

Eyed Longhorn Beetle

Species Description

Scientific name: *Oberea oculata*

This large and attractive beetle is endangered in the UK. It has a long, thin body, and like all members of the longhorn family, has long antennae. In males, these antennae are longer than the body, but in females they are as long as the hard wing cases. Both the common and Latin names refer to the two black spots on the thorax; oculata means 'eyed'.

Adult females lay their eggs in the straight stems of young purple willows (*Salix purpurea*). After hatching, the larvae overwinter, and only begin to feed in the following summer.

This is a UK BAP priority species and Endangered in the UK.



Key ID features

Black head and long antennae

Two black spots on thorax

Orange head and legs

Mottled grey-black wing cases

