

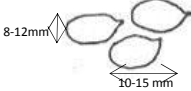
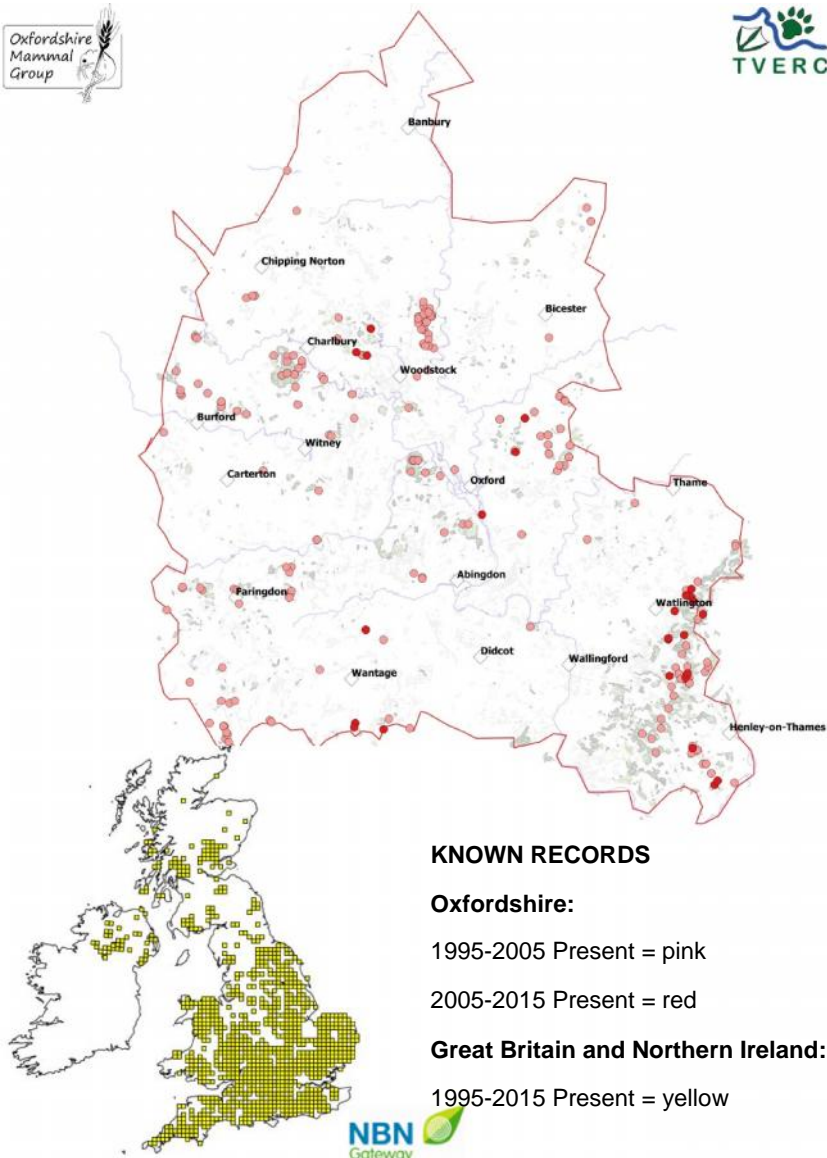


Fallow Deer	<i>Dama dama</i>	 <p>Peter Newbold</p>		
Description: Most common colouration is tan with white spots in summer, becoming greyer with indistinct spots in winter, but colouration is highly variable with black and white varieties present. Tail longer than other deer species. The white rump with a black horseshoe shape outline and white tail with central thick, black stripe are very distinctive.		Field Signs		
Footprints: slots have straight or concave outer edges, appearing long and narrow. 40x60mm.	Droppings: Black changes to brown with age, shiny, cylindrical pellets, one end pointed, one end indented.	Browsing: Deer leave a ragged end on browsed vegetation unlike hare and rabbit which leave a clean cut.	Bark stripping: Red, Sika, Muntjac and Fallow deer will peel and eat bark of trees, leaving broad teeth marks running up the stem with torn bark at the top. Cannot tell species apart.	Rump colour: Heart shaped white rump with horseshoe-shaped black border. Black long tail.
				
Diet: Favours grasses. Will also eat arable crops and, in winter, the shoots of trees and shrubs.		Habitat: Wooded habitat preferred but will move into farmland.		
Lifespan: 8-16 years, females live longer.		 <p>Oxfordshire Mammal Group</p> <p>TVERC</p> <p>KNOWN RECORDS</p> <p>Oxfordshire:</p> <p>1995-2005 Present = pink</p> <p>2005-2015 Present = red</p> <p>Great Britain and Northern Ireland:</p> <p>1995-2015 Present = yellow</p> <p>NBN Gateway</p>		
Breeding: Rutting season late September to mid -October. Single fawn born between late May and July. May form harems with many females or there may be several males with a few does.				
UK Conservation Status: Introduced. Common and widespread.				
Oxfordshire: Common and widespread.				
Legislation: Not currently protected.				
Don't confuse with: <p>Red deer: Larger deer with large branched antlers that are not palmated (i.e. narrow points rather than broad and flat).</p> <p>Sika deer: Similar size and coat but darker than fallow deer. Sika tail is smaller with a less distinct black stripe. The male's antlers are pointed rather than palmate, more similar to red deer.</p> <p>Roe deer. Much smaller deer with small branched antlers. Creamy-white rump.</p>				