

DOR BEETLE

The Latin name for this beetle is *Geotrupes stercorarius*.

The word *dor* comes from an old word meaning *drone*, for in the evening this beetle has a humming flight. This species is often badly infested with mites, giving it the alternative common name of Lousy Watchman. It is a regular visitor to gardens.

It is a medium to large beetle with a body length of about 2cm. The body is shiny black above, with ridged wing-cases. Its hairy underside is a bright metallic blue, green, violet or copper.

Both sexes burrow under dung, usually cow dung, and accumulate a store of it at the end of the burrow, in which the eggs are laid. The larvae then feed on the dung.