



Reeves Muntjac *Muntiacus reevesi*

Although commonly known as Muntjac the correct name is Reeves' Muntjac, named after John Reeves an inspector of teas with the East India Tea Company in 1812, who is also commemorated with the Reeves Pheasant.

At least seven species of Muntjac are known, with a natural distribution from Pakistan to Java and north to mainland China. They were first introduced to Woburn Park, Bedfordshire in the early 20th Century from China. Prehistoric remains that have been found date back to between 15 and 35 million years making Muntjac among the oldest of deer species.



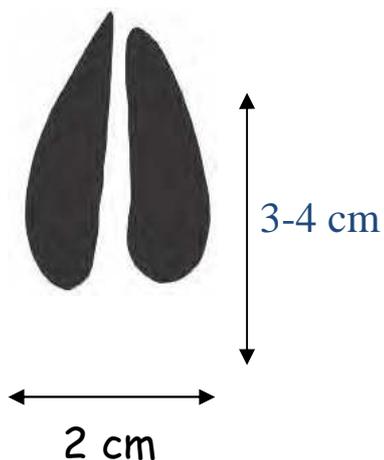
Small, stocky and russet-brown, when first seen most people are surprised how tiny they actually are - no larger than a medium-sized dog, sometimes known as 'barking deer' for their repeatedly dog-like bark. The bucks have simple antlers consisting of a single short spike (10cm) and upper canine teeth which protrude below the lip resembling tusks, suggesting that Muntjac are a primitive species.

Nilfanion (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>)]

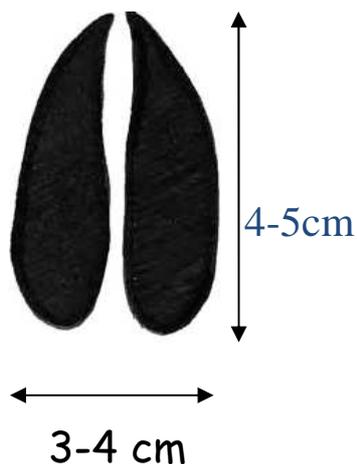
In common with other species of deer, Muntjac use scent glands as a means of communication, they have two pairs of glands on the face which are used to mark territories and boundaries. Unlike other deer species Muntjac do not have a defined breeding season or rut, instead they are capable of breeding all year round and the doe is able to conceive within days of giving birth. Indeed she may give birth every seven months!

Muntjac prefer a dense habitat of mainly deciduous woodland with a diverse understorey, of coppice and scrub. May also be found in coniferous plantations. Potentially a long-lived species reaching 13 years ♀ and 10 years ♂

Muntjac



Roe Deer



Stonechat ♂ Meadow



Size comparison of Muntjac and Roe Deer footprints



Work Parties for April 2016

Date	Meeting Point
Thursday 7 th April	Down Grange Meadow Homestead Road interpretation board
Sunday 17 th April	Old Orchard. Kendal Gardens

Times: - Sunday's 10:00 - 13:00. Thursday's 14:00 – 16:00.

If you would like to join us for the first time please ring Marion on 470171.

Please bring work gloves, tools are provided.

Contact us:- By e-mail on kempshott-serve@tiscali.co.uk or via the website www.kempshotconservationgroup.org.uk. For anything that requires urgent action, such as fallen trees on any of our sites please contact Marion Wolstencroft on 470171