



Worcestershire

Ladybirds should be the gardener's favourite family of beetles as, with the exception of a couple of species, both adults and larvae are excellent predators of aphids and other pests. The bold colours and markings help to warn off potential predators.

The caterpillars of angle shade moths feed on a wide range of plants including dock and stinging nettles. They're quite common in parks, gardens, woodland edges, scrub and hedgerows.

Oak bush crickets do not have a 'song' as such but drum on leaves with their hind legs

Garden tiger moth caterpillars are brown and black, exceedingly hairy and often called 'woolly bears'. The hairs are irritant and protect it from predators such as birds – be warned in case you pick one up!

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Wasps are sociable insects, living in colonies of up to 10,000 workers

Speckled bush crickets are most active at dusk and during the night; males call to attract females by rubbing their wings together. Their 'song' (a high-pitched 'chirp') is barely audible to human ears.

Seven-spot ladybirds can devour more than 5000 aphids during their year-long life

Crab spiders are able to change their body colour to match their background. It can take a few days, but they can appear white, yellow or green.

Photo credits: Harry Green, Rosemary Winnall, Wendy Carter, Stuart Andrews



Invert Spotter Sheet



Speckled bush-cricket



7-spot ladybird



Garden tiger moth
caterpillar



Angle shade moth



14-spot ladybird



Oak bush-cricket



Crab spider



Common wasp

Don't forget to log your sightings at www.wbrc.org.uk