native*

RE CE E V NT LC DD

England *N/A*Scotland *N/A*Wales *N/A*Global *Least concern*

GB trend Increasing

Size Head & body 77 - 91 cm, tail 13 - 18 cm, 42 - 52cm at the shoulder.

Weight 10 - 17 kg.

Life span 10 - 13 years in the wild.



Reeves' Muntjac

Muntiacus reevesi

A small deer with a hump-backed appearance. Males have short, slightly hooked antlers. Native to southeast China, they were brought to Woburn Park, Bedfordshire, in 1894 and it became widely established from the 1930s onwards.

Habitat

Prefers freshwater marshes and wetlands with adjoining woodland and fen, ranging onto nearby farmland. Most evident in Norfolk Broads and coastal wetlands.

Behaviour

Bucks are territorial, marking prominent tree trunks and boughs with scent from glands on their forehead. Their territories overlap the home ranges of several does, which are more tolerant of each other. Muntjac do not form herds, but are seen either solitarily or in family groups of a doe with her kid.

Diet & Feeding

Shoots of shrubs, woodland herbs, garden plants - particularly prefer bramble and raspberry.

Reproduction

Does have one kid (rarely twins) and can give birth throughout the year.

Conservation & Threats

Unlike some other deer,
Muntjac rarely cause crop
damage. They can be a
serious pest in gardens,
conservation woodlands,
and sometimes in forestry.
They breed year round, so it
can be difficult to suggest a
humane culling season.
Bucks can be shot at any
time. Small size can make
shooting challenging. Many
muntjacs are killed in
vehicle collisions.

