

Genus *Aphrosylus*

Fairly large to extremely small species, breeding in intertidal habitats around the coast. In the males the spoon-shaped palps are 'silvered' on one face; the male flies thus appear to be manipulating a pair of tiny signal lamps as they run across the wet rocks when they catch the light intermittently.

Check list from Chandler et al (2008)

Genus *Aphrosylus* Haliday, 1951

celtiber Haliday, 1855

ferox Haliday in Walker, 1851

mitis Verrall, 1912

raptor Haliday in Walker, 1851

References

d'Assis Fonseca (1978) Handbooks for the identification of British insects, Volume 9 part 5: Diptera Orthorrhapha Brachycera, Dolichopodidae. Royal Entomological Society

Parent (1938) Faune de France 35 Dipteres Dolichopodidae. Paul Lechevalier et fils



© Mike Hackston (2013) work derived from d'Assis Fonseca (1978) with some illustrations from Parent (1938).

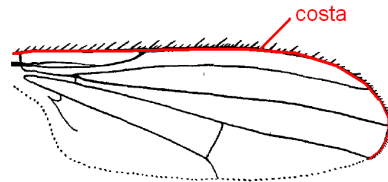
Genus *Aphrosylus*

Key to British species (males)

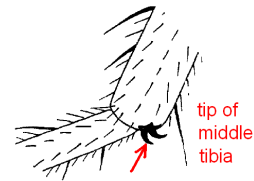
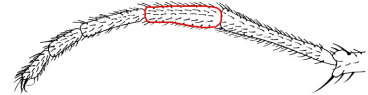
([click for females](#))

- 1 Large species, 3.5 mm. or more, with costa spiny at the base only.[2](#)

Much smaller species, less than 2.0 mm., with
the costa spiny along the whole of the front
margin of the wing.[3](#)



- 2¹ 2nd segment of the front tarsus slightly dilated in the basal half to two-thirds. Middle tibia, at extreme apex beneath, with 2 or 3 small flattened hooks curved towards base of tibia. Hind femur with a series of about 5 strong bristles on the basal quarter of the front, upper face. Usually 6 dorsocentral bristles. 3.5-4.5 mm.

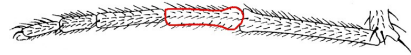


..... ***Aphrosylus celtiber***

England and Wales: recorded from only Pembrokeshire (including Skokholm Island), Glamorgan, Devon, Hampshire. (I.O.W.) and Cornwall.

Ireland: Mayo, Galway, Kerry, Cork and Waterford. This and the next species may be found on flat intertidal rocks. Fairly common. May to August.

- 2nd segment of the front tarsus swollen at the base only. Middle tibia without these flattened hooks. Hind femur without bristles at the base on the front, upper surface. Usually only 5 dorsocentral bristles. 4-6 mm.



..... ***Aphrosylus raptor***

England and Wales: recorded from only Yorkshire, Pembrokeshire, Glamorgan, Kent, Devon.

Dorset and Cornwall. Ireland: Down. Less common than previous species. July to August, October.

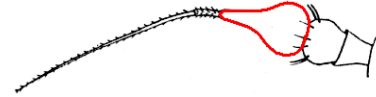
- 3¹ 3rd segment of the antennae bulbous, rounded at the base and then somewhat abruptly attenuated before tapering to apex. First segment of the hind tarsus not remarkably bristled. About 1.5 mm.



..... ***Aphrosylus mitis***

Old records from the River Deben (Suffolk), Walton-on-Naze (Essex), Lepe and Bucklers Hard (Hampshire). Recent records from the Solent and East Sussex. Scarce.

- 3rd segment of the antennae conical, rather rounded at the base and then uniformly tapering to apex. First segment of the hind tarsus, with a series of 4-5 fine curved bristles along the apical two-thirds of the top surface. About 1.25 mm.



..... ***Aphrosylus ferox***

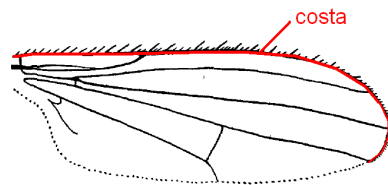
Records from the coast from Fort William area and Bass Rock in Scotland down to the south coast. Many more records on the west coast, particularly Wales. Usually abundant where it occurs. May to July, September.

Genus *Aphrosylus*

Key to British species (females)

- 1 Large species, 4 mm. or more, with costa with longer spines at the base only.2

Much smaller species, not much more than 2 mm., with the costa spiny along the whole of the front margin of the wing.3



- 2¹ Hind femur with a row of 4 or 5 dorsal bristles along the basal quarter.
Usually 6 dorsocentral bristles. 4-5 mm.
..... ***Aphrosylus celtiber***

England and Wales: recorded from only Pembrokeshire (including Skokholm Island), Glamorgan, Devon, Hampshire. (I.O.W.) and Cornwall. Ireland: Mayo, Galway, Kerry, Cork and Waterford.
This and the next species may be found on flat intertidal rocks. Fairly common. May to August.

- Hind femur without dorsal bristles along the basal quarter. Usually only 5
dorsocentral bristles. 4.5-6 mm.
..... ***Aphrosylus raptor***

England and Wales: recorded from only Yorkshire, Pembrokeshire, Glamorgan, Kent, Devon.
Dorset and Cornwall. Ireland: Down. Less common than previous species. July to August, October.



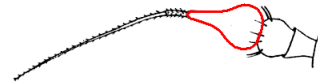
- 3¹ 3rd antennal segment rounded at base, then somewhat abruptly attenuated before tapering to apex. Front tibia without an extension bearing a spur at the tip. About 1.5 mm.



..... ***Aphrosylus mitis***

Old records from the River Deben (Suffolk), Walton-on-Naze (Essex), Lepe and Bucklers Hard (Hampshire). Recent records from the Solent and East Sussex. Scarce.

- 3rd antennal segment conical, slightly rounded at base and uniformly tapering to apex. Front tibia with a prolongation at apex beneath bearing a black spur. 1.75-2.25 mm.



..... ***Aphrosylus ferox***

Records from the coast from Fort William area and Bass Rock in Scotland down to the south coast. Many more records on the west coast, particularly Wales. Usually abundant where it occurs. May to July, September.

