

Great Crested Newt

Species Description

Scientific name: *Triturus cristatus*

Newts are amphibians, breeding in ponds during the spring and spending most of the rest of the year feeding on invertebrates in woodland, hedgerows, marshes and tussocky grassland. They hibernate underground, among tree roots and in old walls. The UK's populations of the Great Crested Newt are internationally important.

This species is protected in the UK under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981. Priority Species under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. Listed as a European Protected Species under Annex IV of the European Habitats Directive.



Key ID features

Adult males have long crest on body and tail during breeding season (see above)

Black warty skin differentiates adults from other UK newt species



Spotted flanks and bright orange belly (see top photo)

Don't confuse with...

Male smooth newt. Has smooth, paler skin .

